

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

December 12, 2019

Maryland Department of Agriculture – 50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis

Agenda - Joint Meeting

Board Members Present: Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, President; Dr. Heather Hendler, Vice President; Dr. Christine Calvert, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Karena Joung, Ms. Patricia Quimby, Dr. Peter Radue. Staff Present: Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Callahan called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes. In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Calvert, the minutes of the November 7, 2019 Joint Board Meetings were unanimously approved.

Veterinary License Applications Approvals

In a motion by Dr. Joung, seconded by Dr. Hendler, the Board voted unanimously to approve veterinary license applications for Drs. Benson, Kossuth, Miller, and Stoltzfus.

Sanitation Reports

Inspectors Morgan and James reported on hospital inspections they have completed since the last Board meeting. In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board accepted the reports.

Exposure Draft - Sunset Review by the Department of Legislative Services

Ms. Orlando presented the draft report of the Sunset Review of the Board and noted that a few corrections and clarifications were provided to DLS but no other official comments were submitted. She noted that the report was comprehensive and the recommendations were fair. Three would be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

Faxed Prescriptions Revisited

Dr. Callahan received a letter from a veterinarian, taking issue with a proposed regulation clarification related to the verification of prescriptions with online pharmacies. After some discussion, the Board asked the staff to draft language that could be shared with veterinarians and on the website.

Discussion: New FDA Information on CBD Products. New information from FDA was posted for review and reference. Ms. Orlando noted that questions about CBD oil are not coming in as frequently as they once did.

Discussion: FDA Guidance on Compounding Drugs

FDA has posted proposed guidance on compounding drugs and has asked for public comment. Board members were asked to review the guidance and to report back in January if they wished to submit any formal public comments, which are due in February 2020.

Other Business

Ms. Orlando noted that new COMAR Books have been printed and invited Board members to take as many as they needed. The books are sent to new licensees, and inspectors carry them with them on inspections.

Board members were asked that if they are interested in attending the AAVSB Board Basics Seminar in April to let her know. AAVSB pays all travel expenses. The Board would pay the \$250 tuition.

The Board received an anonymous complaint, alleging that veterinarians order more tests and procedures when they know pet insurance is paying for it, although no specific incident was provided. Board members noted that it was already against the regulations to order unnecessary tests, and pet insurance is optional.

Dr. Callahan adjourned the open meeting for lunch at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions outside the scope of the Open Meetings Act, in accordance with § 3-103(a)(1)(i) of the General Provisions Article. The administrative functions to be performed include discussion of the specific matters identified on the Board Agenda. In the alternative, I move to close the meeting pursuant to the following Section 3-305(b):

(7) To obtain advice of counsel;

(8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;

(12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;” and

(13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

Closed Meeting

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