

**Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners**  
**May 30, 2019**  
**Maryland Department of Agriculture – 50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis**

**Minutes of Team A Meeting**

**Team Members Present:** Dr. David Handel, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Karena Joung, and Dr. Peter Radue.  
**Staff Present:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Inspector Pegeen Morgan, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Handel called the meeting to order at 9:27 a.m.

**Approval of the Minutes.** In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Radue, the minutes of the April 25, 2019 meeting of Team A were approved as presented.

In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Joung, the team voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article.

**Closed Session of Team A.** During the closed session, administrative functions were performed, including discussions of complaints and disciplinary matters before the Board assigned to Team A.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

**Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners**  
**May 30, 2019**  
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**Joint Open Meeting Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Dr. David Handel, President; Dr. Heather Hendler, Vice President; Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Karena Joung, and Dr. Peter Radue. **Board Member Absent:** Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. **Staff Present:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Inspector Pegeen Morgan, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Handel called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

**Approval of the Minutes.** In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Handel, the minutes of the April 25, 2019 Joint Board Meeting were approved as presented.

**Veterinary License Applications Approval.** In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Hendler, the Board unanimously approved veterinary license applications from Drs. Bowling, Gies, Hurley, Johnston, Sole, and Muro.

**Veterinary License Reinstatement Application.** The Board asked the staff to obtain more information about a six-month gap in the employment history of the applicant.

**Sanitation Reports.** Ms. Morgan reported on the inspections she has completed in the last month. Ms. Husk reported on inspections conducted by Inspector Ellen James who has been unable to attend the last two meetings. In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Dr. Callahan, the Board voted to accept the Sanitation reports, as presented.

**AAVSB VAULT Program.** The AAVSB Vault Program is a new program, designed to help veterinarians become licensed in multiple states by obtaining and certifying necessary documentation, such as transcripts and Letters of Good Standing. It is unclear if Maryland regulations will allow the Board to accept AAVSB certified materials; however, the Board was presented with a sample report that it might receive from the AAVSB and asked if they want to be able to accept such materials. Indicating that they did, the Board's Assistant Attorney General will study the issue and make a recommendation at a subsequent meeting as to whether regulations allow the Board to accept them or whether any regulations need to be changed.

**Discussions of Proposed Regulations.** Ms. Orlando reported that revisions and clarifications are likely to be easier to complete if taken chapter by chapter, rather in total. Although there has been no update to the previous drafts, Board members were asked to continue looking through COMAR 15.14.01 and consider changes they would like to make.

Ms. Orlando noted that regulations require veterinarians to provide a copy of medical records to a pet owner; however, she received a call, asking whether a veterinary hospital should/must release a dog's medical records to a new owner. The dog in question had been a client of the hospital before the dog's original owner died and the new owner, who adopted the dog from a local shelter, asked for the records. Board members agreed that the hospital should ensure they get a signed waiver from the new owner, indicating s/he is the legal owner, and provide a summary of the pertinent medical history and lab results, but it was not required to provide the full record of client communication. A reasonable fee may be charged.

**Provisional / Temporary Licenses.** The Board has discussed informally the idea of issuing temporary or provisional licenses, which would require a statute change. Ms. Orlando noted that if the Board wanted to go ahead with that idea, draft legislation needed to be prepared for consideration in the next few months. Board members asked the staff to research if other states have temporary or provisional licenses and under what conditions they issue them. Information will be presented at the next Board meeting.

MDA's Principal Counsel Tom Filbert joined the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article, and in the alternative, to close the meeting under § 3-205(b)(7), and (8) of the General Provisions Article, to obtain advice of legal counsel and to discuss litigation matters. The meeting was closed at 11:37 a.m.

Mr. Filbert and Ms. Spirt updated the Board on a legal matter.

The closed session was adjourned at 12:03 p.m. for a lunch break. At 12:32 p.m., the meeting was resumed in open session. Mr. Filbert was not present when the meeting resumed.

**General Updates:**

- Dr. Handel and Ms. Chaput reported that their presentations to Virginia Tech students went well and appeared to be well received.
- Ms. Orlando reported that the online renewal system would open June 1 and the database would be at full functionality – allowing the Board to accept initial applications and complaints online - by July 1.
- The RVT Committee was scheduled to meet in May; however, it was cancelled due to severe weather in the area.
- K9-TECC Committee. Ms. Orlando provided information about the Committee, which is developing training for first responders so that they can treat police and military dogs in the field during an emergency when a veterinarian is unavailable.

**Board President.** Dr. Handel has been on the Board more than ten years and has served as president for five years; however, his term is up on May 31 and he is no longer eligible to be reappointed.

In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to elect Dr. Callahan as President of the Board and for Dr. Hendler to remain as Vice President.

In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Dr. Hendler, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article. The closed session began at approximately 12:50 p.m. with the same Board members, staff, and counsel present.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

**Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners**

**May 30, 2019**

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**Team B Meeting Minutes**

Team Members Present: Dr. Heather Hendler and Dr. Elizabeth Callahan. Members Absent: Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. Staff Present: Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Inspector Pegeen Morgan, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Hendler called the meeting to order at 2:57 p.m.

**Open Session of Team B**

**Approval of the Minutes.** In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Hendler, the minutes from the April 25, 2019 meeting of Team B were approved as presented.

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Hendler, the team voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into closed session to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article.

**Closed Session of Team B.**

During the closed session, administrative functions were performed, including discussions of complaints and disciplinary matters before the Board assigned to Team B.

The team adjourned at 3:42 p.m.