

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

October 22, 2020

Joint Open Meeting Minutes

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

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

Dr Callahan called the meeting to order at about 10:35 a.m

Approval of the Minutes. In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Radue, the minutes of the September 24, 2020 joint Board Meetings were approved.

Veterinary License Applications. In a motion by Dr. Joung, seconded by Dr. Calvert, the Board voted unanimously to approve the license applications for Drs. Dahlgaard, Hough, Park, Pearson, Rosen, and Stewart.

Sanitation Reports. Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James reported on inspections they have conducted since the last Board meeting. In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Radue, the sanitation reports were accepted as presented.

CE Approval Request (for CDS Requirement). Approval Request #376 was a RACE Approved course but was submitted for approval to meet the CE requirement for obtaining a CDS permit. The course was related to laws governing the dispensing of legend drugs but does not explicitly say opioids. Board members asked to see a program agenda to determine if opioids were a significant portion of the course.

Release of Medical Records Discussion. Board members reviewed the current regulations related to the release of medical records to ensure there was a consensus of interpretation. All agreed that the term, "medical records" includes radiographs and other images, not just the written record, and all had to be provided to the owner, even if there was an unpaid bill.

Artificial Insemination – Discussion. Ms. Orlando reported that she was asked whether performing artificial inseminations on dogs, and charging a fee, constituted the practice of veterinary medicine. Board members agreed that collecting and inseminating was not veterinary medicine but closer to animal husbandry, which is allowable; however, treating for sterility and diagnosing pregnancy would be veterinary medicine.

Other Business

- Ms. Orlando reported that she will try to have draft regulations related to telehealth prepared for the next meeting for review and initial input, as this will be a more pressing issue as the pandemic drags on and uses of technology become more sophisticated. Regulations likely won't be considered for adoption until after the 2021 Legislative Session, but that provides enough time to get them finalized.
- Ms. Orlando reported that a newsletter recently sent to licensees with an update and reminder about PDMP registration was sent out at the request of the Md Department of Health.

- MVMA is launching a new publication and the Board has been asked to provide an article by November 3. Board members agreed that good topics to consider would be the confusion around curbside service, reminders to apply for a new license when hospitals change ownership, tips for following regulations include keeping an anesthesia and surgery log, and information about doses of drugs used and route used.
- Special recognition was given to Inspector Peggy Morgan who is celebrating 40 years of public service with the State of Maryland this year.