

**Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners**  
**December 17, 2020**

*The meeting was held by teleconference and Google Meets due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

**Minutes of the Joint Open Meeting**

Board Members present: 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 members present: Executive Director Vanessa Orlando, Assistant Director Susan Husk, Assistant Attorney General Cynthia Spirt, Licensing Administrator Tonya Kendrick, Investigator Sarah Hultz, Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James, and Administrative Specialist Britney Branch.

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

**Approval of the Minutes.** In a motion by Ms. Chaput, seconded by Dr. Calvert, the minutes of the November 19, 2020 Joint Board Meeting were unanimously approved.

**Veterinary License Application Approvals.** In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Joung, the Board voted unanimously to approve veterinary license applications for Drs. Robert Santos, Stella Spears, Karin Spiller, Regina Wilson, Lauren Celestin, Jenny McKlveen, and Lee Choset.

**Sanitation Reports.** Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James reported on the inspections they have conducted since the November Board meeting. In a motion by Dr. Joung, seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Sanitation Reports as presented.

**CE Approval Request**

- In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Reed, the Board voted to deny the use of a research paper for CE credit. Dr. Joung abstained.
- In a motion by Dr. Callahan, seconded by Dr. Joung, CE approval request #381 was unanimously approved.

**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) CE Recommendation**

The Board reviewed a request/recommendation that it require 1 hour in DEI CE every year. The request was made by 10 veterinary medicine affinity organizations. Board members expressed initial support for the idea but want to ensure there are enough CEs available before moving forward. The staff will follow up.

**Preliminary Draft Telehealth Regulations & other reg change.** A draft of changes proposed last month was shared again to ensure it was correct. A draft of proposed changes to the first chapter of COMAR was also shared so it could be discussed during the January meeting.

**Enhanced Surveillance for Inauguration.** The DC Department of health increases surveillance of certain animal health diseases 10 days before and after a Presidential Inauguration and has asked Maryland practices in the DC area to report certain diseases. MDH is working on messaging that can be shared with veterinary practices.

**Medical Records for Non-Companion Animals.** Ms. Spirt revisited the record keeping regulations which only apply to companion animals and not horses. Board members may want to consider including minimal requirements for veterinarians of recreational horses.

**Other Business**

- **FY20 Disciplinary Report.** The final report has been approved and has been submitted to the General Assembly. A copy is on the website.
- **AAVSB Satisfaction Survey.** Board members discussed the survey questions and offered some input into services AAVSB could provide in the future.

- **AVSB VTNE Diversity Award.** Information was provided to Board members about this new award which will be given to a Veterinary Technician/Nursing student from an AVMA-CVTEA or CVMA accredited veterinary technology/nursing program who is expected to graduate no later than June of the calendar year. Information is also posted on the website.
- **Acupuncture Position Statement.** The Board reviewed the position statement from the American Academy of Veterinary Acupuncture. Board members agreed that current regulations accurately address the issue of acupuncture in veterinary medicine.