

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Minutes for February 27th, 2025

Meet In Person at 10:30 AM

Joint Meeting Minutes

Board Members: Dr. Christine Calvert, President; Ms. Patricia Quimby, Vice-President; Dr. Heidi Schmechel; Ms. Lynne Chaput; Dr. Peter Radue, Dr. James Reed, Dr. Justin Sobota.

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.

Open Meeting Agenda

Dr. Calvert called the meeting to order at 10:47am.

Approval of the Minutes:

In a motion by Dr. Reed, and seconded by Dr. Schmechel, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 30th, 2025 Board meeting.

Veterinary License Applications Approvals:

The Board reviewed the qualifications of the following veterinarian to determine if sufficient Clinical Experienced existed to qualify to apply for a license:

- Dr. Courtney Flick
 - In a motion by Dr. Calvert, and seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the experience to be used as clinical experience.

In a motion by Dr. Calvert, and seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the application of the following:

- Dr. Harish Shubhamwar

In a motion by Dr. Schmechel, and seconded by Dr. Calvert, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following applications approved by designated authority:

Veterinarians approved by designated authority:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• P. McGough• A. Ferrucci• A. Latham• T. Dorsey-Pollard• L. Celestin• T. Manning• D. High• H. Weaver• S. Sirica• C. Baylor• D. Taul• B. Torrance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• J. Bush• L. Melendez• C. Copes• L. Thurman• W. Evans• K. Lopez• P. Suzuki• K. Seeberger• L. Michaloski• K. Schupbach• K. Smith• J. Benjamin |
|---|--|

Veterinary Technicians approved by designated authority:

- L. Loebig
- M. Sulzen
- H. Flinchbaugh
- S. Moyer
- A. Krout
- A. Green
- C. Proctor
- F. Morris
- K. Patterson
- T. Coppage

Sanitation Reports:

Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James presented the Sanitation Reports.

In a motion by Dr. Reed, and seconded by Dr. Sobota, the Board voted unanimously to approve the sanitation reports.

CE Approval Requests:

In a motion by Dr. Sobota, and seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Continuing Education review submissions, and the Continuing Education courses submitted for FY25 but were not submitted prior to the renewal cycle (discovered during the CE Audits).

Continuing Education Submitted for Review:

Organization	Title/Topic	Vet/ Techs	Date of CE	Credits	Type	Recurring	CDS
United States Animal Health Association & American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians	USAHA & AAVLD Annual Meeting	Both	10/10/2024-10/16/2024	26	Clinical / Scientific	Yes	No
Zoetis	Achieving Operational Excellence	Both	4/26/2025	1.5	Non-Clinical/ Practice Management	No	No
American Association of Avian Pathologists	Annual Meeting	Vets	7/9/2024 - 7/11/2024	23	Clinical/ Scientific	Yes	No
Options for Animals College of Animal Chiropractic	Essentials Course for Animal Chiropractic	Vets	10/2/2024 - 2/23/2025	36	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No

Continuing Education Reviewed from the FY25 Audit:

Organization	Title/Topic	Vet/ Techs	Date of CE	Credits	Type	Recurring	CDS
CE Elevated: Veterinary Continuing Education - Colorado State University / VCA	Small Animal Dentistry	Vets	7/23/2022 - 7/24/2022	16	Clinical / Scientific	No	No
Veterinary Authorized User Training	Radioactive Material Training	Vets	9/26/2021	8	Clinical / Scientific	No	No
College of Veterinary Medicine - University of Georgia	Best Practices in Clinical Research Conference	Vets	10/9/2021	8	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No
AALAS Learning Library	LAT 13: Surgical Instruments and Materials	Vets and Techs	7/3/2024	1	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No
AALAS Learning Library	LAT 11: Performing Common Technical Procedures	Vets and Techs	7/3/2024	1.75	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No
AALAS Learning Library	Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals 8th Edition (2011)	Vets and Techs	7/2/2024	2.5	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No
AALAS Learning Library	Syringes and Needles	Vets and Techs	6/11/2024	.75	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No
AALAS Learning Library	Personal Protective Equipment for Working in a Laboratory Animal Facility	Vets and Techs	6/17/2024	.75	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No
AALAS Learning Library	Medical Records	Vets and Techs	7/2/2024	.5	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No
Veterinary Association Management	Colonial Veterinary Conference	Vets	10/14/2023 - 10/17/2023	18	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No

Formal Discipline Finalized since January 30th, 2025:

- Docket No. 24-89: Rachel Amstutz / Dr. Eric Alexander, Alexander Animal Hospital

- 15.14.01.10A & 15.14.01.10-1 Record Keeping and Client Consent.

Miscellaneous:

- **The Governor's Appointments Office has selected Dr. Monica Maa to join the Board to replace Dr. Reed. (Should start in June 2025).**
- **Possible Regulation Changes for Discussion**
 - The Board discussed potential changes to Chapters 8 and 9 involving licensing requirements for Veterinarians. The discussion analyzed the growing number of Veterinarians inquiring about obtaining a Veterinary License to practice in Maryland due to the uncertainty of job security in federal civil service positions.
 - Potential changes to Chapter 8 would include:
 - Adding clinical research, public health, and regulatory animal health practice to the types of practice experience that qualifies for licensure by endorsement.
 - For Veterinarians that do not meet the 5 consecutive years, changing the minimum number of years of clinical veterinary medicine in the last 5 years from 3 to 2. These applications need to provide additional continuing education requirements as part of the application.
 - Removing the requirement for relocation for Government Service workers that do not meet the other requirements to be able to substitute 10 full years of practice over the veterinarian's career or 1 of the last 5 years of clinical practice.
 - Reorganizing some of the existing requirements in the regulation for clarity purposes (no changes to existing procedure from items that are being reorganized).
 - The Board would like to move forward with the changes to Chapter 8. Nathan and Cindy will work to put together a final draft for review and a final motion to advance the regulation changes.
 - The Board discussed potential changes to the NAVLE retake requirements in Chapter 9 but has not elected to move forward with this at this time.
- **Inquiry from Alexandria Murphy**
 - If someone can please send me the link to the passage in the rules and regulations on the dispensing of medications, including the protocol for splitting non-scored tablets for clients (illegal in some states) and having multiple pets under one prescription (such as heartworm prevention). I would greatly appreciate that since I am unable to find that on the website.
 - Links to FDA guidelines may no longer be available.
 - Pills that are not-scored have not been evaluated to determine uniformity of concentration throughout the entire tablet and dosages can not be safely determined when splitting non-scored pills. This should not be done.
 - Sometimes considered compounding.
- Dr. Calvert, Dr. Radue, Cindy and Nathaniel attended the MDVMA round table to help provide information regarding Ch 487 (HB1097).
 - A history of the bill, the bill process, and the guidance information was provided.
 - Some concerns brought up by attendees:
 - Difficulty in advertising for Veterinary Assistants because of Title confusion.

- Difficulties in providing overnight care/monitoring in non-emergency hospitals.
- Financial burden of hiring Veterinary Technicians (RVTs).
- Short timeframe for implementing the bill and licensing requirements.
- Concerns that this is interfering with access to care.

In a motion by Dr. Calvert, and seconded by Ms. Quimby, 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.