

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Board Zoom Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 24, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine met via Zoom meeting on Wednesday, August 24, 2022. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Dr. Wendy Cuevas, DACVPM, Chair
Dr. Larry Corry, DVM, Board Member
Dr. Beckey Malphus, DVM, Board Member
Dr. William Wright, DVM, Board Member
Mr. Thomas Culpepper, Consumer Board Member
Ms. Jessica Sewell, LVT, Board Member

Staff Present

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

Attorney General's Office

Mary Brannen, Senior Assistant Attorney General

Board Members Absent

Dr. Matthew Bradley, DVM, Vice Chair

Visitors Present

Dr. Keri Riddick, DVM, Executive Director, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)
Susan Blevins, Director of Operations, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)
Samantha Highly
Dr. Doris Miller, DVM, PhD, DACVP, University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine (UGACVM), Associate Director of State Government Relations
Call-in User 1
Dr. Jill Lancaster, DVM, 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 9:32 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda The Board accepts the meeting agenda as presented.

Open Session Board Minutes

1. **June 30, 2022 Board Zoom Meeting Minutes**
2. **August 10, 2022 SB 604 Subcommittee Zoom Meeting Minutes**
3. **August 23, 2022 Investigative Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Corry motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the June 30, 2022 Board Zoom Meeting Minutes, the August 10, 2022 SB 604 Subcommittee Zoom Meeting Minutes, and the August 23, 2022 Investigative Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes as presented.

Licenses to Ratify: June 15, 2022 – August 17, 2022

Dr. Malphus motioned, Dr. Corry 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 – Board Response – UGA Request for Support of Exemptions to Pharmacy Rule

The Board accepted the correspondence in reference to UGA Request for Support of Exemptions to Pharmacy Rule, as information.

Discussion – American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)

1. **Watchdog Legislative Tracking and Reporting Service**
2. **What to look forward to at the AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference**
3. **2022 Nominating Committee Report with Nominee Info**
4. **Delegates for the 2022 AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference September 15-17, 2022, Charlotte, NC**

Dr. Malphus motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to appoint Dr. Bradley as the Board Delegate and Adrienne Price as the Alternate Delegate for the 2022 AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference.

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 – International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA)

1. **In Focus Newsletter**
2. **Nominations Open for the ICVA Assessment Development Committee (ADC)**

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

2023 Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine Board Zoom Meeting and Investigative Committee Zoom Meeting Dates

All Zoom Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.

February 8, 2023
April 5, 2023
June 21, 2023
August 23, 2023
October 11, 2023
December 13, 2023

All Zoom Investigative Committee Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.

February 7, 2023
April 4, 2023
June 20, 2023
August 22, 2023

October 10, 2023
December 12, 2023

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the 2023 Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine Board Zoom Meeting dates and the Investigative Committee Zoom Meeting dates as presented.

Petition for Rule Waiver – BR 700-7-.03 Eric White

Dr. Malphus motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to grant the petition to waive BR 700-7-.03 based on sufficient 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
- SB 604 Subcommittee
- Expert Peer Reviewer Application

Dr. Malphus motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to amend the Expert Peer Reviewer Application to include the following changes: change “Expert Peer Reviewer” to Veterinary Peer Reviewer, amend the type of practice section to include areas of focus, amend the specialty section to reflect diplomate status and appoint Dr. Cuevas to draft an email communication that can be sent to licensees from the Board office explaining the role of a veterinary peer reviewer and encouraging them to apply.

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

Miscellaneous Open Session Discussion – Correspondence – Request for Information on the Change from Using RVT to LVT in the State Practice Act – Anna Santos, LVT

Dr. Malphus motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to send notification to the writer, the Georgia Veterinary Technician and Assistant Association (GVTAA), the Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA) and the veterinary technician educational programs to inform them of the statutory requirements related to posting notices of the use and the proper identification of licensed veterinary technicians to help alleviate any confusion regarding the title that is to be used in the State of Georgia [O.C.G.A. 43-50-55(a &b)].

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 get their CE in a timely manner.

Ms. Sewell made a motion, Mr. Culpepper 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. Corry, Dr. Malphus, Dr. Wright, Thomas Culpepper, and Ms. Sewell.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Wednesday, August 24, 2022, Dr. Cuevas 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. **June 30, 2022 Executive Session Board Zoom Meeting Minutes**
2. **August 23, 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 June 30, 2022 Executive Session Board Zoom Meeting Minutes and the August 23, 2022 Executive Session Investigative Committee Zoom Meeting Minutes as presented.

Attorney General’s Report – M. Brannen

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

Investigative Committee Report – L. Corry, DVM

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:

- VET210034** Issue a Mitigating Circumstance letter as discussed.
- VET220006** Issue a Mitigating Circumstance letter as discussed.
- VET220078** Refer to Investigations to hand-serve documents as discussed. If fail to respond as requested, refer to the Attorney General’s Office as discussed.
- VET210070** Close the case with a Letter of Concern.
- VET210097** Close the case with a Letter of Concern.
- VET210101** Refer to Attorney General’s Office for Violation of the Public Consent Order for License Renewal with terms and conditions as discussed. Flag for CE Audit.
- VET210110** Close the case.
- VET210115** Close the case with a Letter of Concern.
- VET210117** Schedule Investigative Interview.
- VET220020** Close the case with a Letter of Concern.
- VET220036** Schedule Investigative Interview.

VET220047 Refer to Investigations to hand-serve documents as discussed. If fail to respond as requested, refer to the Attorney General's Office as discussed.

VET220056 Close the case.

VET220057 Schedule Investigative Interview.

VET220067 Close the case.

VET220069 Close the case with a Letter of Concern.

VET220073 Close the case.

VET220081 Close the case.

VET220084 Close the case.

VET220088 Close the case with a Letter of Concern.

VET220092 Accept the Voluntary Cease and Desist Order and close the case.

VET220098 Close the case.

VET220102 Schedule Investigative Interview.

VET220106 Table, pending review at the next IC meeting.

VET220107 Close the case.

VET220111 Schedule Investigative Interview.

VET220114 Close the case with a Letter of Concern.

VET220115 Close the case with a Letter of Concern.

VET210111 Close the case with a Letter of Concern.

VET220117 Close the case with a Letter of Concern.

VET220123 Close the case.

VET220125 Close the case.

VET220129 Close the case.

Executive Session Discussion – VETs on Monitoring Agreements/Orders

VET200044, VET190077, VET190042, VET170060, VET200043

Mr. Culpepper motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to GaPHP as discussed in Executive Session.

Applications for Board Review

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:

- Applicant 3029544** Issue the license.
- Applicant 3040519** Issue the license.
- Applicant 2981789** Issue the license with Letter of Concern regarding criminal history.
- Applicant 3036817** Issue the license.
- Applicant 3036765** Issue the license.

Reinstatements

- Applicant 3035236** Issue license with a Letter of Concern regarding disciplinary action by another jurisdiction.

Miscellaneous Open Session Discussion

Dr. Cuevas stated that she would like to engage the Board in a discussion regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and accepting coursework around the subject to satisfy continuing education requirements. She stated that the subject is not going away, and more and more organizations are requiring licensees to gain education or implement strategies on the subject. Ms. Sewell stated that she is in agreement in that the topic is not going away and it would be beneficial for licensees to be able to gain some education on the subject.

Dr. Cuevas reported that during a workshop she attended on the subject, it was suggested that any CE on DEI be captured or labeled as a Leadership course rather than just DEI. She stated that she recalls that the subject was referred to the Rules Committee, but she could not remember what was decided.

Ms. Price reminded the Board that during the 08/04/2021 meeting, the Board accepted the Rules Committee’s recommendation to not require DEI CE but accept it if it is offered within an approved LEAP course. The Board also voted to notify GVMA and UGA of the decision to encourage them to include DEI material within LEAP courses in the future.

Dr. Cuevas thanked Ms. Price for the reminder and indicated that she will be sure to address it further with GVMA.

Adjournment No further business was discussed, and the meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

- Minutes recorded by:** Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
- Minutes reviewed by:** Adrienne Price, Executive Director & Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor
- Minutes approved on:** September 8, 2022

WENDY CUEVAS, DACVPVM
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR