



State of Wisconsin

Governor Tony Evers

Veterinary Examining Board

Dr. Hunter Lang, DVM, Chair

VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

January 22, 2025

9:00am

Contact: Melissa Mace 608-279-3861

MEMBERS PRESENT: In person: Hunter Lang, DVM; Alan Holter, DVM; Stephanie Miesen, DVM.
Virtual: Lyn Schuh, CVT; Karl Solverson, DVM; Leslie Estelle, DVM.

STAFF PRESENT, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP): Melissa Mace, VEB Executive Director; Aaron O'Neil, DATCP Attorney; Erin Carter, Regulatory Specialist; Dustin Boyd, Compliance Supervisor; Heidi Ulteig, Regulatory Specialist; Liz Kennebeck, Regulatory Specialist; Angela Fisher, Program and Policy Analyst; Jonathan Bent, Licensing Associate.

Hunter Lang, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:07am. A quorum of six (6) members was confirmed.

I. 9:00 A.M. OPEN SESSION – CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

II. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION Stephanie Miesen: moved, seconded by Alan Holter, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously

III. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

A. October 16, 2024 Full Board Meeting

MOTION Leslie Estelle: moved, seconded by Stephanie Miesen, to approve the October 16, 2024 board meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously

IV. Introductions, Announcements and Recognition

V. Public Comments

Each speaker is limited to five minutes or less, depending on the number of speakers. Each speaker must fill out and submit an appearance card to the Board clerk.

VI. Administrative Items Chair requests The Exec Director to run nominations and election of officers

A. Election of Officers (Current office holders)

1. Chair (Dr. Lang)

Melissa Mace called for nominations three times.

NOMINATION: Hunter Lang has been nominated for the Office of Chair.

VOTE:

Hunter Lang was elected as Chair by unanimous vote

2. Vice Chair (Dr. Alan Holter)

Melissa Mace called for nominations three times.

NOMINATION: Alan Holter has been nominated for the Office of Vice Chair.

VOTE:

Alan Holter was elected as Vice-Chair by unanimous vote

3. Secretary (Amanda Reese)

Melissa Mace called for nominations three times.

NOMINATION: Amanda Reese has been nominated for the Office of Secretary.

VOTE:

Amanda Reese was elected as Secretary by unanimous vote

B. Appointments of Liaisons, Alternates, and Delegates

1. Continuing Education and Exams Liaison (Primary: Dr. Lang/ Alternate: Schuh)

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Stephanie Miesen: , to affirm the Chair's appointment of liaisons. Motion carried unanimously

2. Screening Panel (Dr. Holter, Schuh, , Dr. Solverson, , Dr. Miesen)

- a. Add newly appointed member replacing Dr. Estelle, and public member when received.

MOTION: Stephanie Miesen: moved, seconded by Alan Holter, to affirm the Chair's appointment of the Screening Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Credentialing Committee (Dr. Lang, Dr. Solverson, Schuh)

MOTION: Stephanie Miesen: moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to affirm the Chair's appointment of the Credentialing Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Administrative Rules Committee (, Reese, Dr. Lang)

- a. Add newly appointed member in July

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Stephanie Miesen: , to affirm the Chair's appointment of the Administrative Rules Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Delegated Authority Motions

1. Urgent Matters

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, that in order to facilitate the completion of assignments between meetings, the Board delegates authority by order of succession to the Chair, highest ranking officer, or longest serving member of the Board, to appoint liaisons to the Department to act in urgent matters and to fill vacant appointment positions, where knowledge or experience in the profession is required to carry out the duties of the Board in accordance with the law. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Screening Committee

MOTION Stephanie Miesen: moved, seconded by Alan Holter, that the Board delegates to the Screening Committee the authority to consult with Department staff concerning complaints against persons who may be engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology without holding a credential. As part of this delegation, the committee may consider questions regarding the scope of practice of veterinary medicine and veterinary technology. The Screening Committee may also determine that a particular practice is or is not the practice of veterinary medicine or veterinary technology or refer the matter to the full Board for its consideration. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Credentialing Committee

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Stephanie Miesen:, that the Board delegates authority to the Credentialing Committee to address all issues related to credentialing matters, except potential denial decisions should be referred to the full Board for final determination. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Leslie Estelle moved, seconded by Alan Holter, that the Board delegates authority to the Credentialing Committee to employ a “passive review” process for issues related to credentialing matters, whereby if no Committee member requests a Committee meeting on the materials within five (5) business days after receiving them, the application would be considered cleared to proceed through the process, except for credentialing matters involving applicants that are:

- Currently under investigation or has been disciplined by the licensing authority in the other state, territory or country,
- A party in pending litigation in which it is alleged that the applicant is liable for damages for acts committed in the course of practice or,
- Where the applicant has been found liable for damages for acts committed in the course of practice which evidenced a lack of ability or fitness to practice.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Document Signatures

MOTION: Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Alan Holter, that the Board delegates authority to the Chair to sign documents on behalf of the Board. In order to carry out duties of the Board, the Chair has the ability to

delegate this signature authority to the Board's Executive Director for purposes of facilitating the completion of assignments during or between meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Roles and Authorities Delegated to the Case Advisor and Department Monitor

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to adopt the "Roles and Authorities Delegated to the Monitoring Liaison and Department Monitor" document. Motion carried unanimously.

- D. VPAP Quarterly Report (informational) – Melissa Mace delivered the quarterly report to the board.
- E. Anesthesia Monitoring (discussion) – Multiple complaints have been received by the VEB regarding unlicensed veterinary assistants adjusting anesthesia as directed by a licensed veterinarian, leading the Board to question what qualifies as monitoring anesthesia and when direct monitoring of anesthesia required. After discussion lead to further questions, the matter was referred to the Administrative Rules Committee for creation of a guidance document. Drs. Lang, Holter, Solverson, and Estelle have expressed interest in involvement.
- F. Animal Massage (discussion) – Board members shared their individual experience with animal massage, with Dr. Miesen noting that she has not dealt with practitioners trying to diagnose or behave in a manner that crosses into unlicensed veterinary practice. The Board agreed that a guidance document is needed on the subject; Melissa Mace and Angela Fisher will prepare a draft for the Board.
- G. AVMA ECFVG Committee (informational) – Dr. Lang reported that the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) is looking for an additional member with current or past board experience for their Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates Committee.

VII. American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) Matters (informational)

- A. AAVSB call for nominations – Interested Board members should contact Melissa Mace for a letter of recommendation
- B. Board Basics & Beyond Training, Kansas City MO March 28-29 - Interested Board members should contact Melissa Mace as soon as possible.
- C. AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference, Cincinnati, OH September 17-18 preconference sessions September 19-20 Annual Meeting and conference.
- D. Medical Recordkeeping Model Regulations – The Board discussed whether the AAVSB's model practice act could be used in the creation of the proposed guidance document on anesthesia monitoring.

VIII. Guidance Document (action item)

- A. Regional Anesthesia

MOTION: Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Alan Holter, to approve guidance document VEB-GD-008 regarding regional anesthesia. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Cannabis revision request – The Board received a request to review their guidance document for possible updates. Melissa Mace noted that any VEB guidance would need to remain in accordance with state and federal guidelines.

IX. Licensing/Exam Inquiries (informational)

- A. Unique CE requirements – The Board received CE certificates from a credential holder that took the same course within a year, with the second listed as a “refresher course”. The Board considers this to be unethical.

X. Administrative Code

- A. VE 1 (**action item**) – Angela Fisher reported that the rule change is proceeding as expected.

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Hunter Lang, to approve the VE1 hearing draft rule, DATCP Docket number 23-R-03, to go to hearing and receive public comments as set forth in the public hearing notice. Motion carried unanimously.

XI. Legislative and Policy

- A. Legislative update (informational) – Angela Fisher reported that the legislative session began on January 6, with no relevant bills yet introduced.
- B. Biennial Budget (informational) – Angela Fisher reported that the governor’s budget is expected on February 18th. We will not know if the VEB positions requested are included before then.

XII. Strategic Goals

- A. 2024 Goals – Melissa Mace reviewed the 2024 goals and progress/completion of them.
 1. Making the licensing process more efficient: the state exam has been updated and split into separate tests for veterinarians and veterinary technicians.
 2. Licensure forms: forms have been updated with accurate rule citations. A more comprehensive update will follow when the VE 1 rule change is in effect.
 3. Increased transparency for disciplinary actions: Dustin Boyd reported meeting with a software developer that worked with the Department of Safety and Professional Services on their website in hopes of developing a more accessible listing of VEB disciplinary actions and the related public documents. The current website lists discipline, but public documents must be individually requested.
 4. Increasing communication between the Board and veterinary credential holders: the Board had expressed interest in meeting with students in veterinary technician programs, similar to their meeting at the University of Wisconsin’s School of Veterinary Medicine last year; no schools showed interest in this meeting, either virtual or in-person.
 5. Annual Newsletter: the 2024-25 newsletter remains on the agenda. The VEB did submit an article to the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association regarding upholding the standard of care in veterinary clinics owned by non-credential holders; state requirements must be maintained regardless of practice policies.

Dustin Boyd also presented a summary of veterinary complaints received in 2024: 209 total complaints received (highest recorded), 56 investigations opened (highest recorded), and an average investigation time of 194 days (trending downward).

XIII. Future Meeting Dates and Times

A. Next Board Meeting – April 22, 2025

XIV. CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION (ROLL CALL VOTE)

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION to deliberate on cases following hearing (§ 19.85 (1) (a), Stats.); to consider licensure or certification of individuals (§ 19.85 (1) (b), Stats.); to consider closing disciplinary investigations with administrative warnings (§ 19.85 (1) (b), Stats.); to consider individual histories or disciplinary data (§ 19.85 (1) (f), Stats.); and to confer with legal counsel (§ 19.85 (1) (g), Stats.).

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Hunter Lang to deliberate on cases following hearing (§ 19.85 (1) (a), Stats.); to consider licensure or certification of individuals (§ 19.85 (1) (b), Stats.); to consider closing disciplinary investigations with administrative warnings (§ 19.85 (1) (b), Stats.); to consider individual histories or disciplinary data (§ 19.85 (1) (f), Stats.); and to confer with legal counsel (§ 19.85 (1) (g), Stats.). Roll Call Vote: Leslie Estelle – yes; Alan Holter – yes; Karl Solverson – yes; Hunter Lang – yes; Lyn Schuh – yes; Stephanie Miesen – yes

XV. Deliberation on Licenses and Certificates

XVI. Deliberation on Compliance Matters

A. Proposed Administrative Warnings

1. 24 VET 052 AK
2. 24 TECH 024 JC
3. 24 VET 112 EE

B. Proposed Stipulations, Final Decisions and Orders

1. 23 VET 058 and 23 VET 113 RM
2. 24 VET 093 CJ
3. 24 VET 053 MS
4. 24 VET 085 BM
5. 24 VET 065 KH
6. 24 VET 072 BS
7. 24 VET 098 TO
8. 24 VET 130 TA
9. 24 VET 113 KA

C. Orders Granting Full Licensures

1. 23 VET 124 JSR
2. 24 VET 017 and 24 VET 042 JSR

D. Suspension Orders

XVII. Review of Veterinary Examining Board Cases

- A. Licenses Returned to Full Status
- B. Pending Case Status Report

XVIII. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

XIX. Open Session Items Noticed Above not Completed in the Initial Open Session

XX. Vote on Items Considered or Deliberated Upon in Closed Session, if Voting is Appropriate

1. **MOTION:** Alan Holter moved, seconded by Lyn Schuh, to accept administrative warnings in the cases of: 24 VET 052 AK; 24 TECH 024 JC; 24 VET 112 EE
2. **MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Hunter Lang to accept stipulations and final decision orders in the cases of: 23 VET 058 and 23 VET 113 RM; 24 VET 093 CJ; 24 VET 053 MS; 24 VET 085 BM; 24 VET 065 KH; 24 VET 072 BS; 24 VET 098 TO; 24 VET 130 TA; 24 VET 113 KA
3. **MOTION:** Alan Holter moved, seconded by Stephanie Miesen, to accept orders granting full licensure in the cases of: 23 VET 124 JSR; 24 VET 017 and 24 VET 042 JSR

XXI. Ratification of Licenses and Certificates

To delegate ratification of examination results to DATCP staff and to ratify all licenses and certificates as issued.

MOTION: Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to delegate ratification of examination results to DATCP staff and to ratify all licenses and certificates as issued. Motion carried unanimously.

XXII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Alan Holter to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.