

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**  
**Alternative to Discipline Subcommittee Zoom Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 20, 2021 – 12:00 p.m.**

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine, Alternative to Discipline Subcommittee, met via Zoom meeting on Thursday, May 20, 2021. The following Committee members were present:

**Committee Members Present**

Dr. Wendy Cuevas-Espelid, DACVPM, Committee Chair  
Dr. Matthew Bradley, DVM, Committee Member  
Dr. William Wright, DVM, Committee Member

**Staff Present**

Adrienne Price, Executive Director  
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist  
Meagan Doss, Complaints/Compliance Analyst

**Attorney General's Office**

No Attorney General present.

**Visitors Present**

Susan Blevins, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)  
Dr. Jill Lancaster, DVM, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)

**Administrative Staff Absent**

Charlotte Mason, Licensing Supervisor

**Call to Order:** Dr. Cuevas called the Subcommittee meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

**OPEN SESSION**

**Agenda** The Subcommittee accepted the agenda as presented.

**Discussion – Self Report Decision Tree**

The Subcommittee entered into a discussion regarding the proposed Self Report Decision Tree which was referred to Dr. Cuevas during the May 11, 2021 Alternative to Discipline Subcommittee Zoom meeting. Self-reporting is for licensees who may have issues with drug abuse, alcohol abuse, a mental disorder, or a physical disorder that impairs their ability to practice veterinary medicine with reasonable skill and safety, and they have not reported to the PHP. The Self Report Decision Tree allows for the public, to include Veterinary Technicians, to navigate concerns and potential issues that may arise with a licensee within the workplace. The Decision Tree will also provide licensees and employers the schematic of scenarios, and the process of actions to follow in each case.

Ms. Price suggested providing requirements on the duty to report to the Board for situations such as reckless intent, termination of privileges or intent to harm. She also recommended adding a definitions page for terms that may be unfamiliar to the public or some practitioners such as “mitigating factors,” “intent to harm,” “reckless intent,” and “remediation”. Ms. Price further recommended that the Decision Tree include Veterinary Technicians. The Subcommittee agreed with her recommendations.

Matthew Bradley joined the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

Dr. Bradley suggested adding the purpose of the Decision Tree to the top of the form. The Subcommittee agreed with his recommendation, and Dr. Cuevas stated she will have these updates made and ready for presentation to the full Board for review during the June 23, 2021 Zoom meeting. Once reviewed, and if approved by the full Board during the meeting, the document will be posted on the Board website as a reference under the “Other Information” tab.

Subcommittee Members and staff expressed appreciation to Dr Cuevas for her work on developing the Self Report Decision Tree with the resources and input provided.

**Adjournment** No further business was discussed and the Committee meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

**Minutes recorded by:** Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist

**Minutes reviewed by:** Adrienne Price, Executive Director

**Minutes approved on:** June 23, 2021

WENDY CUEVAS-ESPELID, DACVPM  
**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON**

ADRIENNE PRICE  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

BECKEY MALPHUS, DVM  
**BOARD CHAIRPERSON**