



State of Wisconsin
Veterinary Examining Board

Governor Tony Evers
Dr. Hunter Lang, DVM, Chair

VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Holter, DVM; Hunter Lang, DVM; Lyn Schuh; Arden Sherpe; Lisa Weisensel Nesson, DVM; Leslie Estelle, DVM.

STAFF PRESENT, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP): Melissa Mace, VEB Executive Director; Aaron O'Neil and Liz Kennebeck, DATCP Attorneys; Robert Van Lanen, Regulatory Specialist; Angela Fisher, Program and Policy Analyst; Carrie Saynisch, License/Permit Program Associate; Dustin Boyd, Compliance Supervisor; Brittany Medina; Introductions and Discussion.

Hunter Lang, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:06am. A quorum of six (6) members was confirmed.

AGENDA

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

II. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Lisa Weisensel Nesson, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

A. July 21, 2021 Full Board Meeting

MOTION: Lisa Weisensel Nesson moved, seconded by Lyn Schuh, to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2021 board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Introductions, Announcements and Recognition

A. Dr. Leslie Estelle, New Veterinarian Board Member

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.

No public comments

VI. Administrative Items

A. Election and terms of office

By statute, elections have to be in January but changes would not take effect until July. Terms run July to July. Transitions have been a bit messy. Current practice is for newly elected officers and appointed liaisons and committee members is to take office after the January meeting. It may afford a better transition if the elections/appointments took place in January but new offices and appointments took effect July 1. This would allow a transition phase for new officers and appointees.

Robert Forbes served on the Administrative Rules Committee. The position has been vacant since he left office in July. The Administrative Rules committee meets between board meetings to look at comments and discuss any modifications to rule and guidance documents before the full board meets. The committee is comprised of 3 board members. The board is looking for someone to replace Dr. Forbes on the committee. Leslie Estelle volunteered.

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to have officers elected, and liaisons and committee appointed at the January VEB meeting, to take office or fill the appointment as of July 1st. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Lisa Weisensel Nesson moved, seconded by Arden Sherpe, to appoint Leslie Estelle, DVM to the Administrative Rules committee. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Budget update

VEB Appropriation 23700						
CASH BALANCE REPORT						
	FY 2019 Actuals	FY 2020 Actuals	FY 2021 Actuals	FY 2022 Estimates	FY 2023 Estimates	
Beginning Cash Balance	808,322	613,241	1,295,363	480,894	817,989	
Total Revenue	99,977	1,026,463	99,584	1,026,463	90,000	
Perm /Project Salaries	159,638	162,033	141,355	168,818	180,000	
LTE/Misc Salaries	1,923	45,296	82,709	109,981	45,000	
Fringe Benefits	59,722	64,587	71,721	93,965	70,000	
Supplies & Services	73,776	72,425	168,268	196,604	100,000	
VE 11 Wellness Program	-	-	-	120,000	100,000	
Total Expenses	295,059	344,341	464,053	689,368	495,000	
Net Income	(195,081)	682,122	(364,469)	337,095	(405,000)	
Ending Cash Balance	613,241	1,295,363	930,894	817,989	412,989	

Budget is under authority of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The Veterinary Examining Board does not approve the budget and cannot spend without approval from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Funded by credential fees, not taxes. The state fiscal year runs from July 1st to June 30th. Licensing is biennial so Total Revenue will be greater in even years. No concerns with revenue at this time.

C. VPAP Quarterly report

VPAP quarterly and semi-annual update:

- 3rd utilization 1.5%
- Legal/Financial top hits for information and service

Seminars held:

Opioids and Addiction for veterinary professionals	19-Aug	7pm	7 attendees
Suicide prevention for Veterinary Professionals	Sept. 23	7pm	16 attendees
Talking to Employees about Difficult Topics	Oct. 14	7pm	16 attendees

Seminars coming up:

Welcome	10-Nov	Noon
Positive Psychology: Enhancing Your Happiness	18-Nov	7pm

Bulletins sent:

2-Jul-21	Friday	14:40	Welcome to the Veterinary Professional Assistance Program	48	81%	0
13-Jul-21	Tuesday	13:00	New VPAP Resources and Upcoming Webinar	6,119	33%	8
3-Aug-21	Tuesday	16:25	Veterinary Examining Board Approves Telehealth Guidance	6,412	54%	33
9-Aug-21	Monday	11:30	New Resources and Upcoming Webinar From the VPAP	6,147	35%	9
17-Aug-21	Tuesday	13:30	New Webinar for Veterinary Professionals	6,144	29%	14
8-Sep-21	Wednesday	10:10	Upcoming Webinar From the Veterinary Professional Assistance Program	6,127	36%	5
21-Sep-21	Tuesday	11:05	Webinar on Suicide Prevention Scheduled for Thursday	6,125	29%	4

Last two were in WVMA newsletter which may explain increase in number of attendees. Will need to reset webinar schedule in January. Suggestions for topics are welcome. Continuing education credit are available for attendees to VPAP seminars(1 hour non-scientific).

VII. Licensing/Exam Inquiries

A. YTD credential holder break down

Total number of credential holders:

Certified Veterinary Technicians - 2702

Veterinarian – 3986

Total number of new credential holders year to date:

New Wisconsin licensed veterinarians (203)

- *Licensed by endorsement – 99*
- *Licensed by examination – 104*

New Wisconsin Certified Veterinary Technicians (191):

- *Licensed by examination – 75*
- *Licensed by On-the-Job experience (OTJ) – 96*
- *Licensed by endorsement – 20*

VIII. American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) Matters

- A. 2021 AAVSB annual meeting: September 30 –October 2, Denver Colorado – Attendee recap (informational)

Diane Dommer, Melissa Mace, Aaron O’Neil, and Liz Kennebeck attended in person while Amanda Reese attended virtually. Executive Directors meet on Thursday to discuss licensing to hammer out inconsistencies between states to make movement easier. The business meeting begins on Friday with speakers and seminars. The meeting concludes on Saturday with voting for any changes and with a meeting to discuss legal cases in North America that may have relevance to Veterinary Boards.

During a presentation at AAVBS annual meeting there was discussion about the issue that there are a lot of people who really don’t know what boards do. Suggestion was to invite legislators and others in the executive branch and/or media among others to meetings so they can learn more about what the board does. Possible addition of student liaison from local state veterinary school.

IX. Administrative Code Items

- A. Admin rules – VE 1-11 Status

Hearings were held on September 9th and 15th. Written comments were received through September 29th. 45 written comments from a variety of people in industry and the public.

The final rule draft will go to the Board for approval in January. After that, the final draft will go to the Governor for approval, and then to the Legislature for passive review.

X. Legislative and Policy Update

- A. Legislative update

Summary of 3 different bills related to VEB introduced this legislative session. No action or movement in past few months.

XI. Strategic Goals

- A. 2021 Goals

GOALS

1. Develop rules for the safe practice of telehealth in Wisconsin and implement them by the end of 2022.
 - a. Hearing draft approved and went to hearing and public comment.
 - b. Published a guidance document on telehealth
2. Proactively engage license holders about the value of VPAP with a target of meeting the national average for EAP program utilization by the end of 2023.
 - a. See Quarterly report (Distributed in meeting)
3. Close 80% of active disciplinary cases within 12 months of the case opening at screening committee. 31 cases resulting in discipline that have been closed in 2021. 19 of the 31 were closed within 12 months, for a total of 61%.
 - a. 1 of those cases was opened in 2018
 - b. 11 of those cases were opened in 2019
 - c. 8 of those cases were opened in 2020
 - d. 11 of those cases were opened in 2021
4. Increase outreach to credential holders.
 - a. Presented at WVMA meeting in Hortonville.
 - b. Sent a 'newsletter' with notification of telehealth guidance and proposed rules to all credential holders.

The Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association (WVMA) has been a great partner in promoting the Veterinary Professional Assistance Program (VPAP). 2 ½ - 3% would be a really good goal for VPAP engagement.

XII. Future Meeting Dates and Times

A. 2022 VEB meeting dates

Proposed dates for 2022:

January 19

April 20

July 20

October 19

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to approve the 2022 VEB meeting dates. Motion carried unanimously.

XIII. CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: Lisa Weisensel Nesson moved, seconded by Alan Holter, to convene to closed session to discuss the Wis. Admin. Code Ch. VE 11 update on the request for proposals where bargaining reasons require a closed session (§ 19.85 (1) (e), Stats.); 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.). Hunter Lang read the language of the motion. The vote of each member by was ascertained by voice vote. Roll Call Vote: Leslie Estelle – yes; Hunter Lang – yes; Lisa Weisensel Nesson – yes; Lyn Schuh – yes; Arden Sherpe – yes; Alan Holter – yes; Motion carried unanimously.

XIV. Deliberation on Licenses and Certificates (Action Items)

A. Request for waiver of CE requirement

XV. Deliberation on Compliance Matters (Action Items)

A. Proposed Administrative Warnings

1. 15 VET 017 PY
2. 15 VET 027 LB
3. 19 VET 028 SK – *not ready-- removed*
4. 21 VET 013 VS

B. Proposed Stipulations, Final Decisions and Orders

1. 18 VET 041 PH
2. 19 VET 015 NB
3. 19 VET 080 SK – *not ready-- removed*
4. 20 TECH 004 KS
5. 20 VET 084 JG
6. 21 VET 003 JS
7. 21 VET 008 TY
8. 21 VET 014 JK

C. Orders Granting Full Licensures

1. 20 VET 081 KK
2. 20 VET 099 TK
3. 21 VET 009 RL
4. 21 VET 014 JK

D. Aged Case Discussion

XVI. Review of Veterinary Examining Board Pending Cases Status Report

A. Pending Case Status Report (Informational)

XVII. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: Hunter Lang moved, seconded by Lyn Schuh, to reconvene to open session. Motion carried unanimously. The Board reconvened at 11:13am.

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

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

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to approve JN's CE waiver request for 20 hours in the 2020/21 biennial renewal period as long as they demonstrate compliance with the required CE from the 2018/19 biennial renewal period. Arden Sherpe dissented. Motion carried.

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Lisa Weisensel Nesson, to deny the CE waiver request for MR. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Alan Holter moved, seconded by Leslie Estelle, to issue an administrative warning in the cases against 15 VET 017 PY, 15 VET 027 LB, and 21 VET 013 VS. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Lisa Weisensel Nesson moved, seconded by Arden Sherpe, accept the signed stipulation and FDO for 18 VET 041 PH, 19 VET 015 NB, 20 TECH 004 KS, 20 VET 084 JG, 21 VET 003 JS, 21 VET 008 TY, 21 VET 014 JK. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Leslie Estelle moved, seconded by Alan Holter, to issue an order granting full licensure in the case of 20 VET 081 KK, 20 VET 099 TK, 21 VET 009 RL, 21 VET 014 JK. Motion carried unanimously.

XX. Ratification of Licenses and Certificates

MOTION: Lisa Weisensel Nesson moved, seconded by Alan Holter, to delegate ratification of examination results to DATCP staff and to ratify all licenses and certificates as issued. Motion carried unanimously.

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Lisa Weisensel Nesson moved, seconded by Alan Holter, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:23am.