

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Open Session WebEx Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 3, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.

The Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine met via WebEx meeting on Wednesday, June 3, 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

Attorney General's Office

Elizabeth Simpson, Assistant Attorney General

Board Members Absent

No members absent.

Visitors Present

Scott Young
Dr. Keri Riddick, DVM, Executive Director, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)
Dr. Beth Venit, DVM, Chief Veterinary Officer, American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)
Donald Riddick, JD, Legal Counsel, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA)

Call to Order: Ms. Sewell established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

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

Open Session Board Minutes

1. April 15, 2026 Open Session WebEx Meeting Minutes
2. May 13, 2026 Rules Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes
3. June 2, 2026 Open Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes

Dr. Cuevas motioned, Dr. Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the April 15, 2026 Open Session WebEx Meeting Minutes, the May 13, 2026 Rules Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes, and the June 2, 2026 Open Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes as presented.

Licenses to Ratify: April 7, 2026 – May 25, 2026

Dr. Tarabula 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.

Discussion – American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB)

1. April Newsletter
2. Model Regulations Standards of Practice and Facility 1_Feedback by Sept 1, 2026

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

Discussion – American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) – Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) Accreditation Actions

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

Governor's Active Supervision Certificates

1. Rule 700-2-.02 Application for Licensure for Veterinarians

- a. Governor's Active Supervision Certificate _GRANTED
- b. Effective June 7, 2026

2. Rule 700-6-.01 Application for Veterinary Technician License

- a. Governor's Active Supervision Certificate _GRANTED
- b. Effective June 7, 2026

3. Rule 700-7-.03 Continuing Veterinary Education

- a. Governor's Active Supervision Certificate _GRANTED
- b. Effective June 7, 2026

4. Rule 700-7-.04 Veterinary Technician Continuing Education

- a. Governor's Active Supervision Certificate _GRANTED
- b. Effective June 7, 2026

5. Rule 700-9-.01 Procedural Rules _GRANTED

6. Rule 700-8-.01 Unprofessional Conduct. Amended _Effective June 7, 2026

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to Governor's Active Supervision Certificates as information.

International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA)

- 1. North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) Structure Update Beginning with October-November 2026 Testing Window**
- 2. Shape the Future of the NAVLE**

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

Discussion – Rules Committee – W. Wright, DVM

The Board the information provided by Dr. Wright and the Rules Committee minutes, and accepted the Committee discussions and rationales for the following rules as amended by the Rules Committee:

- a. Rule 700-13-.02. ~~Repealed~~ Veterinary Specialist License for Foreign Educated Graduates**
- b. Rule 700-13-.03. Veterinary Specialist License Renewal**
- c. Rule 700-13-.04. Veterinary Specialist Continuing Veterinary Education Requirements**
- d. Rule 700-13-.05. Reinstatement of Veterinary Specialist License**
- e. Rule 700-2-.04. Registered Temporary Veterinary License for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics**

f. Rule 700-6-.02. Registered Temporary Veterinary Technician License for Shelters and Sterilization Clinics

The Rules Committee previously tabled the proposed new Rules Chapter 700-3-.01 Telemedicine, Teletriage, and Teleadvice Requirements (Qualifications to Practice Telemedicine), pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 43-50-30, 43-50-120, 43-50-121, for the full Board to review.

Ms. Price posed five questions for the Board's consideration today based on concerns raised by the Rules Committee during their May 13, 2026 WebEx meeting. The questions are as follows:

1. Is there a need for a standardization of the qualifications to practice telemedicine across licensees and on the Notice of Intent form for the license subtype?

Dr. Wright suggested there should be guidelines for Veterinarians to access so they are made aware of the requirements, and he requested advice from the Attorney General, AAG Simpson. Ms. Simpson responded that she would need a referral to her office which includes what the board is proposing with all relevant facts before any advice could be provided. Ms. Sewell queried the Board members if they know how other state boards are handling telehealth. Dr. Wright responded that Georgia is on the forefront of telemedicine as was told to him by a fellow attendee at the last annual conference of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) which he attended as the Board's delegate.

Ms. Price said she would reach out to other states who are using telemedicine through the polling feature offered by AAVSB to find out what forms they are utilizing prior to making the referral to the Attorney General's Office for a Memorandum of Advice. Dr. Riddick offered to share the template drafted by the Georgia Veterinary Medical Association (GVMA) staff attorney. Dr. Tarabula commented that he feels this is a good idea so there is a starting point. The remaining Board members agreed.

Dr. Wright motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer the informed consent from GVMA to the Attorney General's Office for advice and recommendations related to the information which should be included within an informed consent for the practice of telemedicine.

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Stowers seconded, on a friendly amendment to this vote, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer the informed consent from GVMA and Persimmon Creek Animal Hospital to the Attorney General's Office for advice and recommendations related to the information to be included within an informed consent for the practice of telemedicine.

2. Should the practice of telemedicine question be listed on the renewal application? If so, what purpose would this serve?

Ms. Price shared that adding this question to the renewal application would be costly from an administrative standpoint by changing what is already built out in GOALS (Georgia Online Application & Licensing System), as well as the new information being laborious to track. She needs to understand the Board's preferences on the application change to be able to defend why this change and added cost to the Agency is warranted since the online renewal application will need to be redesigned, and additional manpower will be needed to process the information gathered from renewals.

Dr. Wright responded that if the question is listed, licensees will be pointed toward requirements for the practice of telehealth, thus educating and informing them on how to protect their clients as well as their licenses. Ms. Price remarked that licensees are responsible for knowing the laws and rules under which they practice and that a renewal application may not be the best, most useful way of educating the licensees on telemedicine requirements. Such education would be best suited for a CE course or jurisprudence exam. After further discussion, the Board agreed not to add the question to the renewal application as this change can always be revisited by the Board in the future if there is a need to change the telemedicine trajectory and question on the application.

Ms. Sewell suggested that it might be prudent to research how to have an informed consent with clients on veterinary telehealth websites. This will assist in the creation of guidelines. Ms. Price proffered that the Board may

want to create a rule where the telehealth requirements are defined with guidance on how to protect themselves and clients.

3. What is the restriction on the primary location of the licensee to include defining ‘For the purposes of this affidavit, “primarily” is measured as practicing veterinary medicine 60% of the time at the location identified’?

Dr. Stowers questioned how “60% of the time” and “primarily” would affect relief veterinarians. Ms. Price agreed this is cumbersome and stated that “primarily” can have different meanings dependent on the type of veterinarian: relief, mobile, and/or those with multiple practice locations. She requested guidance from the Board on the definition of “primarily” to encompass all practice types.

Dr. Wright shared that his concern is more for relief vets and suggested that “primarily” equate to primarily in the state as a whole. Ms. Price pointed out that the purpose of informed consent is the client needs to know where to find the veterinarian.

Dr. Riddick shared that the spirit of the bill, when it was being drafted, was to ensure the veterinarian is going to have an existing VCPR (Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship) where it would make it less likely that telehealth would be practiced without a VCPR.

Dr. Wright motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to make an amendment to the affidavit to redefine “primarily” to be measured as a location where the veterinarian is practicing in the state of Georgia.

4. Should there be provisions on teletriage and teleadvice for Veterinary Technicians?

Dr. Riddick addressed the Board by stating HB1125 addressed these provisions. There was a bill this past year that removed the section as to whether triage is a carve out to perform a physical exam, or whether the veterinarian can arrive within 24 hours. But she said there is still a great deal of confusion.

Ms. Price stated that veterinary technicians can operate in teleadvice and teletriage under the supervision of a veterinarian. Dr. Riddick asked if this is in their scope of practice and Ms. Price responded that it is part of the informed consent form and the office/veterinarian should include language that encompasses veterinary technicians.

Dr. Wright stated he feels this should be part of what goes to the Attorney General’s Office for a Memorandum of Advice. Ms. Price said that as the Rules Committee reexamines the telemedicine rule, they should also take a look at the supervision rules to include mention of teleadvice and teletriage on the levels of veterinary technicians. BR 700-14 is where this needs to be added and a Rules Committee meeting will be scheduled when the Memo comes back from the Attorney General’s Office.

Dr. Riddick raised the question of veterinary assistants being an issue mentioning informed consent for veterinary technicians and suggested this may need to be addressed in the veterinary aides chapter, 700-15. She continued that the review may wish to include an amendment regarding what and how much can be discussed over the phone by veterinary assistants, more specifically, to what level they can speak. This concern would apply to customer service representatives (CSR) as well. It was the consensus of the Board for the Rules Committee to table further discussion until advice is received from the Attorney General’s Office.

5. Does the Board want the VET Specialists and the Temporary License holders (for spay and neuter clinics) to apply for the license sub-type to practice telemedicine. And if so, does the Board have the authority to grant the license designation?

Dr. Bradley motioned, Ms. Sewell seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer the question to the Attorney General’s Office for a Memorandum of Advice regarding whether Veterinary Specialists and Temporary License holders have statutory authority to be approved for the Telemedicine license subtype.

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

Dr. Wright 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.

Board Chair's Report – J. Sewell, LVT

No official report presented.

Dr. Tarabula made a motion, Dr. Wright 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, June 3, 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. April 15, 2026 Executive Session WebEx Meeting Minutes**
- 2. June 2, 2026 Executive Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Tarabula seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the April 15, 2026 Executive Session WebEx Meeting Minutes and the June 2, 2026 Executive Session Investigative Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Attorney General's Report – E. Simpson

VET200055, VET220075, VET220106, VET230044, VET250120

Ms. Sewell motioned, Dr. Cuevas seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to rescind the previous motion for a Summary Suspension and request the Attorney General's Office to proceed with a hearing for Revocation of Licensure. Will accept a Voluntary Surrender in lieu of Revocation.

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

Investigative Comm Summary Report – J. Tarabula, DVM

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| VET140020 | Close the case due to insufficient evidence. |
| VET190022 | Schedule an Investigative Interview. Prior to the interview must provide a copy of any consent or intake forms provided to the clients and a certified copy of five (5) random medical records. |
| VET190046 | Close the case. No jurisdiction. If Respondent attempts to reinstate, the Board will reconsider the case. |
| VET200002 | Close the case. No jurisdiction. If Respondent attempts to reinstate, the Board will reconsider the case. |
| VET230034 | Close the case. No further action required. |
| VET230046 | Close the case. No further action required. |

VET230059 Close the case. Insufficient information to proceed with an investigation.
VET230126 Refer to an Exotic Animal Peer Reviewer.
VET260370 Close case no jurisdiction as a ruling on the practical application of rules under the authority of the Georgia Department of Agriculture is outside of the scope of general powers granted to the Board. Complainant may wish to seek counsel for guidance on submitting such petitions to the agency with the appropriate jurisdiction.
VET240122 Table pending Applicant Interview.

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

TRANSCRIPT REVIEW

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

Applicant 4527559 Issue the license.
Applicant 4650771 Issue the license.
Applicant 4439304 Issue the license.

DISCIPLINE

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

Applicant 4367812 Issue the license with a Letter of Concern regarding action in another jurisdiction.

REINSTATEMENT

Applicant 4328789 Table pending Applicant Interview.
Applicant 4602426 Applicant must retake and pass the NAVLE or take and pass the Species-Specific Exam within 90 days of notice. Upon receipt of a passing score, refer to Legal Services for a Public Consent Agreement for Reinstatement of Licensure with terms and conditions as discussed in Executive Session.
 If the results of a new passing score on the NAVLE or a passing score on the Species-Specific exam is not received by the deadline provided, deny reinstatement of licensure based on unprofessional conduct by engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine without a valid license [O.C.G.A. § 43-50-41(a)(6-7)].

TELEMEDICINE

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

Agenda Sequence # 00021828 Approve Telemedicine License Sub-Type.
Agenda Sequence # 00021837 Approve Telemedicine License Sub-Type.
Agenda Sequence # 00021839 Approve Telemedicine License Sub-Type.

Agenda Sequence # 00021843 Approve Telemedicine License Sub-Type.

Agenda Sequence # 00018936 Approve Telemedicine License Sub-Type.

Agenda Sequence # 00019055 Approve Telemedicine License Sub-Type.

VETERINARY SPECIALIST

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

Applicant 4609363 Issue the veterinary specialist license for Radiation Oncology only.

Adjournment No further business was discussed, and the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist

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

Minutes approved on: August 4, 2026

JESSICA SEWELL, LVT
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

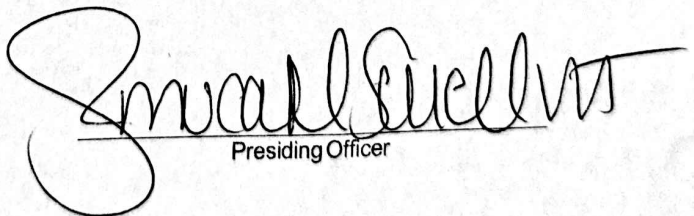
**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF
PUBLIC MEETING**

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.

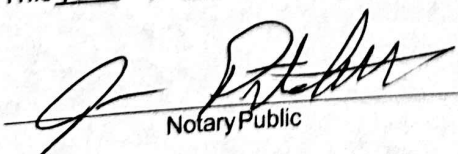
Comes now Jessica M. Sewell the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the Georgia State 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, June 3, 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 10th day of June 2026


Notary Public

