

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Board WebEx Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 15, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine met via WebEx meeting on Wednesday, April 15, 2026. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Jessica Sewell, LVT, Chair
Wendy Cuevas, PhD, DACVPM, Vice Chair
William Wright, DVM, Board Member
John Tarabula, DVM, Board Member
Seth Stowers, DVM, Board Member
Matthew Bradley, DVM, Board Member

Staff Present

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

Board Members Absent

No members absent.

Attorney General's Office

Elizabeth Simpson, Assistant Attorney General

Visitors Present

Deb Carter, Propelus CE Broker
Jackie Parr
Kathryn Carman, LVT, President, Georgia Veterinary Technician Association (GVTA)
Kelli Gibbon, Georgia Veterinary Technician Association (GVTA)
Patti McPhail, RVT
Agda Tamassia
Jacqueline's Notetaker
Dr. Keri Riddick, DVM, Executive Director, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)
Peggy McCarthy
Jennifer Hiland
SuzAnne
Don Riddick, JD, Legal Counsel, Georgia Veterinary Medicine Association (GVMA)
UGA Veterinary Teaching Hospital: Cindy Rice, Brandy Burgess, Melanie Lovett, Nicole Northrup, Victoria Torrez
Olivia W.
Dr. Nichole Northrup, UGA College of Veterinary Medicine
Dr. Jennifer Mason
Scott Young
Judy Baileu, CVPM
Dr. Heather Tally Lindell, VPEG
Vickie Thorne
Andrea Garrett
Billy Scroggs, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)
Nicole SJ, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)
Andrea Garrett
Call-In User 2
Call-In User 3
Call-In User 4

Call to Order: Ms. Sewell established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda

Dr. Cuevas motioned, Dr. Bradley seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the WebEx meeting agenda as presented.

Open Session Board Minutes

- 1. February 16, 2026 Open Session WebEx Meeting Minutes**
- 2. April 14, 2026 Open Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the February 16, 2026 Open Session WebEx Meeting Minutes, and the April 13, 2026 Open Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes the as presented.

Licenses to Ratify: February 7, 2026 – April 6, 2026

Dr. Cuevas motioned, Dr. Stowers 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 – Issue with Medications from Pharmacies – Kali Meyer, VET010255

John Tarabula joined the meeting at 9:44 a.m.

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Bradley seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer the writer to the Georgia Board of Pharmacy.

Correspondence – Guidance on Establishing a Compliant House-Call Mobile Veterinary Practice in Georgia, Dr. Jan Merchan, DVM, VET011391

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Cuevas seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to the Attorney General’s Office for Memorandum of Advice that will assist the Board in the formulation of a general response to inquiries in which an interpretation of law or rules is being requested.

Correspondence – Questions About Telemedicine at UGA VTH - Dr. Nicole Northrup, DVM, DACVIM (Oncology)

Dr. Cuevas motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a Memorandum of Advice that will assist the Board in the formulation of a general response to inquiries in which an interpretation of law or rules is being requested.

10:00 Public Rules Hearing

CHAPTER 700-12. MINIMUM STANDARDS

- RULE 700-12-.02. FACILITY STANDARDS
- RULE 700-12-.04. RECORD KEEPING
- RULE 700-12-.08. SURGICAL STANDARDS
- RULE 700-12-.11. PATIENT CARE

CHAPTER 700-14. SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

- RULE 700-14-.01. IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION
- RULE 700-14-.02. DIRECT SUPERVISION
- RULE 700-14-.03. INDIRECT SUPERVISION
- RULE 700-14-.04. RESTRICTIONS
- RULE 700-14-.05. CREDENTIALS OF LICENSED VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

Ms. Sewell called the Public Rules Hearing in the matter of RULES CHAPTER 700-12. MINIMUM STANDARDS and RULES CHAPTER 700-14. SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR VETERINARY TECHNICIANS to order at 10:01 a.m. Members of the Board introduced themselves for the record and they were as follows: Ms. Jessica Sewell, LVT,

Dr. Wendy Cuevas, DVM, Dr. William Wright, DVM, Dr. John Tarabula, DVM, Dr. Seth Stowers, DVM, and Dr. Matthew Bradley, DVM. Ms. Sewell established that there was a quorum of the Board present. Ms. Sewell acknowledged the presence of members of the general public via WebEx.

After acknowledging that the Notice of Intent and Notice of Hearing for this proposed change has been properly posted, Ms. Sewell stated no written public comments for or against the proposed rules were received so she will proceed by reading aloud the purpose of each proposed rule. When she has reached the end of each rule within the chapter, she will pause to ask if there are any comments from the Board and the public. Ms. Sewell instructed everyone to raise their hand if they wish to speak, and once acknowledged, to clearly state their First and Last Name, the organization or entity they represent, if any, followed by their statement, question, or comment about the rules within the chapter that has been projected.

Ms. Sewell asked that Board Members refrain from asking any questions until the conclusion of the person's statement. Any Board member who wants to ask a question of the individual who speaks should first identify themselves by name before asking the question.

The hearing proceeded as follows:

CHAPTER 700-12. MINIMUM STANDARDS

RULE 700-12-.02. FACILITY STANDARDS

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 the current Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety standards are met, but not be limited to, the_following:
 - (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 and 43-50-110.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed amendment is to prohibit and prevent unsafe practices, carry out policy objectives that are expressed in a statute, and remove information asymmetries for licensees and the public by adding language concerning minimum Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety standards to this rule as those standards are most relevant to and appropriate for review while maintaining federal, state, and local standards for veterinary facilities. The rule amendments further ensure patient, licensee, and public safety, health, and welfare by making it clear that the minimum national standards outlined within the rule should remain in compliance and such compliance must be reviewed and documented at the facility at least annually and be provided to the Board upon written request.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received.

Verbal Comments Received

The following verbal comment was received.

1. Andrea Garrett, Member of the Public

Andrea Garrett introduced herself as a member of the public and inquired as to whether the veterinary technician curriculum includes going over the OSHA facility requirements and safety standards. Ms. Sewell informed Ms. Garrett that this information is covered in the veterinary technician curriculum. Ms. Garrett thanked her for the response.

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Cuevas seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the stated purpose and adopt BR 700-12-.02. FACILITY STANDARDS as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of BR 700-12-.02. FACILITY STANDARDS upon licensees. Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-55, 43-50-90 and 43-50-110 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

RULE 700-12-.04. RECORD KEEPING

Rule 700-12-.04 Record Keeping

- (1) Complete, accurate and legible records must be maintained on all animals, or animal groups, including but not limited to, animal owner information, animal identification, and veterinary care (hereinafter referred to as "patient records").
 - (a) All patient records must be maintained for a minimum of 3 years from the patient's last office visit (including diagnostic imaging and other patient data) by the veterinary facility where the patient received treatment. If treatment is not performed at a veterinary facility, a patient record must be maintained by the veterinarian who provided treatment of the patient.
 - (b) The veterinarian must furnish clients with an established mailing address for obtaining patient records.
 - (c) The requirements of subparagraphs (a) shall not apply to a veterinarian who has retired or sold his or her professional practice if said veterinarian has notified the client of such retirement or sale and offered to provide the patient records or copies thereof to another veterinarian of the client's choice or has furnished the client with an established mailing address to submit a request for obtaining patient records.
- (2) Each licensed veterinarian must execute and maintain record of an agreement naming an executor, administrator, or temporary administrator who shall be responsible for maintaining patient records for a period of six months from the date a veterinary facility closes or a licensed veterinarian dies, is incarcerated, or is no longer able to practice due to substantial impairment by reason of mental incompetence, illness or the use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material. Such agreement shall:
 - (a) Provide the name of the executor, administrator, or temporary administrator, the address where the records will be maintained, a phone number, and an email address and an acknowledgement that this information will be shared with the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine and posted in the veterinary facility;
 - (b) Grant the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine permission to post the contact information for the executor, administrator, or temporary administrator on the Board's website for a period of six months from the date of occurrence for public access;
 - (c) Hold the executor, administrator, or temporary administrator responsible for notifying clients of the basis for their possession of the records and how the records may be obtained; and
 - (d) Entitle the executor, administrator, or temporary administrator to release any information contained in the files and records to the client, with an acknowledgement of receipt from the client for the record, and to charge a reasonable fee to reimburse their cost to mail or produce the records to the client.
- (3) On the 2026 renewal application and each renewal application thereafter, licensed veterinarians will be required to provide the name, address, contact number and email address for the executor, administrator, or temporary administrator who is identified in the executed agreement as being responsible for the maintenance of patient records when the licensed veterinarian is no longer able.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21 and 43-50-41.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed amendment is to ensure continuity of care for patients in the event of untimely demise or incapacitation of the treating veterinarian. This will carry out policy objectives that are expressed in a statute and are in alignment with the patient rights act. Independent support for their recommendations came from other state boards, the medical board, state bar association, and independent support from constituents.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received.

Verbal Comments Received

No verbal comments were received.

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the stated purpose and adopt BR 700-12-.04. RECORD KEEPING as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of BR 700-12-.04. RECORD KEEPING upon licensees. Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Wright seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the economic impact discussion as presented.

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21 and 43-50-41 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

RULE 700-12-.08. SURGICAL STANDARDS

Rule 700-12-.08 Surgical Standards

- (1) A licensed veterinarian employed at a veterinary facility must ensure that the following criteria pertaining to surgical standards are met if surgical procedures are performed in the facility:
 - (a) Dose, type and strength of anesthesia, and weight and physical exam findings must be recorded in the patient record.
 - (b) Name of licensed veterinarian performing the surgery must be recorded in the patient record.
 - (c) A surgery table must be used for non-ambulatory procedures. Such table must have an impervious surface suitable for cleaning and disinfecting. The surgical area must be clean, orderly, and well illuminated. If the practitioner does not use a surgery table, the rationale for foregoing its use must be documented within the patient record.
 - (d) All surgery must be performed by a licensed veterinarian utilizing aseptic technique as appropriate for the procedure.
 - (e) Surgical equipment must be sterilized in the following manner:
 1. Cold sterilization must be limited to instruments used in minor procedures or limited to those instruments that cannot be sterilized otherwise.

2. Surgical instruments other than those applicable to (e)1. above must be sterilized utilizing autoclave, gas, or any techniques which may be developed in the future that are acceptable to the Board.
- (f) Oxygen and equipment for administration must be available.
 - (g) For canine and feline patients reasonably expected by the licensed veterinarian to undergo general anesthesia, an endotracheal tube must be utilized as appropriate for the procedure. Such intubation, extubation, and time of anesthesia shall be recorded in the medical record. Where a patient has not been intubated, it shall be documented in the patient record.
 - (h) For patients under general anesthesia, monitoring and vital signs must be recorded in the medical record at intervals as appropriate.
 - (i) Warming devices for patients undergoing general anesthesia are required as appropriate. Where a warming device is not appropriate, it shall be documented in the medical record.
 - (j) Pain management is required for patients undergoing surgical procedures and it shall be documented in the medical record.
 - (k) Facilities and equipment for resuscitation must be readily available as appropriate.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-90 and 43-50-110.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed amendment is to carry out policy objectives that are expressed in a statute and clarify the minimum surgical standards for licensed veterinarians and facilities.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received.

Verbal Comments Received

The following verbal comments were received:

1. Don Riddick, JD, Legal Counsel, Georgia Veterinary Medicine Association (GVMA)

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

Mr. Riddick stated he is glad for the changes and hopes that there will be consistent guidance for record keeping related to those standards because that's where the majority of the questions are currently coming for the proposed rules. More to the point, he is appreciative of how to identify in the records exactly which standards are being used for record keeping and why.

Ms. Sewell asked if Mr. Riddick is requesting more clarification in the rules. He replied that he is not necessarily asking for this, but simply commenting that GVMA will educate licensees on how to provide record keeping to meet the new standards. He continued that the rules are great, but GVMA will need to help practitioners understand how to add these requirements within their records.

Dr. Riddick commented that GVMA shared the proposed rules with their members and they received very positive feedback specifically about the surgical standards proposed rule.

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Bradley seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the stated purpose and adopt BR 700-12-.08. SURGICAL STANDARDS as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of BR 700-12-.08. SURGICAL STANDARDS upon licensees. Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Bradley seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Bradley seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-90 and 43-50-110 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

RULE 700-12-.11. PATIENT CARE

Rule 700-12-.11 Patient Care

- (1) For hospitalized or sick patients that are maintained in a veterinary facility, a licensed veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician must physically evaluate each patient daily.
 - (a) Patients recovering from anesthesia must be properly monitored and such recovery intervals documented in the medical record.
 - (b) For patients in the hospital, the licensed veterinarian and veterinary technician must have appropriate measures in place to ensure the patient is in a state of physical ease to include but not limited to a clean and orderly location.
- (2) For boarded animals that are maintained in a veterinary facility, a licensed veterinarian or his or her designee, under proper supervision of a licensed veterinarian, must physically visit the facility and see each animal daily.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-90 and 43-50-110.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed amendment is to be consistent with national standards established by the American College of Veterinary Anesthesiologists and the American Society of Anesthesiologists by ensuring licensees understand the need to monitor and observe hospitalized and sick patients at intervals consistent with the animal species and document the assessments within the medical record. Although the standard for some animals is 5-to-10-minute intervals, the Board did not specify that interval within the rule to allow for mitigating circumstances which minimize the feasibility of monitoring at that interval. The language of the rule establishes the importance of licensees documenting that they are monitoring the patient at intervals appropriate for that animal to ensure patient safety. The rule amendment further defines the level of comfort that licensees are expected to achieve when caring for hospitalized patients as well as the need for it to be clear that whereas a veterinarian may delegate the task of monitoring the patient animal to a designee, the veterinarian is ultimately responsible for supervising the care they provide. The amendments further clarify the regulatory designators authorized by the statute and rules to ensure that persons are using the proper terminology when referencing veterinary technicians and their scope of practice.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received.

Verbal Comments Received

No verbal comments were received.

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the stated purpose and adopt BR 700-12-.11. PATIENT CARE as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of BR 700-12-.11. PATIENT CARE upon licensees. Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Bradley seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Bradley seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-90 and 43-50-110 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

CHAPTER 700-14. SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

RULE 700-14-.01. IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION

Rule 700-14-.01 Immediate Supervision

- (1) Immediate Supervision means that the duly licensed veterinarian is in audible and in visual range of the animal patient and the person treating the animal.
- (2) A veterinary technician working under the direction, supervision and control of a duly licensed veterinarian may provide the following animal patient care under immediate supervision:
 - (a) Surgical assistance.
 - (b) Placement of abdominal, thoracic or percutaneous gastrostomy (PEG) tubes.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-3 and 43-50-21.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed amendments in this rule chapter is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by implementing safeguards to minimize the potential for burnout of licensed veterinarians as licensee burnout endangers the licensees, clients, and patients. The amendments also enable licensed veterinarians to leverage the skills of licensed veterinary technicians in the provision of safe and efficient care, particularly when there are many more duties that veterinarian technicians can carry out. The amendments increase and improve access to care through the appropriate delegation and distribution of the workload to qualified veterinary technicians. The workflow delegation will allow veterinarians to serve a greater client base and not suffer themselves in the process. By including additional tasks that veterinary technicians are capable of completing under a particular level of supervision loosens the perceived reigns on the role of licensed veterinary technicians. The amendments further provide clarity to the licensed veterinarian and veterinary technician about the minimum skills and practices licensed veterinary technicians can perform.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received.

Verbal Comments Received

The following verbal comments were received:

1. Andrea Garrett, Member of the Public

Ms. Garrett stated she feels like the technical verbiage is a little too tedious regarding abdominal thoracic and percutaneous gastronomy peg tubes. She said these are way too technical, and any lay person would have trouble understanding the difficulty of these procedures. She advised, you need to know what you are doing, or you are going to hit some of the organ areas. Most of these procedures are moderately difficult, semi high-risk procedures.

Ms Sewell countered that she would hope that a lay person would not be performing those types of procedures and that the rules are to provide guidance to the licensees who should have an understanding of these terms. Ms. Garrett continued that the verbiage makes it seem like this is very standard and normal procedurally, but these procedures are actually pretty involved. She proposed that it opens the door for abuse because veterinary assistants are already

doing the job of veterinary technicians due to the way it happens, which happened to her twice in the last three years; vet assistants doing the job of vet techs, and she does not see how this will be any different eventually.

Ms. Sewell responded to her concern by stating it will be different due to the fact that the rules stipulate that if anyone is delegated one of these responsibilities, either from a veterinarian, or veterinary technician, the delegating veterinarian or technician could be reportable to the Board, and penalized, if such delegation is not in accordance with the rules.

Ms. Garrett replied that reports to the Board happen so infrequently, because to make that sort of a claim or at least to do anything in general, at least legally, you have to have an expert witness testimony before the complaint makes it to the Board. It's a very long process. At times it can take six months to hear back from the Board.

Ms. Sewell confirmed these types of complaints actually do happen a lot, and it makes her proud that the Board addresses these issues. And it also confirms people are paying attention.

Ms. Garrett replied that members of the public have no idea about the complaint process because it is shrouded in secrecy whenever anything does happen, or anyone is reprimanded. The general public has no idea what is going on. Ms. Sewell responded that if the complaint results in a Public Order, it will be posted on the Board website. Only private orders are not privy to the general public, as they are confidential.

Ms. Price noted that the Board is governed by statute as to what can and cannot be disclosed as it relates to complaints and complaint investigations. She further requested that the visitors to ensure that all public comments submitted are specific to the rule under discussion. Ms. Garrett apologized for getting off track.

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the stated purpose and adopt BR 700-14-.01. IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of BR 700-14-.01. IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION upon licensees. Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-3 and 43-50-21 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

RULE 700-14-.02. DIRECT SUPERVISION

Rule 700-14-.02 Direct Supervision

- (1) Direct supervision means that the duly licensed veterinarian is on the premises and is quickly and easily available and that the animal patient has been examined by a licensed veterinarian at such time as acceptable veterinary medical practice requires, consistent with the particular delegated animal health care task.
- (2) A veterinary technician working under the direction, supervision and control of a duly licensed veterinarian may provide the following animal patient care under direct supervision:
 - (a) Euthanasia;
 - (b) Administration of blood or blood components to animal patients;
 - (c) Application of splints and slings;

- (d) Dental procedures including, but not limited to the removal of calculus, soft deposits, plaque and stains; the smoothing, filing, and polishing of teeth; or the floatation ~~of~~ of equine teeth;
- (e) Non-emergency intubations;
- (f) Induce anesthesia;
- (g) Maintenance of anesthesia;
- (h) Assisting any duly licensed veterinarian in the measuring of quantities of medication, but excluding the dispensing, compounding, or mixing of drugs;
- (i) Dental extraction not requiring sectioning of the tooth or the resectioning of bone;
- (j) Perform central venous;
- (k) Perform arterial catheterization/arterial collection;
- (l) Regional anesthesia, including paravertebral blocks, local blocks;
- (m) Placement of tubes, including but not limited to gastric, nasogastric, and nasoesophageal;
- (n) Fluid aspiration from a body cavity or organ (thoracocentesis, abdominocentesis);
- (o) Suturing, stapling, and gluing of an existing surgical incision;
- (p) Suturing a gingival incision;
- (q) Placement of epidural, intraosseous, and nasal catheters;
- (r) Castrate, dehorn, dock, for livestock and food animals, excluding equine species, in accordance with acceptable livestock and food animal management practices and the minimum standard of care; and
- (s) Replacing a rectal prolapse with a purse string or a vaginal prolapse with a Buhner stitch or purse string for livestock and food animals, excluding equine species, in accordance with acceptable livestock and food animal management practices and the minimum standard of care.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-3 and 43-50-21.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed amendments in this rule chapter is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by implementing safeguards to minimize the potential for burnout of licensed veterinarians as licensee burnout endangers the licensees, clients, and patients. The amendments also enable licensed veterinarians to leverage the skills of licensed veterinary technicians in the provision of safe and efficient care, particularly when there are many more duties that veterinarian technicians can carry out. The amendments increase and improve access to care through the appropriate delegation and distribution of the workload to qualified veterinary technicians. The workflow delegation will allow veterinarians to serve a greater client base and not suffer themselves in the process. By including additional tasks that veterinary technicians are capable of completing under a particular level of supervision loosens the perceived reigns on the role of licensed veterinary technicians. The amendments further provide clarity to the licensed veterinarian and veterinary technician about the minimum skills and practices licensed veterinary technicians can perform.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received.

Verbal Comments Received

No verbal comments were received.

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the stated purpose and adopt BR 700-14-.02. DIRECT SUPERVISION as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of BR 700-14-.02. DIRECT SUPERVISION upon licensees. Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and

adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-3 and 43-50-21 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

RULE 700-14-.03. INDIRECT SUPERVISION

Rule 700-14-.03 Indirect Supervision

- (1) Indirect supervision means the duly licensed veterinarian is not on the premises but has given either written or oral instructions for the treatment of the animal patient and the animal has been examined by a licensed veterinarian at such times as acceptable veterinary medical practice requires, consistent with the particular delegated health care task.
- (2) A veterinary technician working under the direction, supervision and control of a duly licensed veterinarian may provide the following animal patient care under indirect supervision:
 - (a) Administration and application of treatments, drugs, medications, and immunological agents, unless prohibited by government regulation;
 - (b) Perform intravenous catheterizations and maintenance of intraarterial catheterizations;
 - (c) Radiography including settings, positioning, processing, and safety procedures;
 - (d) Collection of blood for diagnostic purposes; collection of urine by expression, or catheterization; collection of feces; collection and preparation of tissue, cellular, or microbiological samples by skin scrapings, impressions, or other non-surgical methods for diagnostic purposes;
 - (e) Routine laboratory test procedures;
 - (f) Collection of urine by cystocentesis;
 - (g) Blood or blood component collection and preparation for transfusion;
 - (h) Imaging including, but not limited to, radiography, ultrasonography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and fluoroscopy and the administration of radio-opaque agents/materials;
 - (i) Monitoring including, but not limited to, electrocardiogram (ECG), blood pressure, carbon dioxide (CO₂) and blood oxygen saturation;
 - (j) Laser therapy;
 - (k) Animal rehabilitation therapies;
 - (l) Ocular tonometry, Schirmer tear test, and fluorescein stain application;
 - (m) Application of bandages; and
 - (n) Suture and staple removal.
- (3) A veterinary technician working under the direction, supervision and control of a duly licensed veterinarian may provide the following emergency animal patient care under indirect supervision:
 - (a) Application of tourniquets and/or pressure bandages to control hemorrhage;

- (b) Initiate and perform CPR, including administration of medication and defibrillation, and provide immediate post-resuscitation care according to established protocols;
 - (c) Application of temporary splints or bandages to prevent further injury to bones or soft tissues;
 - (d) Application of appropriate wound dressings and external supportive treatment in severe wound and burn cases;
 - (e) External supportive treatment in heat prostration cases;
 - (f) Administration of a drug to manage and control pain, to prevent further injury, and prevent or control shock, including parenteral fluids, under direct communication with a Veterinarian or in accordance with written guidelines consistent with accepted standards of veterinary medical practice;
 - (g) Administration of a drug to prevent suffering of an animal, up to and including euthanasia, under direct communication with a Veterinarian;
 - (h) Anti-seizure treatment; and
 - (i) Placement of orogastric, nasogastric, and nasoesophageal tubes.
- (4) Grooming procedures and non-invasive skin (topical) treatment;
 - (5) Handling and disposal of biohazardous waste materials; and
 - (6) Ear notch, or remove needle teeth for livestock and food animals, excluding equine species, in accordance with acceptable livestock and food animal management practices and the minimum standard of care.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-3, 43-50-21, 43-50-51, and 43-50-54.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed amendments in this rule chapter is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by implementing safeguards to minimize the potential for burnout of licensed veterinarians as licensee burnout endangers the licensees, clients, and patients. The amendments also enable licensed veterinarians to leverage the skills of licensed veterinary technicians in the provision of safe and efficient care. particularly when there are many more duties that veterinarian technicians can carry out. The amendments increase and improve access to care through the appropriate delegation and distribution of the workload to qualified veterinary technicians. The workflow delegation will allow veterinarians to serve a greater client base and not suffer themselves in the process. By including additional tasks that veterinary technicians are capable of completing under a particular level of supervision loosens the perceived reigns on the role of licensed veterinary technicians. The amendments further provide clarity to the licensed veterinarian and veterinary technician about the minimum skills and practices licensed veterinary technicians can perform.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received.

Verbal Comments Received

The following verbal comments were received:

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

Dr. Riddick reiterated that GVMA sent out the proposed rules to their membership especially since the supervision rules are specific to licensed veterinary technicians and what they are allowed to do within direct supervision. She continued that GVMA received very positive feedback just from their members, who were very encouraged to see that the scope of practice for licensed veterinary technicians is being expanded. She thanked the Board for their hard work on these two rules, Indirect and Direct Supervision.

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the stated purpose and adopt BR 700-14-.03. INDIRECT SUPERVISION as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of BR 700-14-.03. INDIRECT SUPERVISION upon licensees. Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Cuevas seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Cuevas seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-3, 43-50-21, 43-50-51, and 43-50-54 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

RULE 700-14-.04. RESTRICTIONS

Rule 700-14-.04 Restrictions

- (1) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to permit a veterinary technician to do the following:
 - (a) Make any diagnosis or prognosis;
 - (b) Prescribe any treatments, drugs, medications, or appliances;
 - (c) Perform surgery;
 - (d) Administer a rabies vaccine to any official vaccinate; or
 - (e) Identify himself or herself verbally or in writing with any status other than “licensed veterinary technician” or “LVT” in a professional setting.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-40, 43-50-52, 43-50-110, and 50-13-4.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed amendments in this rule chapter is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by implementing safeguards to minimize the potential for burnout of licensed veterinarians as licensee burnout endangers the licensees, clients, and patients. The amendments also enable licensed veterinarians to leverage the skills of licensed veterinary technicians in the provision of safe and efficient care. particularly when there are many more duties that veterinarian technicians can carry out. The amendments increase and improve access to care through the appropriate delegation and distribution of the workload to qualified veterinary technicians. The workflow delegation will allow veterinarians to serve a greater client base and not suffer themselves in the process. By including additional tasks that veterinary technicians are capable of completing under a particular level of supervision loosens the perceived reigns on the role of licensed veterinary technicians. The amendments further provide clarity to the licensed veterinarian and veterinary technician about the minimum skills and practices licensed veterinary technicians can perform.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received.

Verbal Comments Received

No verbal comments were received.

Dr. Cuevas motioned, Dr. Bradley seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the stated purpose and adopt BR 700-14-.04. RESTRICTIONS as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of BR 700-14-.04. RESTRICTIONS upon licensees. Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-40, 43-50-52, 43-50-110, and 50-13-4 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

RULE 700-14-.05. CREDENTIALS OF LICENSED VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

Rule 700-14-.05 Credentials of Licensed Veterinary Technicians

- (1) A licensed veterinary technician shall use the word “licensed veterinary technician” or the abbreviation of “LVT” immediately following his or her name to designate licensure under Title 43, Chapter 50, Article 1-6 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.
- (2) A person or business entity and its employees, agents, or representatives shall not use in connection with that person’s name or the name or activity of the business entity the words “licensed veterinary technician,” the letters “LVT,” or any other words, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying, directly or indirectly, that a veterinary technician as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-50-3(33) is provided or supplied, unless such services are provided or under the direction of a licensed veterinary technician and/or the supervision of a veterinarian licensed in the State of Georgia.
- (3) A person or business entity shall not advertise or otherwise promote another person as being a “licensed veterinary technician” or “LVT” unless the individual so advertised or promoted is licensed in the State of Georgia.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-50-21, 43-50-55 and 43-50-110.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed rule is to require licensed veterinary technicians to identify themselves as such and to prohibit anyone not licensed as a veterinary technician in the State of Georgia from identifying themselves as a licensed veterinary technician or LVT.

Written Comments Received

No written comments were received.

Verbal Comments Received

The following verbal comments were received:

- 1. Don Riddick, JD, Legal Counsel, Georgia Veterinary Medicine Association (GVMA)**
- 2. Kathryn Carman, LVT, President, Georgia Veterinary Technician Association (GVTA)**
- 3. Dr. Jennifer Mason**

Mr. Riddick addressed the Board concerning the use of a different licensed technician designation in other states, such as RVT (Registered Veterinary Technician), and the way this rule is drafted, any other words, abbreviations, or insignia for licensed veterinary technicians as defined in O.C.G.A. § 43-53-33(2) would include anyone who used RVT after their name.

Ms. Sewell provided naming background that years ago before the Practice Act was revised, the title, RVT, was used, and this changed to LVT (Licensed Veterinary Technician) to align with veterinarians who are licensed. She believes any confusion comes from this history. Ms. Sewell stated there are still some technicians in Georgia that continue to go by RVT.

Mr. Riddick stated his concern is for someone who is not a licensed veterinary technician, and would use the initials RVT. The general public would not understand this person is not a licensed veterinary technician and are merely an

assistant in the state of Georgia because they don't have that license designation. He continued that he was assuming the second part of the rule covered this, although he tries not to assume, particularly when providing education on the topic.

AAG Simpson relayed her experience that the it is the license word which is most protected and cannot be used. It is not inherently misleading if someone has been qualified as a registered veterinary technician at some point in the past, and someone would acknowledge that. As far as using the designation on a name tag, or how you identify on the website, could cause a different issue. Ms. Simpson does not think the word "Registered" in and of itself, without further evidence of misleading someone, is going to be a problem.

Mr. Riddick questioned that it sounds like the only way to keep the uniqueness of the RVT won't be through the rules so if I'm hearing you clearly, in Georgia someone could probably still say, "Well, I'm a RVT, but I'm not a LVT," as long as they identify that under this rule, and that's OK?

AAG Simpson said the Board may determine at some point, this may need additional clarification.

Kathryn Carman addressed the Board with some concerns about someone being able to identify themselves as a RVT without repercussion. Each state across the country gets to determine the designation of their credentialed technicians and the credentialing process is different in each state, which is a whole other topic. Ms. Carman relayed that her problem is someone being able to identify as a RVT is still implying that they have the education and experience equivalent to a LVT. If this needs to be clarified further, then she would ask that the Board revisit the discussion.

Ms. Sewell requested clarification from Ms. Carman regarding the education of RVT vs LVT and asked if she is talking about the grandfathering process since it is still allowed in some states.

Ms. Carman indicated this is not what she is referring to. Her concerns are directly related to how each individual state determines that their credentialed technicians are RVTs, LVTs, CVTs (Certified Veterinary Technician), and in the state of Tennessee, LVMT (Licensed Veterinary Medical Technicians). That makes four different designations across 50 different states. Some states still permit grandfathering, which is fine, albeit not ideal. The job training program still allows for minimum education, experience, and knowledge to demonstrate proficiency. She thinks that the RVT should be just as protected in other states as LVT is in this state.

Board member, Dr. Bradley posed a question to AAG Simpson regarding the legal grounds the Board has as a state to protect or enforce a term as RVT that we do not use. AAG Simpson responded that this would have to be a rule, and to her knowledge, does not exist right now.

Dr Bradley, noted that his original thought was that this rule has a lot of protections around the LVT credential, but none around the RVT or other US credentials for veterinary technicians. But if we take a step back and look at the purpose and intent of the rule promulgation process which is to protect the general public. And the general public is not protected if there is no clarity on the people that are caring for their animals. He feels there needs to be some kind of clause that states LVT is what the state of Georgia uses, and reference to any other type of technician, such as RVT or CVT, is not permitted, which could be too strong. The point is that we need to have clarity in the rules here so that the general public understands who is providing care to their animals.

AAG Simpson stated this would be quite typical of adding a line to an existing rule. It would be the same authority as what was behind the promulgation of the rules today. Use of RVT, CVT, and related terms, may be used to indicate credentialing, but if you are a veterinary assistant, you must identify as such. You cannot list yourself as a LVT or equivalent as it is misleading to the public. There are certainly legal ways to add this to the rule should the Board vote to do so.

Dr. Jennifer Mason commented that in the state of Georgia, if you are not a licensed veterinary technician, by default, you are a veterinary assistant, regardless of what your credentials indicate in any other state. She believes in the veterinary assistant rule, it states that if you are a veterinary assistant, you are not allowed to identify yourself as anything else, which may clear up some of this discussion, or the rule section mentioning veterinary assistants needs to be made more clear that you cannot use credentials from any other state.

It was the consensus of the Board that to Dr. Mason's point, Board Rule 700-15-.04 prohibits veterinary assistants from using any title relevant to a veterinary technician, licensed, certified, or registered. Therefore, if Rule 700-14-.05 is adopted, the use of any other words, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying, directly or indirectly, that one is a veterinary technician would be prohibited in Georgia.

Dr. Cuevas motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the stated purpose and adopt BR 700-14-.05. CREDENTIALS OF LICENSED VETERINARY TECHNICIANS as posted.

The Board discussed the economic impact of BR 700-14-.05. CREDENTIALS OF LICENSED VETERINARY TECHNICIANS upon licensees. Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Cuevas seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Cuevas seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-50-21, 43-50-40, 43-50-52, 43-50-110, and 50-13-4 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to release the Memoranda of Authority regarding CHAPTER 700-12. MINIMUM STANDARDS and CHAPTER 700-14. SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR VETERINARY TECHNICIANS of the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine to the Governor's Office.

The hearing was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Dr. Riddick asked about these rules being adopted in the middle of 2026 in the vein of there being confusion during the current renewal. Ms. Price confirmed that there would not be any adjustments for this current renewal cycle.

11:00 CE Broker Presentation – Deb Carter, Propelus, Client Success Manager

Ms. Carter provided an overview of the CE Broker starting with its beginnings over 20 years ago as the CE repository for the 33 Licensing Boards of State of Florida and over 6500 educational providers. She shared that now CE Broker is the chosen platform for over 6 million licensed professionals. The CE Broker CE Provider database includes 2500 approved RACE CE providers across the country.

Ms. Carter provided a demonstration showing the ease of creating an initial account and how to navigate the platform if one is licensed under multiple professions. She noted that there are three tiers of accounts available and most users choose the basic account which is at no cost to the licensee.

The professional and concierge accounts offer additional benefits for a monthly or yearly premium. Using a test account, Ms. Carter demonstrated the ease of loading CE to the platform from start to finish. She did note that for those who are adding a profession to an already existing CE Broker account, it can take 24 hours for the system to validate the information for the second license type. After the validation, all license types can be managed under a single log-in for those who have multiple licenses.

Ms. Carter stated that an audited account is automatically upgraded to a paid account during the audit process. Once the audit is closed, the account will revert back to the tier it was in prior to being selected for audit.

Ms. Price wanted to point out to licensees that they still must confirm whether the course they are taking and recording is approved by the Board. She cautioned that a course that can be found on CE Broker does not automatically mean the program is approved by the Board. Licensees are responsible for ensuring each course submitted towards renewal meets the requirements outlined in the Board rules for approval.

The Board members thanked Ms. Carter for the information and demonstration.

Discussion – American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)

1. 2026 Call for Nominations
2. 2025 Resolutions Updates
3. The Link – VTNE Score Reporting
4. New Exam Content Outline for PAVE Qualifying Science Exam (QSE)
5. E-Newsletter – February 2026
6. VAULT News & Updates
7. Member Engagement & Communications Associate, Lucas Prater
8. March 2026 Newsletter
9. The Link – Registry of Approved Continuing Education RACE

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

Discussion – International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA)

1. 2026 NAVLE Practice Analysis
2. NAVLE Updates 2026-2027
3. 2026 Assessment Development Committee Nominations are Open
4. In Focus Newsletter_March 2026

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

Discussion – National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME)

1. E-Newsletter – Contributions Empowering Medical Education, Assessment, & Local Communities
2. How Should AI Shape the Way Students Connect with Patients

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to NBME as information.

Discussion – Temporary VET VETT License Applications

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to the Rules Committee to clearly outline what the applicants must provide.

Discussion – Qualifications to Practice Telemedicine, Teleadvice, and Teletriage

Dr. Stowers motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to the Rules Committee to develop rules outlining requirements for board approval to practice telemedicine, teleadvice, and teletriage.

Discussion – Veterinary Specialist – Foreign Trained Application O.C.G.A. § 43-50-31(B)(i-ii)

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Tarabula seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to the Rules Committee to develop rules to outline the requirements for specialty licenses to include but not limited to the requirements for licensure, renewal, reinstatement, inactivation, and consequences for any violations.

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:

- Board Rules

- PLB Updates
- Georgia General Assembly

Dr. Wright motioned, Dr. Stowers 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.

Board Chair’s Report – J. Sewell, LVT

No official report presented.

Dr. Wright made a motion, Dr. Tarabula 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. Cuevas, Dr. Wright, Dr. Tarabula, Dr. Stowers, and Dr. Bradley.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Wednesday, April 15, 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

Executive Session Board Minutes

- 1. February 16, 2026 Executive Session WebEx Meeting Minutes**
- 2. April 14, 2026 Executive Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the February 16, 2026 Executive Session WebEx Meeting Minutes and the April 14, 2026 Executive Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Attorney General’s Report – E. Simpson

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

Miscellaneous Executive Discussion

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Bradley seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer a request to the Rules Committee to develop an administrative policy, once legal advice has been received, related to the formulation of responses to correspondence in which an interpretation of law or rules is being requested.

Investigative Summary Report – J. Tarabula, DVM

Dr. Stowers motioned, Dr. Cuevas seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer the following cases to the Attorney General’s Office to Summarily Suspend the license as the Board finds that the Respondent poses an imminent danger to the public health, safety, or welfare and emergency action is required [O.C.G.A. § 50-13-18(c)(1)]:

- VET200055**
- VET220075**
- VET220106**
- VET230044**
- VET250120**

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

- VET190077** Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a Public Consent Order with a stayed suspension and probation for a minimum of five (5) years with terms and conditions as discussed in Executive Session.
- VET220082** Close the case. Respondent is deceased.
- VET250122** Close the case due to insufficient information to investigate.
- VET250124** Send a letter to the practice owner regarding advertising violations [BR 700-8-.01(a)(1)] and close the case.
- VET250125** Close the case due to insufficient information to investigate.

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

Applications for Board Review

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

- Applicant 4608058** Issue the specialty license upon receipt of a complete background consent form.
- Agenda Item 00018600** Approve request for telemedicine.
- Agenda Item 00018602** Approve request for telemedicine.
- Agenda Item 00018606** Must provide informed consent before request can be approved.
- Agenda Item 00018607** Must provide informed consent before request can be approved.
- Agenda Item 00018609** Approve request for telemedicine.
- Agenda Item 00018610** Approve request for telemedicine.
- Agenda Item 00018611** Must provide informed consent before telemedicine can be approved.

Rules Committee Meeting

Dr. Bradley motioned, Dr. Tarabula seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to schedule a Rules Committee meeting Wednesday, May 13, 2026, to begin at 9:00 a.m.

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: June 3, 2026

JESSICA SEWELL, LVT
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

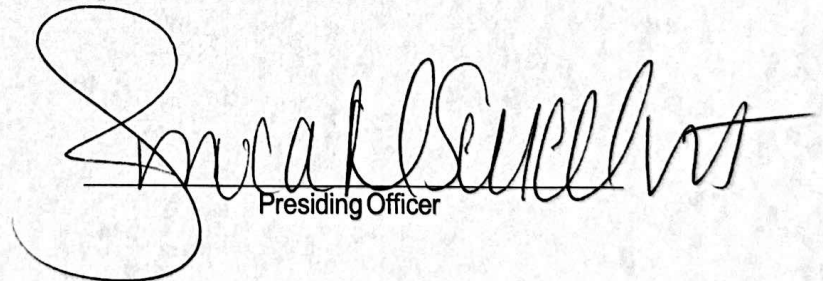
**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF
PUBLIC MEETING**

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. 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, 04/15/2026 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



Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 22 day of April 2026



Notary Public

