



Board of Veterinary Medicine

Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Secretary of State

89 Main Street, 3rd Floor • Montpelier, VT 05620-3402

<https://sos.vermont.gov/opr/>

Approved Minutes

Thursday, May 9th, 2024

Remote Meeting

Members Present: Paul Howard, DVM; Jeannette Hogan, Public Member; Judith Wernecke, Adhoc; Jason Labes, DVM & Adhoc; and Mary O'Donovan, DVM

Members Absent: Bryan Harnett, DVM; and Lori Stroutsos, Public Member

OPR Personnel Present: Emily Tredeau, Staff Attorney; Julie Bowen, Docket Clerk; Rachel Heath, Prosecuting Attorney; Beth Kneen, Case Manager; Jennifer Colin, Chief Prosecutor; and Corey Young, Licensing Administrator

Guests: Linda Waite-Simpson & Karen Bradley

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:04am by Dr. Howard.

2. Changes to the agenda

- Dr. Howard wanted to recognize Dr. Drexel Wheeler's years of service and wisdom he brought to the Board.
- Dr. O'Donovan moved to accept the recognition. Ms. Hogan seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. Approval of previous minutes from:

- **February 8th, 2024, Meeting**
Ms. Hogan moved to approve the minutes as presented. Dr. Labes seconded the motion, motion carried.

4. Discipline

- 9:15am – In re: Melissa Krusell, Docket No. 2023-173; Stipulation and Consent Order
 - Dr. O'Donovan recused herself from the proceedings.
 - Dr. Howard moved to decline the stipulation and Consent. Motion not carried
 - Dr. Labes moved to accept the stipulation and Consent as provided. Ms. Wernecke seconded the motion. Motion carried with the following vote:
 - Dr. Howard – Nay
 - Ms. Wernecke – Yay
 - Ms. Hogan – Yay
 - Dr. Labes - Yay

5. Discussion

- **Discuss plan to review the “enforcement” sections of the current practice act – Dr. Howard**
 - Dr. Howard spoke to the Board about multiple items he would like to better clarify in the current administrative rules.
 - Those items include, but are not limited to:
 - Changing the language of “a Vet Should...” in the standard of care
 - Define what a veterinary technician can do in a practice
 - Require medical records be typed instead of written

- Clarification on timeframe for a medical record to be completed
 - Require medical records be signed off on upon any alteration/addition
- Attorney Tredeau informed the Board that the administrative rules will not be rewritten at this time. But the Board could write policies to better define any items of concern.
- The Board will present to Attorney Tredeau any other items of concern, so she can draft a document for approval.
- **Discuss plan to review the mechanics the process of dealing with a complaint from to submission to resolution – Dr. Howard**
 - Attorney Tredeau gave an overview of how the complaint process is handled.
 - OPR's enforcement team will provide a more detailed explanation of the complaint process at the next scheduled meeting.

6. Public Comment

7. **Adjournment:** With no further business, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:57am.

Next Scheduled Meeting – Thursday, August 8th, 2024
Please check the office [website](#) for updates