

**Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Practice Act Review Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: October 4, 2017

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: Teleconference

Dr. Sundstrom called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM. Ms. Price called the roll.

Committee Members Present: Dr. John Sundstrom, DVM (Committee Chair); Dr. Sheila Allen, DVM; Dr. Edsel Davis, DVM; Mr. Mike Giles; Dr. Jill Lancaster, DVM; Dr. Heather Lindell, PharmD; Mr. Scott Piper; Ms. Jamie Rauscher, RVT; Dr. Sherry Weaver, DVM

Committee Members Absent: Dr. Vince Obsitnik, DVM

Secretary of State Staff Present: Adrienne Price, Michelle Foster

Items Discussed:

The Committee met to discuss some additional amendments that Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA) would like for the Committee to consider including within the Committee's current working draft amendment to the Georgia Veterinary Practice Act. The GVMA proposed amendments were as follows:

O.C.G.A. § 43-50-3 Definitions

(9) "Complementary, alternative, and integrative therapies" means a heterogeneous group of preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic philosophies and practices that ~~are not considered part of veterinary medicine as practiced by most veterinarians and veterinary technicians. These therapies~~ include, but are not limited to, veterinary acupuncture, acuthery, and acupressure; veterinary homeopathy; veterinary manual or manipulative therapy (i.e, therapies based on techniques practiced in osteopathy, chiropractic medicine, or physical medicine and therapy); veterinary nutraceutical therapy; and veterinary phytotherapy.

(15) "Informed Consent" means the veterinarian has informed the client or the client's authorized representative of the diagnostic and treatment options, and risk assessment, and ~~prognosis,~~ and has provided the client with an estimate of the charges for veterinary services to be rendered and the ~~client has provided documented consent~~ veterinarian has documented the consent to the recommended treatment.

(21) "Practice veterinary medicine" or "practice of veterinary medicine" means:

(A) To diagnose, treat, correct, change, relieve, or prevent animal disease, deformity, defect, injury, or other physical or mental conditions, including the ~~prescribing~~ administration, or dispensing of any prescription drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, application, anesthetic, or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique on, for, or to any animal, including but not limited to the use of complimentary, alternative and integrative therapies, acupuncture, animal dentistry, manual or mechanical adjustment procedures, physical therapy, rehabilitation, surgery, diagnostic veterinary pathology, any manual, mechanical, biological, or chemical

procedure used for pregnancy testing or for correcting sterility or infertility, or to render advice or recommendations with regard to any of the above; but not including such administration or dispensing pursuant to prescription or direction of a licensed veterinarian;

Dr. Davis motioned, Dr. Allen seconded and the Committee voted unanimously to accept the amendments to definition (9) and (21) as proposed by GVMA.

Dr. Lancaster motioned, Dr. Davis seconded and the Committee voted unanimously to state definition (15) as follows:

(15) "Informed Consent" means the veterinarian has informed the client or the client's authorized representative, verbally or in writing, of the diagnostic and treatment options, risk assessment, and prognosis with an estimated range of anticipated charges, to which both parties have consented.

Mr. Piper indicated that he will share the decisions of the committee with GVMA and after receiving stakeholder feedback, provide a copy of the final version of the practice act for the Committee and the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine to consider.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 PM.

Minutes Recorded By: Scott Piper

Approved by the Board: 10/18/2017