

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Investigative Committee Meeting Minutes
Conducted by WebEx
Tuesday, October 8, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Dr. Beckey E. Malphus, DVM, IC Chair
Ms. Jessica Sewell, LVT, IC Member

Staff Present:

Adrienne D. Price, Executive Director
Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor
Sherry Strong, Licensing & Compliant Analyst

Staff Absent:

Arin Holder, Licensing & Compliant Analyst

Attorney General Office:

Elizabeth Simpson, Assistant Attorney General

Visitors:

Dr. Paul Earley, MD, DFASAM, Medical Director, Georgia PHP, Inc. (Retiring)
Dr. Susan Blank, MD, DFAPA, DFASAM, Medical Director, Georgia PHP, Inc.
Robin F. McCown, Executive Director, Georgia PHP, Inc.

OPEN SESSION

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Veterinary Medicine met on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, Via WebEx. The meeting was called to order at 9:35 A.M. Dr. Beckey E. Malphus, DVM made the motion to enter into Executive Session, for the purpose of discussing investigative cases and to conduct investigative interviews as authorized by O.C.G.A. Sections 43-1-2(h) and 43-11-47(h). The motion carried unanimously.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session, Dr. Becky Malphus, DVM declared the meeting open pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §50-14-1 et seq. and the Investigative Committee entered a unanimous vote to present the recommendations to the Board as indicated below.

Georgia PHP, Inc. Report:

Dr. Paul Earley, MD, DFASAM provided a report on the licensees currently enrolled in the Georgia PHP, Inc. and their status in recovery. He then introduced Dr. Susan Blank, MD, DFAPA, DFASAM who is replacing him as Medical Director of Georgia PHP, Inc. Dr. Blank expressed her excitement and interest in learning more about the veterinary community and those present welcomed her to her new role. Ms. McCown and Dr. Earley shared that he will be giving a virtual presentation during the GVMA Conference on November 3, 2024, about psychiatric and substance use disorders among veterinary professionals.

Discussion Cases:

VET240051

Recommendations:

Close the case, no action.

VET240068

Close the case, no jurisdiction and refer the complainant to the Corporations Division, the Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs, and/or the local municipalities to address concerns regarding business license requirements.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 A.M.

Minutes Recorded by:

Adrienne D. Price, Executive Director

Minutes Reviewed and edited by:

Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor

Minutes Approved:

Dr. Beckey E. Malphus, DVM
Investigative Committee Chair

Adrienne D. Price
Executive Director

Dr. William Wright, DVM
Board Chairperson

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF
PUBLIC MEETING**

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 *et seq.*, requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specific exceptions relied upon. O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting in question.

Comes now Becky Maphis the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the Vet Board IC committee Board.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On 10/8/24 this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of the members present voted to close the meeting or a portion thereof for the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for the closure of this meeting was:
O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h)
5. The subject(s) discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are: To deliberate applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications and investigative reports.

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NOT

Becky Maphis
Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 22 day of Oct. 2024

Gabriellen Keve
Notary Public

