

**MEETING of the LOUISIANA BOARD of VETERINARY MEDICINE
February 3, 2022**

Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Vice-President, Dr. Alfred Stevens, presided over the meeting with the absence of Board President, Dr. Joseph Bondurant. Dr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 8:52am.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Board Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Marullo, with the following results:

Those present:

Alfred G. Stevens, DVM	Board Vice President
Trisha C. Marullo, DVM	Secretary-Treasurer
Larry L. Findley, Sr, DVM	Board Member
Keri A. Cataldo, DVM	Board Member
Jared B. Granier	Board Executive Director
Stephen H. Vogt	Board General Counsel

Guests:

Dean Oliver Garden	LSU School of Veterinary Medicine
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Those not present:

Joseph Bondurant, Jr., DVM	Board President
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Statement of Obligations was read aloud by Dr. Marullo to all present for meeting.

Dr. Stevens gave Dean Garden the floor, at which time Dean Garden gave the Board a general update on noteworthy news regarding the LSU SVM and its progress is moving forward with its core mission.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Board Minutes for December 2, 2021

The Board reviewed minutes from December 2, 2021. With no further discussion on the minutes as given, motion was made to accept the minutes as presented by Dr. Marullo, seconded by Dr. Cataldo, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. FINANCIAL MATTERS AND CONTRACTS

A. Financial Reports – November & December '21

Mr. Granier presented the financial reports for the months of November and December '21 for review by the Board. Mr. Granier informed the Board that all financial matters are in order and the Board is still projected to remain within its budget for the end of FY2022. Motion was made by Dr. Marullo to accept the financial reports as presented, seconded by Dr. Findley, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Investments - CDs

Mr. Granier presented the current CD investment figures to the Board. The previous request in December '21 to purchase additional CDs was not necessary. Mr. Granier will

continue to monitor revenues and expenditures to determine if any CDs could be purchased in the third quarter of FY2022. Motion was made by Dr. Marullo to accept CD details as presented, seconded by Dr. Findley and passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Audit Report, FY2021

Mr. Granier informed the Board of the continued delay in the audit from the state-contracted auditor. On-site fieldwork was completed in early-November '21. Final audit report will be given in April '22 meeting. No motion made or action taken on agenda item.

D. AAVSB State Jurisprudence Exam Administration Contract

Mr. Granier presented to the Board the AAVSB contract related to the Louisiana state jurisprudence exam being administered online through AAVSB. Applicants for DVM and RVT licensure will have the option to take the state jurisprudence exam online through AAVSB for an additional \$55 (paid directly to AAVSB) beginning in FY2023. Mr. Vogt expressed slight concern with contract language related to liability. Motion was made by Dr. Cataldo to accept the contract once Mr. Vogt is satisfied with changes to liability statement in contract, seconded by Dr. Findley, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

V. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

A. New Licenses and Certificates Issued

Mr. Granier reported all new licenses and certificated issued listed below from 11/11/21 to 01/19/22. Motion was made by Dr. Marullo to accept and ratify all issued licenses as given, seconded by Dr. Cataldo, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

License Number	Licensee	License Status	Initial License Date
10063	Trayce Womack	DVM - Active	12/21/2021
10064	Mary Retif	DVM - Active	1/3/2022

License Number	Licensee	License Status	Initial License Date
Faculty 1039	Katherine Stroda	DVM - Faculty - Active	1/3/2022
Faculty 1040	Tamas Ambrisko	DVM - Faculty - Active	1/3/2022

License Number	Licensee	License Status	Initial License Date
20021	Miranda Nunnery	RVT - Active	11/19/2021
20022	Madison Willeford	RVT - Active	1/3/2022
20023	Sara Burkhalter	RVT - Active	1/7/2022
20024	Margerie Crawford-Drake	RVT - Active	1/7/2022
20025	Cherie' Dufrene	RVT - Active	1/7/2022
20026	Kelsey Fitzgerald	RVT - Active	1/7/2022
20027	Christy Mataya	RVT - Active	1/7/2022
20028	Thalia Matos Gonzalez	RVT - Active	1/7/2022
20029	Stacey Ritch	RVT - Active	1/7/2022
20030	Emily Simpson	RVT - Active	1/7/2022
20031	Alexandra Watson	RVT - Active	1/7/2022
20032	Rachel Fendrich	RVT - Active	1/10/2022

License Number	Licensee	License Status	Initial License Date
30018	Emily Caro	CAET - Active - Full	11/30/2021
30019	Ian Harmon	CAET - Active - Full	12/1/2021
30020	Frances Davis	CAET - Active - Full	12/10/2021
30021	Suzanne Jerezano	CAET - Active - Full	12/15/2021
30022	Shanelle Boudreaux	CAET - Active - Full	12/17/2021
30023	Roberts Sydney	CAET - Active - Full	1/3/2022
30024	Pau Villanova Castellvi	CAET - Active - Full	1/4/2022
30025	Kerri Lantier	CAET - Active - Full	1/7/2022
9917 L	Sunday Lessard	CAET - Active - Lead	11/19/2021

B. Proposed 2021-2022 Spring Newsletter

A proposed newsletter draft containing topics and statistics to be included in the Spring 2021-2022 newsletter was presented. Members gave editorial suggestions to be made prior to distribution. Motion was made by Dr. Cataldo, seconded by Dr. Marullo, to approve the newsletter with changes. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Acceptable Payment Methods for Applications/Renewals

Mr. Granier informed the Board that there was follow-up communication with the current license management software Vendor regarding the possibility of allowing ACH payments through application and license portals. This payment type is not available at this time but is a future feature in development. No motion made or action taken on agenda item.

D. 2021 ICVA Report to Licensing Boards

Mr. Granier presented to the Board the 2021 ICVA report related to NAVLE from the International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA). No motion made or action taken on agenda item.

E. AAVSB By-Laws & Nominations; '21 Conference; VTNE Scheduling; CE Tracking

Mr. Granier presented the AAVSB information related to proposed by-law amendments, leadership nominations and upcoming conference schedule(s). No motion made or action taken on agenda item.

F. Report on 2022 FARB Conference (Federation of Assoc of Regulatory Boards)

Mr. Granier presented the presentation schedule and reported to the board from the FARB conference attended January 28th-29th. The important take-aways from the conference were the following topics: 1) license mobility between states, 2) expedited licensure for military spouses, and 3) a potential new Louisiana-based vendor for license management software. No motion made or action taken on agenda item.

VI. CONTINUING EDUCATION ISSUES

A. None at this time

VII. PRECEPTORSHIP ISSUES

A. None at this time

VIII. POLICY, PROCEDURE, AND RULES

A. General Update

1. Rule Proposal - NAVLE/VTNE Requirement & Waiver for DVMs/RVTs

The board formally approved a draft of a proposed Rule change presented by general counsel. Gist: Section 303 will be amended to allow the Board greater discretion in determining whether an out of state applicant whose NAVLE's scores are older than 5 years has worked full time (32 hrs average) in a private practice or its equivalent in the 5 years preceding the application so that a waiver of the retake of the NAVLE may be given. The full time requirement of 32 hrs/week was retained, but modified so that the pre-application employment averages 32 hrs/week. The requirement that the period of work before application be for 5 years is modified so that continuous employment is not required. The Board will have discretion to examine the period of employment to determine if it has been "without substantial interruption". The Rule making protocol required by law will be initiated. Motion was made by Dr. Marullo, seconded by Dr. Findley, to approve the filing of the rule changes as given. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

2. Rule Proposal - State Board Exam Requirement for RVT Apps

The Board approved a proposed draft of an amendment to Rule 803 concerning the examinations required of RVT applicants. The requirements that an applicant pass both the national (VTNE) examination and a state practical examination to obtain certification will be amended to delete reference to a state practical examination. Instead, the Board will prepare a state board examination which may be administered by the Board or a third party. The number of questions and pass point will be provided by this amendment for the state board examination. The requirement that both the national exam and the state board exam be passed within a period of 3 years, failing which the passing score of one lapses. The Rule amendment will also provide for a waiver of the requirement of the retaking of the VTNE for out of state applicants whose passing scores are older than 3 years where the applicant has been a licensed RVT (or its equivalent) in another state and has been employed at least 32 hours per week on average for the 3 years preceding the application in a private practice or its equivalent continuously and without substantial interruption. The Rule making protocol required by law will be initiated. Motion was made by Dr. Cataldo, seconded by Dr. Marullo, to approve the filing of the rule changes as given. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Policy and Procedure

1. None at this time

C. Declaratory Statements

1. None at this time

D. General Agenda

1. Zoetis Requiring Written Agreement from Clinic for House-call Practice

A query was received by a licensed veterinarian concerning the Rule requirement that a practice from a "mobile practice vehicle" as defined by Rule have an agreement with a local hospital (30 minutes/30 miles from the site of providing

services) for aftercare or emergency services. Section (rule) 711 was interpreted as having mandatory language requiring these agreements under the circumstances presented.

Dispute of Ownership Rights

A practice query was presented by a licensed veterinarian concerning conflicting instructions given by two people claiming ownership of a patient. Owner A had set up the account under her name. Later she called with explicit instructions that Owner B was not allowed to obtain any information concerning the patient. Owner B now has physical possession of the patient and has requested veterinary services. Owner A cannot be reached for purposes of obtaining consent. The licensee asked for guidance and was instructed that under the circumstances “ownership”, which can be difficult to ascertain, is not the determining factor. The duty of confidentiality (with exceptions not applicable) is owed to the client. Accordingly information/records cannot be provided to Owner B. However, a new VCPR can be established. It was suggested that Owner B provide an affidavit attesting to his acquisition of the patient as owner (not agent of Owner A), that the contents of the record be reviewed by the licensee to determine the propriety of any treatment requested by Owner B, and that Owner B provide the last known contact information for Owner A, and that attempts to reach her be made. The licensee was also advised that should Owner B not cooperate that the licensee respectfully decline to establish a new VCPR. The licensee was also advised that production of the record or its contents maintained through Owner A may be done by order of a civil court.

2. Suspected Animal Cruelty Case - Records Being Requested

A practice query was presented by a veterinarian who had examined an animal whose owner had attempted to deliver pups, two of which were still in the birth canal. An emergency referral was rejected by the client. The patient chose another practitioner but did not show up for the appointment. Subsequently the practitioner was contacted by animal control services inquiring about evidence of animal cruelty, as it had a female dog killed by gunshot matching the description of the patient. The practitioner wanted to know of abuse reporting requirements and was advised that Louisiana does not have mandatory reporting of abuse laws or regulations for veterinarians, nor does it have immunity provisions for good faith reporting. Confidentiality is required absent court order/subpoena or consent by the client. The practitioner was advised that should law enforcement contact him for information, to recite the confidentiality constraints and request a court order to release records or the contents of the records without client consent.

E. Consent Agenda Opinions

1. Answered

i. Question on Mobile Veterinary Services

A practitioner requested information concerning regulations governing a mobile based practice providing end of life care and preventative services from a personal vehicle. The licensee was referred to the in-depth requirements of Rule 711 and advised that the Rule does not differentiate between the intended services and services that may be required in the course of treatment and care.

ii. Is Board Certification Required for Specific Surgeries

A consumer requested information concerning veterinarians that are certified as

surgeons by the LBVM and requested confirmation that board certification was required for a particular surgery on his pet. He was given citations to online publications providing the names and addresses of certified surgeons, advised that the LBVM does not “board certify” veterinarians and advised that board certification is advanced training and that is not required to perform surgery.

iii. Allowances for a Layperson to Perform Canine Hydrotherapy

A layperson (individual not licensed by the Board) contacted the Board seeking information concerning the training required and supervision needed from a DVM to provide aquatherapy services for animals being boarded. She was advised of the contents of Rule 702 requiring such services be conducted through a licensed veterinarian with whom a valid VCPR has been established, with a written order for those services, with written consent provided to the owner of the patient. In order to be qualified to provide the services, the layperson must be licensed or certified by another regulatory authority or possess an education level approved by the Board.

2. Proposed

i. None at this time

F. Expedited / Emergency Opinion

i. None at this time

After review and discussion of all General Agenda and Consent Agenda Opinion items, motion was made by Dr. Findley, seconded by Dr. Cataldo, to ratify the responses. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

(Public Comments)

Motion was made by Dr. Marullo to go into executive session to discuss confidential matters regarding licensees and applicants not subject to public disclosure as per the law, seconded by Dr. Cataldo, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

A. None at this time

X. DVM, RVT, AND CAET ISSUES

A. None at this time

XI. DVM APPLICANT ISSUES

A. Katie Burchfield, DVM - Request Waiver of Preceptorship

The Board reviewed supplemental documentation submitted with the application for licensure from Dr. Burchfield. Motion was made by Dr. Cataldo, seconded by Dr. Marullo, to **approve** waiver of the preceptorship requirements as the documents provided meet the criteria of full-time clinical veterinary practice for the required time period immediately prior to application, and licensure in good standing in another jurisdiction. Motion passed

unanimously by voice vote.

B. Samantha E. Freudenthal - Request Waiver of Preceptorship & NAVLE Retake

The Board reviewed supplemental documentation submitted with the application for licensure from Dr. Freudenthal. Motion was made by Dr. Cataldo, seconded by Dr. Marullo, to **approve** waiver of retake of the national examination and preceptorship requirements as the documents provided meet the waiver criteria for the required period of time immediately prior to application, and licensure in good standing in another jurisdiction. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Claire E. Hannah, DVM - Request Waiver of Preceptorship

The Board reviewed supplemental documentation submitted with the application for licensure from Dr. Hannah. Motion was made by Dr. Cataldo, seconded by Dr. Marullo, to **approve** waiver of the preceptorship requirements as the documents provided meet the criteria of full-time clinical veterinary practice for the required time period immediately prior to application, and licensure in good standing in another jurisdiction. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

D. Arturo J. Otamendi, DVM - Request Waiver of Preceptorship & NAVLE Retake

The Board reviewed supplemental documentation submitted with the application for licensure from Dr. Otamendi. Motion was made by Dr. Cataldo, seconded by Dr. Marullo, to **approve** waiver of retake of the national examination and preceptorship requirements as the documents provided meet the waiver criteria for the required period of time immediately prior to application, and licensure in good standing in another jurisdiction. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

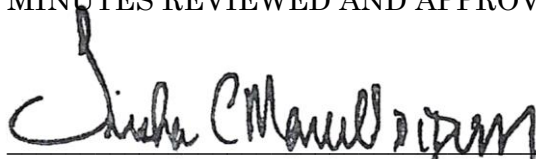
A. None at this time

Upon conclusion of executive session, motion was made to return to regular session by Dr. Marullo, seconded by Dr. Findley, and approved unanimously by voice vote. All votes related to administrative hearings, applicant and licensee issues above were made out of executive session.

XIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Board, motion was made by Dr. Marullo, seconded by Dr. Findley, and passed unanimously by voice vote to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25pm.

MINUTES REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY FULL BOARD on April 7, 2022.



Trisha Marullo, DVM, Board Secretary-Treasurer