

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Board Zoom Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 6, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine met via Zoom meeting on Wednesday, April 6, 2022. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Dr. Wendy Cuevas, DACVPM, Chair
Dr. Matthew Bradley, DVM, Vice Chair
Dr. Beckey Malphus, DVM, Board Member
Dr. Larry Corry, DVM, Board Member
Dr. William Wright, DVM, Board Member
Ms. Jessica Sewell, RVT

Staff Present

Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor
Tammy Vining, Licensing Analyst

Attorney General's Office

Mary Brannen, Senior Assistant Attorney General

Board Members Absent

Mr. Thomas Culpepper, Consumer Board Member

Visitors Present

Susan Blevins, Director of Operations, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)
Jill Lancaster, DVM, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)
Dr. Keri Riddick, DVM, Executive Director, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)

Call to Order: Dr. Cuevas established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda The Board accepts the meeting agenda as presented.

Open Session Board Minutes

1. **March 24, 2022 Board Zoom Meeting Minutes**
2. **April 5, 2022 Investigative Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Wright seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the March 24, 2022 Board Zoom Meeting Minute, and the April 5, 2022 Investigative Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes as presented.

Licenses to Ratify: February 2, 2022 – March 30, 2022

Dr. Corry motioned, Dr. Wright seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to ratify the licenses by application and by reinstatement that were issued in accordance with Board Rules and Policies, between Board meetings.

Correspondence – SB 604

1. **Letter to Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine Concerning Advocacy of SB 604, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)**

2. Board Response - Letter to The Honorable Tyler Harper RE: SB 604

Dr. Malphus motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the Executive Director to forward the letter concerning SB 604 as presented to the sponsors of the Bill, the Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA), and the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDOA).

Discussion – American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)

1. 2022 Call for Nominations

Dr. Malphus motioned, Dr. Wright seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to recommend Jessica Sewell for the AAVSB Board of Directors position. Dr. Bradley was also nominated but declined after joining the meeting.

2. WATCHDOG Legislative Tracking Report – February 2022

3. Call for Nominations

The Board accepted the correspondence in reference to AAVSB as information.

Discussion – International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA)

1. 2022 Board of Director Nominations

2. Assessment Development Committee Nominations

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to ICVA, as information.

Discussion – American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) – Council on Education Accreditation Actions

1. Council on Education (COE) Report of Accreditation Actions

2. Council on Education (COE) Policies and Procedures Manual

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to AVMA, as information.

Petitions for Rule Waiver

1. BR 700-6-.01(3) Chiquita Jackson

The Board tabled discussion for Executive Session.

2. BR 700-6-.01(2)(d) Chiquita Jackson

Dr. Corry motioned, Dr. Wright seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition to waive BR 700-6-.01(2)(d) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate a substantial hardship.

Executive Director’s Report – A. Price

Executive Director’s Report presented the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications, the number of licensees, and complaints/compliance matters to include the number of Continuing Education applications pending, approved, and denied. In addition, she addressed the following topics with the Board:

- Implementation of Provisions of Senate Bill 346:
- Electronic Submission of Graduation Data in Lieu of Transcript

Dr. Corry motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Executive Director’s report as presented.

Board Chair’s Report – W. Cuevas

No formal report was presented; however, Dr. Cuevas made a statement to remind licensees that this is a renewal year and to renew their licenses in a timely manner. Dr. Cuevas also reminded the Board that the next Board meeting date is June 22, 2022. She also encouraged Georgia Veterinarians to develop a Disaster Preparedness plan in light of the weather disaster in Bryan County yesterday.

Dr. Corry made a motion, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k); 43-1-19 (h) and 50-14-2 (1) to receive and review information pertaining to investigative reports, pending cases and enforcement matters and to receive the Assistant Attorney General’s report. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included: Dr. Cuevas, Dr. Bradley, Dr. Corry, Dr. Malphus, Dr. Wright, and Ms. Sewell.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Wednesday, April 6, 2022, Dr. Bradley declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during executive session.

OPEN SESSION

Executive Session Board Minutes

- 1. March 24, 2022 Executive Session Board Zoom Meeting Minutes**
- 2. April 5, 2022 Executive Session Investigative Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Wright motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the March 24, 2022 Executive Session Board Zoom Meeting Minutes and the April 5, 2022 Executive Session Investigative Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes as presented.

Attorney General’s Report – M. Brannen

VET210086 Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Wright seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of rescinding the previous motion and closing the case.

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Wright seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Attorney General’s Report as presented.

Executive Session Discussion – Petition for Rule Waiver – BR 700-6-.01(3) Chiquita Jackson

Dr. Corry motioned, Dr. Wright seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to grant the petition to waive BR 700-6-.01(3) based on sufficient evidence to substantiate a substantial hardship.

Investigative Committee Report – L. Corry, DVM

Dr. Wright motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session as amended:

VET210029 Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding substandard care to include continuous and follow-up care for surgical patients and patients experiencing complications after surgery.

VET210089 Close with a Letter of Concern regarding minimum standards of care to include obtaining informed consent prior to performing surgery and surgical note documentation.

VET210106 Close the case with a Letter of Concern, regarding violations of B.R. 700-12.07(c) & (f) and 700-12-.08(g).

VET210107 Close case with a Letter of Concern regarding medication administration.

VET210111 Issue a Mitigating Circumstance Letter concerning violations of B.R. 700-12-.02(a), (i), (k), & (n), 700-12-.08(a) and B.R. 700-8-.01(c)(2). Must demonstrate compliance with the requirements of these rules within 3 months of receipt of notice.

VET200012 Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding patient care to include ensuring patient safety through appropriate use of medical equipment and heating elements during surgery.

VET220010 Issue a Mitigating Circumstance Letter concerning violations of B.R. 700-12.01(4); 700-12-.02 (a), (h), (l), (n), (q), (r); 700-12-.07(7)(a); 700-12-.08(a-c); 700-12-.09(a) and B.R. 700-8-.01(c)(2). Must demonstrate compliance with the requirements of these rules within 6 months of receipt of notice.

VET210059 Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding record keeping, detail to surgical notes.

VET190028 Terminate probation and restore the license to an active status.

VET200067 Close with Letter of Concern regarding violations of B.R. 700-8-.01(2)(ii), (v), (xii), (xii), (xv) and B.R. 700-12-.01(a).

VET210100 Close the case, no jurisdiction.

VET210104 Schedule an Investigative Interview.

VET210115 Refer to Investigations.

VET210116 Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding client communication and cooperation with an investigation of the Board.

VET210117 Refer to Investigations.

VET220001 Close the case.

VET220004 Schedule an Investigative Interview.

VET220005 Refer to Investigations.

Matthew Bradley joined the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

- VET220006** Refer to Investigations.
- VET220011** Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding patient care with recommendation to develop a policy for handling fractious/aggressive patients.
- VET220012** Close the case due to lack of evidence.
- VET220014** Close the case due to lack of evidence.
- VET220015** Close the case due to lack of evidence.
- VET220018** Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding violations of B.R. 700-12.02(r) & 700 12.07(e) with a recommendation to use extreme caution when hospitalizing unvaccinated pets.
- VET220038** Close the case, no jurisdiction.
- VET220040** Schedule an Investigative Interview.
- VET220041** Close the case.

Wendy Cuevas left the meeting at 11:27 a.m. with a quorum of the Board still present.

- VET220048** Schedule an Investigative Interview.
- VET220052** Close the case.
- VET220070** Close the case, no jurisdiction.
- VET220083** Close the case.
- VET220088** Staff to reach out to licensee for copies of x-rays. If not provided, refer to Investigations to determine if x-rays are digital and to obtain a copy of the x-rays.
- VET220091** Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding professionalism on social media.

Applications for Board Review

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Wright seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session:

- Applicant 2992218** Maintain application open for 12 months. Must take and pass the VTNE within that timeframe in accordance Board Rule 700-.01(2)(C)]. Failure to do so within the timeframe indicated will result in the application being withdrawn due to expiration.
- Applicant 3006456** Issue the license.

Adjournment No further business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed by: Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Minutes approved on: June 30, 2022

WENDY CUEVAS, DACVPVM
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR