

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
July 23, 2020

Held by Conference Call and Google Meets due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Minutes of the Joint OPEN Meeting

Board Members Present: Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, President; Dr. Christine Calvert, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Karena Joung, Ms. Patricia Quimby, Dr. Peter Radue and Dr. James Reed. **Staff members present:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Investigators Ellen James and Sarah Hultz, Inspector Pegeen Morgan, Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Callahan called the meeting to order 10:28 a.m.

Introduction of New Board Member – Dr. James Reed, Annapolis Animal Hospital.

Dr. Reed was recently appointed to the Board by Governor Hogan to replace Dr. Heather Hendler, whose term ended in June. Dr. Reed graduated from Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine in 1987 and has practiced in Annapolis ever since.

Naming of Board Vice President

Dr. Callahan noted that the Board needed a new vice president, a position that had been held by Dr. Heather Hendler, whose term recently ended.

In motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Dr. Karena Joung vice president of the Board, effective with the August meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of the June 23, 2020 Joint Board Meetings. In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2020 Board meeting.

Veterinary License Applications Approvals.

In a motion by Dr. Radue, seconded by Dr. Calvert, the Board voted unanimously to approve veterinary license applications for Drs. Laura Faulkner, Kristine Moss, Carrie Waters, William Wilkins, and Nolan, Chetney.

Veterinarian Reinstatement License Applications

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to approve veterinary license reinstatement applications for Drs. Laura Bassell, Ruth Francze, Justin Ganjei, Drs. Erin Black, Anastasia Breidenbaugh, and Ann Marie Hancock

Sanitation Reports

Inspector Pegeen Morgan reported on inspections she has completed since her last report. In a motion by Ms. Quimby, seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Sanitation Reports.

Inspectors Ellen James reported on inspections she has completed since her last report. In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Sanitation Reports.

CE Approval Request Reviews

Three requests for CE approval were submitted and reviewed.

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Calvert, the Board agreed to approve CE requests #364, #365 and #366.

Review of Current Recommendations

Ms. Orlando noted that she has received several calls and emails in the last few weeks, asking if the Board has changed its recommendation on curbside service. She asked if the Board wanted to make any adjustments to the current recommendations. Board members suggested that we remind veterinarians of the CDC and

AVMA recommendations, and that hospitals should do what they feel safest with and follow those guidelines. Also remind them that they must follow the Governor's Executive Order and any local restrictions in their county.

Limited Use vs. Hospital License

A hospital owner asked if a limited use facility could carry CDS and perform euthanasia services. Board members felt that the limited use permit was designed to allow wellness/vaccination services to be provided easily and that permitting euthanasia would be expanding the limited use license beyond its intended purpose. Board members felt any facility performing euthanasia should obtain a regular hospital license, even if they are not a full-service hospital, so that they can handle CDS with appropriate guidance. Both licenses cost the same.

Constituent Letters

A letter from a constituent asked the Board to suggest that the standard of care requires sonograms and radiographs to be done as part of a wellness exam of senior animals. Board members, however, stated that the economic impact on owners would be substantial and likely encourage owners to forego wellness checks. They noted that such services could always be requested by owners who wanted them done. The Board also noted that it did not have the authority to dictate what must be in the wellness plans offered by various hospitals.

A letter from a constituent asked the Board to allow clients into hospitals for euthanasia. Board members noted that hospitals were never prohibited from allowing clients in to the hospital for euthanasia, but they were permitted to keep them out. When the first stay-at-home order was issued, many hospitals did lock down tight while they transitioned to a new operating model. Board members stated that we all need to be respectful of human health and individual ability to do things according to their own risk.

Ms. Orlando will draft responses for Dr. Callahan's review and signature.

Other Business

Extending License Renewal Deadline. The department has submitted an Opt Out Order for approval. A license renewal deadline can be set if it is approved.

Corporate Name Approval. Dr. Kemper has re-submitted his request to name his new hospital Brunswick Crossing Animal Hospital. In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Joungh, the Board voted unanimously to approve the name.