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Draft Minutes of the Veterinary Board of Governors

September 11, 2023

Hybrid Meeting

Labor & Industries, 7273 Linderson Way SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Members present: Andrea Sanchez-Chambers, Veterinarian, Vice-chairperson; Aja Senestraro, Veterinarian; Debra Clabough Sellon, Veterinarian; Dai-E Dordor Vang, Veterinarian, Chairperson; Rebecca Knoke, General Public; Kim Morgan, Veterinary Technician; Jessica Reed, Veterinarian

Members absent: Kathryn Haigh, Veterinarian

Staff present: Melissa Green, Operations Director; Poppy Budrow, Program Manager; Lisa Kelley Christensen, Assistant Attorney General; Stephania Greenwood, Staff Attorney; Tanya Mills; Credentialing Supervisor; Jennifer Santiago; Program Manager; Jeff Wise, Policy Analyst; Tammy Kelley, Deputy Executive Director; Robert Nicoloff; Executive Director; Madissen Schatz, Administrative Assistant

Guests and other participants: Brittany Goyette, Program Manager Medical Learning, Banfield Pet Hospital; Ashley Bryne, Regional Technician Director, VCA Animal Hospitals, Direct Representative, Communications Chair, National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA); Dijana Katan, DVM, MPH, DABT, Medical Director, VCA Animal Hospitals; Sean Sanders, DVM, PhD., DACVIM (Neurology), Freelance, Development, BoosterPet, Board Member, Veterinary Virtual Care Association (VVCA); Rachel Cole, Manager of State Advocacy, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA); Candance Joy, CEO/Executive Director, Washington State Veterinary Medical Association; Heather Woodke, DVM, MA, Veterinarian/Owner, Magpie Mobile Vet, Inc, President Elect, Society for Veterinary Medical Ethics; Donna Singley; Amie Fisher, LVT, Vice President & Newsletter Editor, Washington State Association of Veterinary Technicians; Jessica Simpson, Senior Public Policy Specialist, The Humane Society of the United States; Amber Itle, Veterinarian, Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA); Bruce Hutton, Field Veterinarian, WSDA; Emily Purvis, DVM, MBA, Director of Veterinary Services, Auburn Valley Humane Society, CEO/Lead Veterinarian, Sound Veterinary Relief; David Folweiler, Chiropractor, Folweiler Chiropractic

OPEN SESSION

CALL TO ORDER, MISSION, AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dordor Vang, chairperson, called the public meeting to order at 9 a.m. and read from a prepared statement (on file).

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Amend the September 11, 2023, agenda to include a request for Member Morgan to represent the Board at a meeting.

Motion/Second: Member Morgan/Member Knoke. Approved unanimously.

2. 9:05 RULES HEARING

2.1. HEALTH PROFESSIONAL MONITORING PROGRAMS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER – PUBLIC HEARING

Dordor Vang, chairperson, called the public rules hearing to order at 9:09 a.m. and read from a prepared statement (on file).

The Board heard public comment and considered adoption of proposed rules filed under WSR 23-16-098 filed on July 31, 2023. The proposed language regards the implementation of Substitute Senate Bill SSB 5496 (Laws of 2022), which has changed the term “substance abuse” to substance use disorder.”

Public comment- None

Dordor Vang, chairperson, adjourned the public rules hearing at 9:14 a.m.

Motion: Adopt proposed rule amendments to the physician health monitoring programs for substance use disorders of veterinarian professions, WAC 246-933-601 through 246-933-630 Physician Health Monitoring.

Motion/Second: Member Morgan/Vice-chairperson Sanchez-Chambers. Approved unanimously.

2.2. HEALTH EQUITY CONTINUING EDUCATION – PUBLIC HEARING

Dordor Vang, chairperson, called the public rules hearing to order at 9:16 a.m. and read from a prepared statement (on file).

The Board discussed comments and determined next steps proposed rule language to implement Substitute Senate Bill SSB 5229 (Laws of 2021), which requires the department to establish minimum standards for health equity continuing education (CE) programs, and for each profession to adopt rules to require health equity CE at least once every four years.

Public comment- None

Dordor Vang, chairperson, adjourned the public rules hearing at 9:17 a.m.

Motion: Adopt proposed new sections for Health equity continuing education for the veterinarian and veterinary profession, WAC 246-933-437 Veterinarian health equity continuing education training requirements, and WAC 246-935-307 Veterinary technician health equity continuing education training requirements

Motion/Second: Vice-chairperson Sanchez-Chambers/Member Sellon Clabough. Approved unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve the June 12, 2023, minutes.

Motion/Second: Member Clabough Sellon/Member Senestraro

4. REPORTS

4.1. CHAIRPERSON VANG

Nothing to report.

4.2. MELISSA GREEN, BOARD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Poppy Budrow is the Board's new program manager.

Shelbee Scrimo has accepted the Board's administrative assistant position and will start on September 18, 2023.

Active status counts:

Veterinary license- 4,333

Veterinary medication clerk registration- 2,281

Veterinary technician license- 2,621

Pending status counts:

Veterinary license- 161

Veterinary medication clerk registration- 254

Veterinary technician license- 131

Applications received:

February- 127

March- 148

April- 166

May- 120

June- 187

July- 125

Credentials expiring by month:

February- 86

March- 108

April- 91

May- 95

June- 104

July- 136

Overall application processing time (issued):

February- 97

March- 97

April- 101

May- 150

June- 155

July- 115

Overall application processing time (pending days):

February- 74

March- 55

April- 67
May- 133
June- 129
July- 99

2021-23 Biennium Budget Status Report for the Period of July 01, 2021, through May 31, 2023:

Beginning fund balance on July 01, 2021- 839,576
Revenue to-date- 2,650,105
21-23 HELMS assessment to-date- 170,248
Expenses to-date- 2,336,512
Ending balance as of May 31, 2023- 982,920

HB 1009 requires each authority to provide training to each board or commission member on the culture of military spouses, the military spouse experience, and issues related to military spouse career paths. Board or commission members appointed on or before October 01, 2023, must complete the training by January 01, 2024. Board or commission members appointed after October 01, 2023, must complete the training within 90 days after appointment. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has created military spouse culture competency training that may be used by each authority to satisfy this requirement. The Board will individually complete the training and send Ms. Budrow their certificate.

4.3. LISA KELLEY CHRISTENSEN, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

Nothing to report.

5. OPEN FORUM

The Board accepted comments from the audience on issues of significance to the profession.

Ashley Byrne, VCA Animal Hospitals

The Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) is administered by the AAVSB during three exam windows each year. The score must be sent to the Department of Health directly from the AAVSB to become licensed.

6. RULEMAKING – VETERINARY TELEMEDICINE

The Board subcommittee on veterinary telehealth rulemaking discussed progress on the Board's rulemaking to consider updating WAC 246-933-200 veterinary client-patient relationship and establishing additional standards for telemedicine services.

Public comment:

Amber Itle, Washington State Department of Agriculture

Dr. Itle asked that the Board consider if the United States Department of Agriculture allows for virtual veterinary inspections. The Board must then consider if all states accept Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs) obtained through telemedicine.

Jessica Simpson, The Human Society of the United States

Ms. Simpson informed the Board that the Humane Society of the United States submitted written comments in support of establishing a VCPR through telemedicine. The Pets for Life program takes a comprehensive, long-term approach to addressing the inequity in and lack of access to pet resources people experience in underserved communities through door-to-door community outreach and pet owner support services. Rural Area Veterinary Services (RAVS) is another program that improves the health of welfare of animals, families, and communities by providing essential veterinary services and building professional capacity to reduce barriers to animal health resources created by poverty and geographic isolation. Telehealth is largely beneficial for these programs.

The Board will send the rules to subscribers through GovDelivery and ask for comments, which the subcommittee will review.

7. RULEMAKING – ANIMAL HEALTHCARE TASKS

7.1. ANIMAL MANIPULATION TASK FORCE

The animal manipulation subcommittee provided a report to the Board based on its July 10, 2023, meeting.

The Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission expressed interest in the Board and Commission working together to achieve a sustainable solution. The Commission filed a CR-101 on September 01, 2023.

7.2. INFORMATIONAL ATTACHMENT OF JULY 10, 2023, MANIPULATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA AND PACKET

The Board reviewed the Commission's animal manipulation committee meeting agenda from Monday, July 10, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. The Board also reviewed a discussion draft from Bob Nicoloff, executive director, and the Commission, regarding certified animal chiropractors.

Public comment:

Candace Joy, Washington State Veterinary Medical Association (WSVMA)
The WSVMA would be willing to talk with the Washington State Chiropractic Association (WCSA).

The Board and Commission Task Force will meet again to discuss legislation and next steps.

The Animal Manipulation Committee will include Member Senestraro, Member Clabough Sellon, and Member Reed.

A CR-101 was filed regarding WAC 246-935-050 Animal health care tasks, WAC 246-935-010 Definitions, WAC 246-935-040 Responsibilities of a veterinarian supervising a licensed veterinary technician or an unregistered assistant, and WAC 246-937-010 Definition. The Board is considering amendments to the animal health care tasks, supervisory responsibilities for a supervising veterinarian, and

unregistered assistants. Ms. Budrow will schedule a special meeting to discuss this matter.

8. RULEMAKING – VETEIRNARY TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP

The Board discussed comments and determined next steps on proposed rule language to consider amending WAC 246-935-060 to clarify that a Board-approved apprenticeship program is a pathway for veterinary licensure.

9. AUTHORIZING ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL AGENCIES AND NONPROFIT HUMANE SOCIETIES TO PROVIDE VETERINARY SERVICES

The Board received a status update of filed rulemaking that went into effect June 03, 2023.

Humane Societies have been sent notice that the reporting tool is online. Ms. Budrow will compile and present information regarding the legislation to the Board in June 2024.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

10.1. REGARDING GILL – WAC 246-933-275 – CE REQUIREMENTS

The Board reviewed an email from Raj Gill, DVM, regarding reactivating his Washington veterinary license, which expired in 2019. Dr. Gill left the state without gaining any practice hours and has since logged 200 hours in Australia.

Motion: Open a CR-101 to look at the act 246-933-275 regarding reactivation of an expired veterinary license.

Motion/Second: Member Senestraro/Member Sellon. Approved unanimously.

10.2. REGARDING VANESSA – RCW 18.92.280 – SUICIDE PREVENTION CE

The Board reviewed an email from Vanessa Rizzo, DVM, Hope Veterinary Oncology Services, regarding suicide prevention training. A social worker would like to offer suicide prevention continuing education (CE) at local CE events and veterinary clinics. Dr. Rizzo questioned if this would be acceptable in satisfying the state's rule.

The Board determined that this inquiry would not be an acceptable replacement for the Department of Health's suicide prevention education training.

10.3. REGARDING DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION RULEMAKING

The Board reviewed a letter from Brennan Kimbel, program manager, WSDA. The Department is proposing to amend chapter 16-610 of the Washington Administrative (WAC), Livestock Identification, to align with recently enacted legislation. In April 2023, the Washington State Legislature passed Substitute Senate Bill 5439 (SSB 5439) (Chapter 46, Laws of 2023). The department is proposing to amend chapter 16-610 WAC to align with this recently enacted legislation by: Adding a statement that the \$20.00 call out fee is not charged by certified veterinarians and private field inspectors; and adding a requirement that the Livestock Identification Advisory Committee must review the costs and

operations of the livestock identification program. These changes mirror the legislation. The Department is also proposing to clarify the definition of “Call Out Fee” by stating that it is a fee charged by Department Inspectors.

11. MEETING DATES FOR 2024

The Board established quarterly meeting dates for 2024.

Proposed dates:

March 04, 2024

June 03, 2024

September 09, 2024

December 09, 2024

Motion: Accept the proposed 2024 meeting dates.

Motion/Second: Member Morgan/Member Clabough Sellon. Approved unanimously.

12. SHELTERS AFTER DARK

Member Morgan

The Washington Federation of Animal Care & Control Agencies has scheduled Shelters After Dark on October 26, 2023, from 6-8 p.m. This event will be hosted by Seattle Area Feline Rescue and is an opportunity to network with attendees from other organizations and learn what other shelters are doing. Ms. Morgan asked to give a presentation during the event and extended an invitation to interested Board members. The Board accepted Ms. Morgan’s request. Members will contact Ms. Morgan if interested in participating.

13. AGENDA DEVELOPMENT

The Board reviewed and identified agenda items for the December 04, 2023 business meeting.

- Health equity continuing education for the veterinarian and veterinary technician profession, WAC 246-933-437 Veterinarian health equity continuing education training requirements and WAC 246-935-307 Veterinary technician health equity continuing education training requirements.
- Physician health monitoring programs for substance use disorders of veterinarian professions.
- Election for chairperson and vice-chairperson, to be chosen by the members of the Board from among its members.
- Trends in veterinarian prescribing patterns of controlled substances (Schedule II-V drugs) from the past decade.
- VAULT Basic transfer services.

ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION

11:27 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board held an executive session for purposes identified in RCW 42.30.110(1)(a-p).

VETERINARY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Dai-E Dordor Vang, Chairperson

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