

**Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners**  
**Minutes for April 25th, 2024**

**Meet by Google Meets at 10:30 AM**

**Joint Meeting Minutes**

**Board Members:** Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, President; Dr. Christine Calvert, Vice President; Ms. Lynne Chaput, Ms. Patricia Quimby, Dr. Peter Radue, Dr. Heidi Schmechel and Dr. James Reed.

**Staff:** Nathaniel Boan, Executive Director; Susan Husk, Assistant Director; Cindy Spirt, Assistant Attorney General; Tonya Kendrick-Green, Licensing Administrator; Britney Branch, Office Administrator; Ellen James & Pegeen Morgan, Inspectors; Sarah Hultz, Investigator.

**Guests:** Dr. Gerald Tishman, Dr. Jennifer Goessling, Christine Price

**Open Meeting Minutes**

**Dr. Callahan called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.**

**Approval of the Minutes of the March 28th, 2024 Board Meeting.**

In a motion by Dr. Reed, and seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 28th, 2024 meeting minutes.

**Meeting with Dr. Goessling from Animal Emergency Hospital**

The Board met with Dr. Goessling and Christine Price joined the meeting to discuss difficulties faced by Emergency Practices and get guidance regarding regulations.

**Veterinary License Applications Approvals:**

- Veterinarian Applications
  - In a motion by Dr. Callahan, and seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following applications:
    - Dr. Gerald Tishman
      - Complaint from a client. Came in and did a hospital inspection. Main complaints were the unsanitary conditions and expired medications.
    - Dr. Corrie Bates
      - Due to action for not having CEs in TX will follow up with a CE audit.
- Veterinary Technicians for Board Review
  - Merissa Doore
    - The Board would like to Table and get the recommendations from employers and need to see the charging documents.
- In a motion by Dr. Schmechel, and seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following licensing applications approved by designated authority:
  - Veterinary Applications approved by designated authority:
    - V. Law
    - C. Lester
    - L. Whitney
    - V. Mendhiratta
    - C. Moore
    - J. Tu
    - A. Silva

- K. Chang
- R. Wong
- J. Hunt
- Veterinary Technician Applications approved by designated authority:
  - J. Espinoza
  - J. Maahs
  - N. Heskett
  - J. Valiant
  - C. Marren
  - V. Ryan

**Sanitation Reports:**

- Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James presented the Sanitation Reports of inspections performed since March 26th, 2024.
- In a motion by Dr. Reed, and seconded by Dr. Schmechel, the Board voted unanimously to approve the inspection reports as presented.

**CE Approval Requests:**

In a motion by Dr. Callahan, and seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following CE requests:

Organization	Title/Topic	Vet/ Techs	Date of CE	Credits	Type	Recurring	CDS
WestVet Emergency and Specialty Animal Hospital	Surgery Specialty Internship	Vet	7.14.2023-6.21.2024	18	Clinical/Scientific	No	No

**Final Orders since March 28th, 2024 meeting.**

- Docket No. 23-116: Stacy Poma / Dr. Jason Orenstein, Gambrills Veterinary Center (Atty: Joseph Damiano)
  - Professional Judgment and Practice

**Legislative Updates**

- Both of these bills are passed and enrolled, but waiting on the Governor’s signature (they are likely to be signed):
  - HB 581 - State Government – Permits, Licenses, and Certificates – Processing
  - HB 1097 - State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners – Veterinary Technicians and Veterinary Assistants

**Miscellaneous:**

- **Dr. Jason Scott - Request for CE extension due to Exigent Circumstances until December 31st, 2024 (15.14.10.04B)**
  - Was unable to attend a planned Conference in May due to an ongoing family medical emergency.
  - Plans to attend a conference in the fall but has committed to completing them online by the end of the year if unable to locate or attend a conference due to the exigent circumstances.

- In a motion by Dr. Callahan, and seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the extension.
- **Veterinary Technician Committee Makeup:**
  - “There is a Veterinary Technician Committee under the Board’s jurisdiction. The Committee consists of 7 members who are appointed by the Board, subject to the approval of the Secretary. The Board shall determine the qualifications and term of each member. “
    - At least 1 veterinarian. The committee may have a Veterinary Technician chair.
    - Board ok with me talking with Jess Lorey about becoming the chair.
- **Tidewater food storage requirements and adding exam rooms.**
  - The Board is ok with having some form of barrier qualified to separate the food from the animal storage areas.
- **To what level of work can a person who has graduated with a Veterinary Degree but has failed the NAVLE perform until they are able to retake the exam.**
  - Can work as a Veterinary Assistant (or a Registered Veterinary Technician if registered).
- **CE Audits**
  - We will do 50 Audits this year.

*In a motion by Dr. Reed, and seconded by Dr. Radue, 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.*