

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
SB 604 Subcommittee Zoom Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 20, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine, SB 604 Subcommittee, met via Zoom on Thursday, October 20, 2022. The following Committee members were present:

Committee Members Present

Dr. Beckey Malphus, Committee Chair, Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine (GSBVM)
Dr. William Wright, DVM, Committee Vice Chair, Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine (GSBVM)
Dr. Janemarie Hennebelle, DVM, MPVM, State Veterinarian, Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA)
Dr. Doris Miller, DVM, PhD, DACVP, University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine (UGACVM),
Associate Director of State Government Relations
Dr. Keith Harris, DVM, DACVP, Special Assistant to the Dean, University of Georgia College of Veterinary
Medicine (UGACVM)
Dr. Jill Lancaster, DVM, Advocacy Chair, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)

Committee Members Absent

Dr. Keri L. Riddick, DVM, Executive Director, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)

Staff Present

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

Visitors Present

Maggie Haisty, Office of Georgia Secretary of State

Call to Order: Dr. Malphus established a quorum of the Committee was present and called the Committee meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda The Committee accepted the agenda as presented.

Discussion – SB 604

The Committee members entered into a discussion regarding the action items from last month's SB 604 Subcommittee meeting. More specifically, the Committee reviewed data elements for the proposed move, information provided from an AAVSB member board survey initiated by Ms. Price, results from Systems Automation meetings, and the budget for the proposed move.

1. Feedback on Licensing Process from Independent Boards

Dr. Miller indicated that she asked the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine (UGACVM) group if they were having any problems or concerns as it relates to graduates becoming licensed in Georgia. They reported to her that this is the smoothest that it has ever been. The only issues they had were the rejection of applications that had sat over 60 days but that had to do with their international graduates and applicants with their VISAs which is nothing that is within their control. Dr. Miller further stated that she contacted the Alabama Board of Veterinary Medicine regarding their licensing process. She reported that applicants in Alabama have no problems receiving their license the day of graduation and that any problems they have are also related to things beyond their control, such as issues with VISAs and immigration.

2. Results of AAVSB Query About Licensing Database Systems

Ms. Price reported on the results from the query she submitted to AAVSB to disseminate to the member board Executive Directors and Registrars about their licensing database systems. The query included questions about the name of their licensing systems, the vendor for the system and their level of satisfaction with the systems currently in use. The feedback received is that no one was thrilled with their current systems, and many are trying to move to other systems. She continued that several of those who responded currently use Systems Automation, and many of those are in the process of changing to new systems. The polled results also showed that some state boards still have no system and use paper and pencil.

Ms. Price also briefly reviewed the document she provided concerning the basic data elements a licensing system would be required to capture in order to fulfill the state mandate for the Board.

3. Meeting Updates with Office of Secretary of State and Systems Automation

On behalf of Dr. Riddick, Dr. Hennebelle reported that Dr. Riddick has scheduled a meeting with Systems Automation for next week and requested that a Georgia Department of Agriculture IT Team Member join that meeting.

Dr. Lancaster reported that Rep. Beth Camp is going to carry the bill for GVMA and they are working on language and getting her up to date on the legislation. Dr. Harris asked how much information the General Assembly receives when considering the bill and if licensing fees will cover all costs. Dr. Lancaster responded that budgeting is still a big unknown and is the most important part of the discussion, but the legislators seem to be happy with the cost estimates provided and they are supportive of the bill. Dr. Lancaster stated they do not know who will be on appropriations so all that GVMA can do at this point is to wait to discuss the funding with those persons on that committee. In response to Dr. Harris' question concerning fees, Dr. Lancaster suggested that an increase in licensing fees to cover costs may be necessary, but no one will know for certain until the bill is fully set up. Dr. Lancaster indicated that if that is what it takes to get this done initially, then the Board may have to consider raising licensing fees.

Dr. Miller questioned if GVMA has polled their membership regarding reactions to a fee increase. Dr. Lancaster responded that the fee increase will be an upcoming discussion point at the next GVMA Board meeting.

The Committee agreed to move forward and provide feedback on the following action items at the next meeting scheduled for November 17, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.:

- Meeting Updates – Dr. Keri L. Riddick, DVM
 - Office of Secretary of State meeting
 - Systems Automation feedback
- GVMA – Dr. Jill Lancaster, DVM
 - Results from polling membership on proposed fees
 - Status of draft of legislation

Adjournment No further business was discussed, and the Committee meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed by: Adrienne Price, Executive Director & Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor

Minutes approved on: December 14, 2022

BECKEY MALPHUS, DVM
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MATTHEW BRADLEY, DVM

BOARD CHAIRPERSON