



State of Wisconsin

Veterinary Examining Board

Governor Tony Evers

Dr. Hunter Lang, DVM, Chair

**VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD**

**April 22, 2025**

**9:00am**

**Contact: Melissa Mace 608-279-3861**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** In person: Alan Holter, DVM; Stephanie Miesen, DVM. Virtual: Karl Solverson, DVM; Leslie Estelle, DVM; Amanda Reese.

**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, Disciplinary Attorney; Angela Fisher, Program and Policy Analyst; Jonathan Bent, Licensing Associate.

Alan Holter, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. A quorum of five (5) members was confirmed.

**AGENDA**

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

**II. Approval of the Agenda (action item)**

**MOTION** Leslie Estelle: moved, seconded by Karl Solverson, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously

**III. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes (action items)**

**A. January 28, 2025 Full Board Meeting**

**MOTION** Stephanie Miesen: moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to approve the January 28, 2025 board meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously

**B. March 11, 2025 Ad Hoc Full board Meeting**

**MOTION** Stephanie Miesen: moved, seconded by Amanda Reese, to approve the March 11, 2025 board meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously

**IV. Introductions, Announcements and Recognition (informational)**

- A. Moment of silence for Dr. Hunter Lang – Dr. Holter spoke in memory of Dr. Lang, acknowledging his contributions to the veterinary community through membership on the VEB and other state and national boards.**
- B. Recognition of outgoing board members: Dr. Leslie Estelle & Amanda Reese – Dr. Holter presented certificates of appreciation to both in acknowledgement of their time serving on the Board.**

**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.*

Amy Van Aartsen of the Marty Project spoke on Ridgland Farms cases

**VI. Administrative Items**

**A. Election of Officers (Current office holders) (action item)**

**1. Chair (Vacant)**

Melissa Mace called for nominations three times.

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

**VOTE:** Alan Holter was elected as Chair by unanimous vote

**2. Vice Chair (Dr. Alan Holter)**

Melissa Mace called for nominations three times.

**NOMINATION:** Stephanie Miesen has been nominated for the Office of Vice Chair.

**VOTE:** Stephanie Miesen was elected as Vice Chair by unanimous vote

**3. Secretary (Amanda Reese)**

Melissa Mace called for nominations three times.

**NOMINATION:** Lyn Schuh has been nominated for the Office of Secretary.

**VOTE:** Lyn Schuh was elected as Secretary by unanimous vote

**B. Appointments of Liaisons, Alternates, and Delegates (**

**1. Continuing Education and Exams Liaison (Primary: Miesen/ Alternate: Schuh)**

**MOTION:** Leslie Estelle moved, seconded by Amanda Reese, to affirm the Chair's appointment of liaisons. Motion carried unanimously

**2. Screening Committee (Holter, Schuh, Miesen, Solverson, Public member vacancy July 1 [Reese], Veterinary vacancy July 1 [Estelle])**

Additional Screening Committee appointments will be delayed until the new members have joined the Board

**3. Credentialing Committee (Miesen, Dr. Solverson, Schuh)**

**MOTION:** Karl Solverson moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to affirm the Chair's appointment of credentialing committee. Motion carried unanimously

**4. Administrative Rules Committee (Holter, Public member vacancy July 1 [Reese], Solverson)**

**MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to affirm the Chair's appointment of the administrative rules committee. Motion carried unanimously

Additional Administrative rules Committee appointments will be delayed until the new members have joined the Board

- C. VPAP Quarterly Report – Melissa Mace presented the quarterly report, noting upcoming presentations that are specifically designed for veterinary professionals. The VPAP orientation is now available on-demand, replacing the previous quarterly orientations that were not well attended. VPAP usage has increased compared to this time last year.
- D. Discipline: Administrative Warning vs. Final Decision & Order – Dustin Boyd spoke to the Board’s increased use of Administrative Warnings, with 3 issued in 2023 and 10 issued in 2024. He also noted that 43 FDOs were issued in 2023 and 35 FDOs were issued in 2024.

## **VII. Guidance & Reference Documents (action item)**

- A. Anesthesia Monitoring – Angela Fisher presented the guidance document to the Board, noting that it was drafted based on discussions at the Board’s January meeting to clarify expectations for anesthesia monitoring, and what qualifies given current statute and rule. Questions were raised regarding training of staff; training questions were tabled until the July meeting.

**MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Karl Solverson, to approve guidance document VEB-GD-009 regarding anesthesia monitoring. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Animal Massage – Melissa Mace noted that while Guidance Documents may be needed in the future for other complementary, alternative, and integrative therapies; animal massage has been the most asked about.

**MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to approve guidance document VEB-GD-010 regarding animal massage. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Regional Anesthesia – A typo was noted in the version of VEB-GD-008 after it was approved by the Board. A corrected version of the document is now presented for approval.

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

- D. UW SVM Medical Services Delegation – Dr. Holter, Melissa Mace, and Aaron O’Neil met with representatives from the University of Wisconsin-School of Veterinary Medicine to discuss their questions, largely about delegation of veterinary medical services to radiological technicians that are licensed by DSPS (but not by the VEB), and a veterinarian’s ability to delegate under VE 1.44 or to refer patients under VE 1.48.

The topic of ultra-sonographers was more complex, given that they are not licensed by DSPS, but are certified. UW-SVM is interested in delegating the administration of contrast, and to allow them to complete ultrasound-guided fine needle aspirations; VE 1.44(5)(f) restricts the delegation of fine needle aspiration to certified veterinary technicians. The distinction of radiographic contrast studies vs ultrasonic contrast studies was also raised, leading to the question of whether the current rules are inclusive enough of modern technology, and what the definition of “study” is when referring to these procedures. Dr. Miesen and Dr. Holter will research these questions in greater detail for further discussion at the Board’s July meeting.

## **VIII. Licensing/Exam Inquiries**

- A. Credential Holder Summary – Melissa Mace presented the credential holder summary. The Board expressed interest in a further breakdown of the summary, specifically how many new veterinary licenses issued were licensure by examination vs licensure by endorsement.

## **IX. American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) Matters**

- A. Recap AAVSB Spring Executive Directors Meeting Kansas City MO – Melissa Mace recounted her experience at the spring meeting, noting the discussion of the newly created Veterinary Professional Associate (VPA) position in Colorado. The AAVSB will be working with Colorado to create a licensing exam, new rules, and a practice act that incorporate this new position.
- B. AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference, Cincinnati, OH September 17-18 preconference sessions September 19-20 Annual Meeting and conference. – Registration for the conference opens at the end of April. The AAVSB sponsors attendance for two Board members; Dr. Solverson expressed interest in attending.
- C. AAVSB call for nominations
- D. AI Whitepaper – Dr. Beth Venit, chief veterinary officer of the AAVSB, answered questions regarding the whitepaper. The AAVSB recommends having clients sign an informed consent before use of artificial intelligence in interpretation. They also recommend that veterinarians utilizing AI programs consider data security, and for jurisdictions to regulate this data security. Dr. Venit will be presenting the whitepaper at the AAVSB's annual conference.

## **X. Administrative Code**

- A. VE 1 Final Draft (**action item**) – Angela Fisher presented the final draft of the VE 1 rule change, including public comments and clearinghouse comments. The rule change will now go to the governor's office for approval.

**MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to approve the VE1 final draft rule regarding Wis. Admin. Code ch. VE 1, relating to veterinary licensing processes. Motion carried unanimously.

## **XI. Legislative and Policy**

- A. Legislative update – Angela Fisher informed the Board that there are no current updates
- B. Biennial Budget – The governor's budget recommendations included an additional VEB investigator position. It also included a change of funding of 75% of a position for work related to dog licensing, rabies control, and humane programs to the VEB appropriation. The legislature is working on the budget, and the items from the governor's recommendations may or may not be included.

## **XII. Strategic Goals**

- A. 2024-25 strategic accomplishments – Melissa Mace reviewed the current strategic goals. New strategic goals will be presented at the VEB's July meeting.

## **XIII. Future Meeting Dates and Times**

- A. Next Board Meeting – July 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:** Leslie Estelle moved, seconded by Stephanie Miesen 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; Amanda Reese – yes; Stephanie Miesen – yes

**XV. Deliberation on Licenses and Certificates (action items)**

**XVI. Deliberation on Compliance Matters (action items)**

A. Proposed Administrative Warnings

1. 24 TECH 011 KM
2. 24 TECH 019 JH
3. 24 TECH 026 NP
4. 24 VET 092 CS
5. 24 VET 137 HF

B. Proposed Stipulations, Final Decisions and Orders

1. 24 VET 011 AC
2. 24 VET 049 LR
3. 24 VET 055 EN, 24 VET 106 EN, 24 VET 136 EN and 24 VET 152 EN
4. 24 VET 066 CR
5. 24 VET 118 AJ
6. 24 VET 132 KS
7. 24 VET 156 TM
8. 24 VET 094 PG
9. 24 VET 151 MH
10. 25 VET 144 TH
11. 24 VET 165 RS
12. 24 VET 119 JJ

C. Orders Granting Full Licensure

1. 21 VET 128, 22 VET 011, 22 VET 059 and 23 VET 008 CR

D. Investigations Recommended for Closure

1. 24 VET 125 SR
2. 24 VET 134 AL

E. 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**

**MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Amanda Reese to reconvene to Open 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**

**MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to issue warning notices in the cases of: 24 TECH 011 KM; 24 TECH 019 JH; 24 TECH 026 NP; 24 VET 092 CS; 24 VET 137 HF. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Alan Holter to accept stipulations and final decision orders in the cases of: 24 VET 011 AC; 24 VET 049 LR; 24 VET 055 EN, 24 VET 106 EN, 24 VET 136 EN and 24 VET 152 EN; 24 VET 066 CR; 24 VET 118 AJ; 24 VET 132 KS; 24 VET 156 TM; 24 VET 094 PG; 24 VET 151 MH; 25 VET 144 TH; 24 VET 165 RS; 24 VET 119 JJ. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Alan Holter, to accept orders granting full licensure in the case of 21 VET 128, 22 VET 011, 22 VET 059 and 23 VET 008 CR. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** Stephanie Miesen moved, seconded by Amanda Reese, to close cases: 24 VET 125 SR; 24 VET 134 AL. Motion carried unanimously

**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:** Leslie Estelle moved, seconded by Amanda Reese to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

*The Board may break for lunch sometime during the meeting and reconvene shortly thereafter.*