

Vermont Secretary of State
Office of Professional Regulation

STATE VETERINARY BOARD

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES
MEETING of THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2003**

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:14 a.m.

Members present: Michele R. Tulis, D.V.M., Chairperson; Mark A. Basol, D.V.M., Vice-Chair; David T. Lamb, D.V.M. and Heather Hoisington; Absent: Eveleen Cecchini and Ronald S. Svec, D.V.M.

OPR Staff Present: Larry S. Novins, Board Counsel; Carla Preston, Unit Administrator; and Diane Lafaille, Board Administrator.

2. The Chair called for approval of the Minutes of the January 9th meeting. Dr. Lamb made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hoisington, to approve the Minutes of the January 9, 2003 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Hearings/Stipulations** - None to report.

4. Reports:

A. The Board reviewed and noted the Budget. Ms. Preston noted that money was tight at this time and that the Secretary of State's Office, by orders of the Governor's Office, had to trim expenses by a certain amount. Positions from within the Office were ruffed as a consequence. The Office is working with the Attorney General's Office for ways to reduce costs. At this time the Board is not effected by the changes.

5. Candidates for licensure attended the meeting at 10:00 a.m. to complete the process. The Board voted to go into executive session at 11:04 a.m. and out at 11:06 a.m. Dr. Lamb made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hoisington, to approve the candidates listed below for licensure on the basis of their applications and successful completion of the State Board examination. Motion passed unanimously.

Bruzgul, Joshua, D.V.M.
Morris, Anita, V.M.D.

Rossiter, Christine, V.M.D.
Werner, Harry, V.M.D.

6. **Proposed Legislation or Rules**

- A. Attorney Novins and Ms. Preston discussed the OPR Bill. It was mentioned that the section of the bill that relates to this Board appears to be doing fine. Other sections of the Bill that were discussed: 1) The Office has submitted legislation which would allow Board's to levy a fine up to \$1,000.00 for unauthorized practice; 2) Legislation was submitted for retention of records to be 7 years; and 3) Legislation was submitted to change what we currently refer to as Investigators to Law Enforcement Officers.

7. **COMPLAINTS**

Action on the following complaints was tabled until the May meeting due to the lack of a quorum:: VE03-0902, VE06-1002 and VE03-0802.

The following were presented for closure:

VE01-0702, Dr. Lamb moved, seconded by Dr. Basol, to close this complaint. Approved.

VE10-0602, Dr. Lamb moved, seconded by Ms. Hoisington, to close this complaint. Approved.

8. **Continuing Education**

- a. Based on the information submitted by Veterinary Learning Systems, Dr. Lamb made a motion, seconded by Dr. Basol, to approve **"2003 Nestle Purina Veterinary Symposium"** 4.5 hours of continuing education credits. Motion passed unanimously. (Approval number CE23-0303 was issued.)
- b. Based on the information submitted by the Greater Burlington Academy of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Lamb made a motion, seconded by Dr. Basol, to approve **"Heartworm and Internal parasite Prevention"** for 1 hour of continuing education credit. Motion passed unanimously. (Approval number CE24-0303 was issued.)
- c. Based on the information submitted by Pfizer Animal Health, Dr. Lamb made a motion, seconded by Dr. Basol, to approve **"Scientific Advancements for Practice Success (Dairy Cattle Vets.)"** for 6.75 hours of continuing education credits. Motion passed unanimously. (Approval number CE25-0303 was issued.)
- d. Based on the information submitted by Pfizer Animal Health, Dr. Lamb made a motion, seconded by Dr. Basol, to approve **"Scientific Advancements for Practice Success (Beef Cattle Vets.)"** for 6.75 hours of continuing education credits. Motion passed unanimously. (Approval number CE26-0303.)

9. **Miscellaneous Correspondence**

- a. **David Jacobson**, who is a member of the Feline CRF Support Group, e-mailed the Board asking, "Are veterinarians required under state law or regulation to write prescriptions upon client request, assuming that a patient/client relationship exists and that the vet is already willing to dispense the medication in question from the clinic's own stock?" The Board stated, that a veterinarian can only write a prescription if they have examined the animal. The client can use their pharmacy or can go somewhere else. Mr. Jacobson will be notified.
- b. **Dominic P. Andreoli, D.V.M.** submitted application for licensure. The Board decided to preliminarily deny his application on the basis of examination because applicants who are not graduates of schools of veterinary medicine accredited by the AVMA must possess a certificate issued by the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates or a Certificate of Qualification issued by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, unless at the time the applicant became licensed in the state, territory or province from which they are applying, an ECFVG certificate was not required by this state. Vermont has required the ECFVG for foreign graduates since July 1, 1981 and according to the information provided by Dr. Andreoli, he graduated from Ross University on January 30, 1988. A preliminary denial letter will be sent to Dr. Andreoli.

- c. **Dallas Meek, D.V.M.** submitted application for licensure and subsequently submitted a letter to the Board requesting the Board to issue him a special, provisional or temporary license to practice veterinary medicine in Vermont. The Board stated that it has no provisions in its laws or rules which would allow for a special, provisional or temporary permit to applicants who have not met all of the licensing requirements. Temporary permits may be issued to candidates who have met all licensure requirements (passage of exams, education, etc.), until the date of the Board's next meeting. He will be notified.
- d. Ms. Preston presented the Board with a draft newsletter to be sent with the renewals. The Board agreed that the information included in the draft was fine. It was requested that the following also be added to the newsletter: Top reasons why complaints are filed with the Board, i.e. medical records, communication); Section regarding Physical Therapy; Add the Office Bill number. Carla will update the Newsletter for Board review via fax as the Board's next meeting is in May and the renewals need to be mailed to licensees in mid-April.
- e. The Board reviewed the renewal form to be sent to licensees for the June 1, 2003 through May 31, 2005 renewal period. On the first page, Section B, Number 1 should read, "Have you been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation?" The renewal was approved as amended.
- f. Attorney Novins gave the Board, for its review, a memorandum he had written for the Board of Dental Examiners entitled, "Defining Unprofessional Conduct, new statute," which is a guide to adjudicating unprofessional conduct complaints with the new standards which became effective July 1, 2002.
- g. State Farm Insurance sent the Board a questionnaire asking for an advisory opinion on certain questions. Attorney Novins recommended that the Board use caution in addressing advisory questions noting that it should know all the facts and be aware that something like this may come before them in the form of a complaint. He stated in this circumstance, a copy of the laws and rules should be sent to State Farm Insurance for their review.
- h. FYI documents were noted.

10. **American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) Correspondence**

- a. AAVSB sent the Board a summary of the report of the PAVE/ECFVG Representatives debate with regard to programs offered. The Board agrees that an ideal veterinary program should be administered by an independent, stand-alone organization, but will not give a preference. Diane was requested to notify AAVSB of the Board's position.

11. **National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (NBVME) - Correspondence**

- a. Correspondence noted.

12. **American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Correspondence**

- a. Correspondence noted.

13. **Strategic Planning**

What's next? Discuss topics to be addressed at future meetings.

- a. Adding a provision to the rules which would allow for provisional or special licenses. Diane was requested to contact AAVSB to see if they had information on how other states may have addressed this issue.
- b. Discussion on applicant's attending a Board meeting in order to be licensed. Does the Board feel this is necessary? If not, what other options are open to the Board? To be discussed further in the future.

14. **Other Business Introduced by the Board**

15. **Public Comment**

16. **The date of the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2003.**

Meeting dates for 2003 are as follows:

July 10, 2003

September 11, 2003; November 13, 2003

17. **The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Lafaille, Board Administrator
Office of Professional Regulation
