

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**  
**Board WebEx Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, February 11, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.**

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine met via WebEx meeting on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. The following members were present:

**Board Members Present**

Ms. Jessica Sewell, LVT, Chair  
Dr. William Wright, DVM, Board Member  
Dr. John Tarabula, DVM, Board Member  
Dr. Seth Stowers, DVM, Board Member

**Staff Present**

Adrienne Price, Executive Director  
Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor  
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist  
Monessa Cuby, Licensing & Complaint/Compliance Analyst

**Board Members Absent**

Dr. Wendy Cuevas, DACVPM, Vice Chair  
Dr. Matthew Bradley, DVM, Board Member

**Attorney General's Office**

Elizabeth Simpson, Assistant Attorney General

**Visitors Present**

Dr. Keri Riddick, DVM, Executive Director, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)  
Don Riddick, JD, Legal Counsel, Georgia Veterinary Medicine Association (GVMA)  
Agda Tamassia  
Maddie Cope  
Amber Myers  
Angela Diane Hortman  
Gregory Bushway  
Luis Dos Santos  
Call-In User 2

**Call to Order:** Ms. Sewell established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

**OPEN SESSION**

**Agenda** Dr. Wright made a motion, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the agenda as presented.

**Dr. Wright made a motion, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted to enter 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: Ms. Sewell, Dr. Wright, Dr. Tarabula, and Dr. Stowers.**

**At the conclusion of Executive Session on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, Ms. Sewell 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 the executive session.**

**OPEN SESSION**

**Scheduled Personal Appearances**

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

**10:30 a.m. Applicant 4338458**

Table pending additional information. If compliance is identified upon receipt, refer to the Attorney General Office for a Public Consent Agreement for Reinstatement of Licensure with terms and conditions as discussed in Executive Session. If noncompliance is identified, table pending additional investigation and Board review.

**11:00 a.m. Applicant 4261830**

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to rescind the previous motion and reinstate the license.

**Executive Session Board Minutes**

- 1. December 10, 2025 Executive Session WebEx Meeting Minutes**
- 2. February 10, 2026 Executive Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the December 10, 2025 Executive Session WebEx Meeting Minutes and the February 10, 2026 Executive Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes, as presented.

**Attorney General's Report – E. Simpson**

- 1. AG Memo – Standing/Selective Orders for Veterinary Prescriptions – Survey of State Boards**

The Board accepted as information.

- 2. AG Memo of Authority – BR 700-12-.02 Facility Standards**

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the recommendations from the Attorney General's Office regarding BR 700-12-.02, and post for hearing as follows:

**Rule 700-12-.02. Facility Standards**

- (1) A licensed veterinarian or veterinary technician employed at a veterinary facility or mobile clinic is responsible to assure that the following standards created to conform with current Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety standards are met, but not limited to, the following criteria pertaining to facilities are met:
  - (a) Facility must maintain appropriate federal, state, and local permits.
  - (b) Facility must be appropriately secured.
  - (c) Facility must be sanitary.
  - (d) Facility must be well ventilated.
  - (e) Facility must be appropriately illuminated.
  - (f) Facility must be in a good state of repair.
  - (g) Facility walls and floors must be easily sanitized.
  - (h) Facility must have means for disposal of dead animals, tissue, hazardous materials, medical waste which must meet local and state requirements.
  - (i) Facility must have exterior legible sign.

- (j) Facility must keep grounds clean and orderly, if applicable.
- (k) Facility must have a restroom in working order which is maintained in a clean and orderly manner. Mobile clinics are exempt from this requirement.
- (l) Facility must have clean and orderly receiving area.
- (m) Facility must have a telephone answering machine or answering service available after business hours.
- (n) Facility must have a holding or housing area with proper sanitation, ventilation, lighting, size, and temperature appropriate for the animal species. Each animal must be contained in a secure manner identified as appropriate and any contagious animals must be isolated as appropriate.
- (o) Facility must have appropriate waste receptacles available.
- (p) Facility must have effective insect and rodent control.
- (q) Facility must store pharmaceuticals, biologicals, reagents and lab samples in accordance with label directions or other instructions.
- (r) Facility must have fire extinguisher with current annual inspection.
- (s) Facility must post in a prominent public area a copy of the current license issued by the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine or current online verification of licensure from the Board website for each veterinarian and veterinary technician working at the facility.

(2) A review of compliance with the requirements of this rule must be documented at least annually and be available to the board upon written request.

**AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-55, 43-50-90(a), 43-50-110.**

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

**Investigative Summary Report – J. Tarabula, DVM**

<b>VET230088</b>	Close the case. No jurisdiction.
<b>VET230089</b>	Close the case. No action.
<b>VET230090</b>	Table case pending additional information.
<b>VET230093</b>	Close the case due to no jurisdiction. If Respondent attempts to reinstate, the Board will reconsider the case.
<b>VET230098</b>	Close the case. Allegations unsubstantiated.
<b>VET230108</b>	Close the case. Insufficient information to proceed with an investigation.
<b>VET230109</b>	Close the case. Insufficient information to proceed with an investigation.
<b>VET230136</b>	Close the case based on insufficient information to proceed with an investigation.
<b>VET230139</b>	Close the case, no violation found.
<b>VET250064</b>	Schedule an Investigative Interview.
<b>VET250104</b>	Issue a Mitigating Circumstances Letter. If conditions are satisfied, close the case.
<b>VET250129</b>	Table pending additional information. Refer to the Investigative Committee upon receipt.
<b>VET260020</b>	Close the case. Standard of care was met.
<b>VET260068</b>	Close the case. Standard of care was met.
<b>VET260084</b>	Close the case. Standard of care was met.

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Investigative Summary Report as presented.

**Miscellaneous Executive Discussion – Qualifications to Practice Telemedicine**

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to process notices of intent to practice telemedicine as follows:

Until such time that the application process can be established in GOALS, the Board grants administrative authority to staff to process and approve telemedicine requests upon determination that the applicant has submitted the necessary affidavit which satisfies the requirements as identified in the statute. A list of all telemedicine approvals will be presented to the Board during the next meeting to be ratified. Any applicant who does not meet the criteria outlined in the statute to practice telemedicine shall be presented to the Board for review.

**Applications for Board Review**

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

**Initial Application – Applicant 4386477** Issue the specialty license in veterinary cardiology only.

**Renewal – VET190077** If the MPE results are not submitted by the deadline indicated, refer to the Attorney General's Office for Revocation of the License based on failure to comply with OMPE order and terms of the Private Consent Order. If results are received, refer to the IC for review.

**Request for Reconsideration – Applicant 4299538** Rescind previous motion and reinstate the license.

**OPEN SESSION**

**Open Session Board Minutes**

- 1. **December 10, 2025 Open Session WebEx Meeting Minutes**
- 2. **February 10, 2026 Open Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the December 10, 2025 Open Session WebEx Meeting Minutes, and February 10, 2026 Open Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes the as presented.

**Licenses to Ratify: December 4, 2025 – February 6, 2026**

Dr. Stowers 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.

**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:

- Status of Board Rules
- PLB Updates
- Georgia General Assembly

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

**Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA) Updates – Dr. Keri Riddick, DVM, Executive Director**

Dr. Riddick provided a summary of legislation that has been presented or will be presented to the Georgia General Assembly as follows:

1. HB 1195 – Essentially implements changes to reflect that a VCPR is not required for teletriage/teleadvice.
2. Potential legislation to allow veterinary technicians to administer rabies vaccines under supervision of a veterinarian has been discussed but has not yet been presented to the legislature.
3. A bill has been presented to support the development of a fund to cover the cost of care for retired police dogs,

Ms. Simpson inquired as to whether there was any pending legislation that would be responsive to the concerns presented by the poison control groups as it relates to the requirement that a Georgia licensed veterinarian is necessary to engage in telemedicine, teleadvice, and teleadvice.

Mr. Riddick, Legal Counsel, Georgia Veterinary Medicine Association (GVMA), indicated that he cannot speak to whether the concerns of the poison control groups is being addressed in legislation this session, only that the position of GVMA has not changed in that regard.

**Board Chair’s Report – J. Sewell, LVT**

No official report presented.

**Tabled Items for April 14, 2026 Meeting**

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to table the following agenda items (4-12) for the April 15, 2026 meeting due to the time constraints of Board members.

- Correspondence – Issue with Medications from Pharmacies – Kali Meyer, VET010255
- Correspondence – Guidance on Establishing a Compliant House-Call\_Mobile Veterinary Practice in Georgia, Dr. Jan Merchan, DVM, VET011391
- CE Broker Presentation – 10:00 a.m.
- Discussion – American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)
- Discussion – International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA)
- Discussion – National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) – E-Newsletter – Contributions Empowering Medical Education, Assessment, & Local Communities
- Discussion – Temporary VET\_VETT License Applications
- Discussion – Veterinary Specialist License Applications
- Discussion – Qualifications to Practice Telemedicine

**Adjournment** No further business was discussed, and the meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

**Minutes recorded by:** Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist  
**Minutes reviewed by:** Adrienne Price, Executive Director & Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor  
**Minutes approved on:** February 16, 2026

**JESSICA SEWELL, LVT**  
**BOARD CHAIRPERSON**

**ADRIENNE PRICE**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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 Jessica M. Sewell, LVT 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. **JMS** I am the presiding officer of the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine 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 February 11, 2026 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

Jessica M. Sewell  
Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me  
This 17 day of FEB 2026

[Signature]  
Notary Public

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 10/02/29

