

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Public Meeting Minutes - December 6, 2018

Maryland Department of Agriculture
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD

Team B Meeting Public Minutes

Team Members Present: Dr. Heather Hendler, Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, and Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner. **Staff members present:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Hendler called the meeting to order at 8:46 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes: In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Ms. Wright-Conner, the minutes of the November 1, 2018 meeting of Team B were unanimously approved.

In a motion by Dr. Hendler, seconded by Ms. Wright-Conner, the team voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into a closed session to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article.

Closed Session of Team B

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

In a motion by Dr. Hendler, seconded by Dr. Callahan, the team voted to adjourn at 10:06 a.m.

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Public Minutes - December 6, 2018

Maryland Department of Agriculture
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD

Joint Meeting – Open Session

Board Members: Dr. David Handel, President; Dr. Heather Hendler, Vice President; Dr. Elizabeth Callahan, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Karena Joung, Dr. Peter Radue, and Ms. Victoria Wright-Conner.

Staff members present: Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Handel called the meeting to order at 11:41 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes. In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2018 Joint Board Meeting.

Veterinary License Applications Approval

In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Ms. Wright-Conner, the Board voted to refer Dr. Whelan's application back to staff for review.

In a motion by Dr. Hendler, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the Board voted to approve veterinary license applications for Drs. Kaitlin Curran, Corie England, and John Flanders.

Veterinary License Reinstatement Applications Approval

In a motion by Dr. Hendler, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted to approve veterinary license reinstatement applications for Drs. Horace Ferguson, Mark Haines, Barbara Harris, and Sean Kennedy.

Animal Cruelty Reporting Regulations.

Ms. Orlando reported that the regulations were posted for public comments through November 15, 2018 and those received focused primarily on the lack of a definition of “necessary care,” however, after discussing it with the agency’s principal counsel, it was recommended that the Board go forward with the regulations as proposed and define “necessary care” in the context of a given case. Ms. Orlando also reported that some research veterinarians provided comments expressing a desire to see research specifically exempt from the regulations; however, the proposed regulations use the definition of animal cruelty in the criminal code which makes the need to specifically exempt them unnecessary.

In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Ms. Chaput, the Board voted to move the regulations as proposed in the *Maryland Register* to final action without any changes.

In a motion by Ms. Wright-Conner, seconded by Dr. Callahan, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting pursuant to § 3-305 (b)(7) of the General Provisions Article to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. All individuals present for the open session remained present for the closed session.

Joint Closed Session I

During the closed session the Board received general legal advice regarding recognizing actions that have anti-competitive impact. No votes were taken or decisions made. In a motion by Dr. Joung, seconded by Dr. Hendler, the Board voted re-open the joint session at 1:27 p.m.

Joint Open Session - Continued

Outreach to Veterinary Students. Dr. Handel noted that he has talked with officials at the Virginia–Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech and intends to visit Blacksburg in the spring to meet with students and discuss the licensing process in Maryland. Ms. Chaput expressed interest in attending. Available dates will be circulated and finalized.

Sanitation Reports. Inspectors Morgan and James reported on the inspections they have done since the November 2018 meeting. In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board unanimously voted to accept the reports.

Boarding Facility Regulations (discussion)

Due to a few complaints involving incidents at animal boarding facilities that are associated with a veterinary hospital, members of Team A suggested revisiting current regulations and consider strengthening them to be more in line with consumer expectations. There was general consensus that the regulations did not need to be improved, but that hospitals operating kennels should be reminded, via newsletter, of the regulations and encouraged to employ best practices to avoid future complaints.

Department of Legislative Services (DLS) Sunset Pre-Evaluation Report

Ms. Orlando thanked Board members for their help in reviewing the draft response to the DLS report on such a tight deadline. She noted that it was likely DLS would move forward with a full sunset review since the Board has not had one in 20 years.

In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Dr. Hendler, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session pursuant to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article at 2:06 p.m. The same individuals remained present for the closed session.

Joint Closed Session II

During the closed session, the full Board, staff, and counsel performed administrative functions, including discussing complaints and disciplinary matters before the Board. The same individuals present during the open session were present during the administrative closed session.

The Board voted by acclamation to adjourn at 3:07 pm.

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

December 6 2018

Maryland Department of Agriculture
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD

Public Minutes of the Meeting of Team A

Board Members: Dr. David Handel, Ms. Lynne Chaput, Dr. Karena Joung, and Dr. Peter Radue. **Staff members present:** Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

Dr. Handel called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes. In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Joung, the team voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2018 Meeting of Team A, with a correction of a grammatical error on page 2.

In a motion by Dr. Handel, seconded by Dr. Joung, the team voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions, pursuant to § 3-103 of the General Provisions Article.

Closed Session of Team A

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

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 p.m.