

**Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners**  
**Minutes for January 30th, 2025**

**Meet by Google Meets 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 Minutes**

**Dr. Calvert called the meeting to order at 10:34.**

**Approval of the Minutes of the December 5th, 2024 Board Meeting.**

In a motion by Ms. Quimby, and seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 5th, 2024 Board Meeting.

**Veterinary License Applications Approvals**

- Dr. Lisa Weltzein - Needs to retake or demonstrate clinical practice for at least 3 of the 5 years.
  - Board considering updating the regulations in the upcoming year.

In a motion by Dr. Calvert, and seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following licensing applications:

- Dr. Paul McGough

Veterinary Applications approved by designated Authority:

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| • C. Black     | • W. Turner    |
| • C. Kroncke   | • A. Coronado  |
| • C. Pattie    | • C. Malcolm   |
| • A. Hampton   | • K. Marglit   |
| • S. Brown     | • E. Schran    |
| • H. Nayeon    | • D. Kuipers   |
| • S. Pan       | • S. Fanelli   |
| • C. Hawkins   | • W. Galbreth  |
| • R. Cropp     | • D. Sanchez   |
| • L. Sprague   | • D. Yee       |
| • B. Stallings | • L. Coffee    |
| • L. Heinin    | • M. Sahibzada |
| • A. Fish      |                |

Veterinary Technicians Approved by Designated Authority

- |               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| • D. Simone   | • K. De Celis Correa |
| • B. McDerby  | • V. Profitt         |
| • S. Orozco   | • C. Moser           |
| • S. Trautman | • A. Consoli         |
| • E. Phillips | • Y. Severe          |

- K. Knipp
- D. Crigger

- S. Aizaz
- B. Lloyd

**Sanitation Reports:**

Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James presented the hospital sanitation reports.

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

**CE Approval Requests:**

In a motion by Dr. Schmechel, 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
Dr. Jen the Vet, LLC	Show me the data! Disease Prevalence in the Dog Kennel	Both	1/15/2025	2	Clinical / Scientific	Yes	No
American Association for Laboratory Animal Enrichment (AALAE)	Behavior and Enrichment Symposium (2025)	Both	2/11/2025	12	Clinical/ Scientific	Yes	No
Zoetis	Diagnosing and Treating Osteoarthritis - A Clinic Wide Approach	Both	3/19/2025	3	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No
Veterinary Referral Associates	Nursing Care for the Neurological Patient - Seizures Bladder Management and More	RVT	3/20/2025	1	Clinical/ Scientific	No	No

**Miscellaneous:**

- **Mark Kumpf - Animal Control & Care Academy - Euthanasia by Injection Course approval.**
  - The Board reviewed the training materials for the Euthanasia by Injection Course.
  - In a motion by Ms. Quimby, and seconded by Dr. Calvert, the Board voted unanimously to approve the course.
- **PAWS** - The Vet that provides Euthanasia training is making a modified version for Veterinary Technicians and will submit for review by the Board.
- **NAVLE Appeal - Dr. Hamid Mohyeddin**
  - The Board reviewed an appeal to take the NAVLE again past the ICVA's 5 attempt policy.
  - In a motion by Dr. Calvert, and seconded by Dr. Radue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the retake appeal.
- **Prescription Food Inquiry - Douglas Godesky**
  - The Board reviewed and approved the response sent to the inquiry.

- *“Prescriptions” for prescription pet food are not subject to the same requirements as prescriptions for medications. This is because prescription pet food is not medicine. However, these products are marketed and formulated with certain health conditions in mind including allergies, obesity, sensitive stomachs, and kidney disease. As such, these products are sold by or at the recommendation or direction of a veterinarian. These rules are based upon guidance issued by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and intended to avoid consumer misunderstanding about the use of the products as part of treating a diagnosed health condition. Because federal guidance requires veterinary oversight of the use of prescription pet food, it is not unreasonable for a veterinarian to sell or authorize the use and sale of such food when there is a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR). The Board believes that decisions whether to authorize or recommend prescription foods for patients’ chronic medical conditions may be made by veterinarians based on their assessment of each patients’ circumstances. The Board does not have a rule prohibiting veterinary practitioners from requiring annual examinations before the veterinarians authorize continued use of prescription food, nor do the regulations specifically require an examination in the past 12 months. Veterinarians may use their discretion in these situations.*
- **RVT Training Inquiry - Zoey Thompson**
  - *The law still provides that non-credentialed staff (non RVTs) who are rendering auxiliary or supporting assistance under the responsible direct supervision of a veterinary practitioner (a Maryland-licensed and registered veterinarian) are not considered to be “practicing veterinary medicine” in violation of the Practice Act. Therefore, if your employer is in the immediate area and actively supervising your performance of the suturing skin wounds, or if you are assisting the veterinarian with dental extractions under the same immediate and active supervision while being trained, the Board would not consider this to be unlawful.*
- **AAVSB Board Basics and Beyond (March 28th & 29th)**
- **MDVMA Town Hall Meeting Update - Dr. Calvert**
  - Dr. Calvert will attend a MDVMA Town Hall style meeting virtually:
    - Outline –
      - What is the process of having a bill passed?
      - What is the process that they can be involved in?
      - Summarizing the chart and answering questions about the guidance.
      - Difficulties with interpretation of the bill.
    - MDVMA is considering proposing a change to 1 word so that Veterinary Technicians can provide Direct Supervision under indirect supervision of a Veterinarian for some tasks.
      - Page 6 lines 8-11.

**CE Audit:**

- 5/50 Audits are complete.
  - Non RACE approved CE submitted as State Approved but was not reviewed by Board and not through a Regional VMA.
    - The Board reviewed the website of the 2023 Dairy Cattle Welfare Counsel Symposium and approved it for use.

**Formal Disciplinary Actions Finalized since December 5th, 2024**

- None

**Legislation:**

The Board reviewed legislation that may impact veterinarians/veterinary practices:

- [SB 233 - Prescription Drug Monitoring Program - Dispensers - Veterinarians](#) - this is the bill introduced in two past sessions that would make veterinarians “dispensers” within the meaning of the PDMP law and require them to report dispensing CDS (the Department’s response will mirror what was submitted during the past session)
  - Bill withdrawn by sponsor.
- [HB 162/SB 380 - Maryland Horse Industry Board - Breeding Stables and Horse Establishments - Definitions](#) (may be of interest) - Hearing February 2, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. - Environment and Transportation Committee - Bill would require “breeding stables” to obtain a license issued by the MHIB and prohibit breeding stables from operating without a license. A “breeding stable” is defined to mean “an establishment in connection with which one or more horses are offered for sale to the public for breeding or as the product of breeding.”
  - Bill is being withdrawn by sponsor.
- [SB 318 - Higher Education - Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Eligibility Repayment Program - Eligibility](#) - This is similar to a bill introduced last year, for which there was no fiscal impact on the SBVME. Last year’s version proposed to grant eligibility for a loan assistance repayment program to veterinary practitioners who work for the State for at least five years, or volunteer at least 100 hours per year for at least 3 years at a local animal control facility or shelter that receives Spay Neuter Grants services to the State. This year’s version would also grant eligibility to both veterinary practitioners and veterinary technicians (RVTs) providing those services.
- [SB 80 - Criminal Law](#) - Animal Abuse or Neglect - Penalties - Senator Kramer In the Senate - Hearing 1/16 at 1:00 p.m. - Judicial Proceedings
- [SB 152 \(HB 89\) Criminal Law - Crimes Relating to Animals - Conviction and Sentencing](#) - Hearing 1/09 at 2:00 p.m. - Judicial Proceedings

*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.*