

New Jersey State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

February 28, 2001

Public Session Minutes

A. CALL TO ORDER

This scheduled meeting of the Board was called to order at 9:34 a.m. in the Somerset Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

B. ROLL CALL

The following Board Members were present for this meeting:

Board President Carolyn Self, DVM
Board Member Neal L. Beeber, DVM
Board Member Nancy E. Halpern, DVM
Board Member Thomas M. Jacks, Ph.D. to Item T, executive session
Board Member David A. Meirs, VMD
Board Member Alfred R. Scerni, Jr., Esq.

Absent: Board Vice President John G. De Vries, DVM
Board Member Ernest Zirkle, DVM

Staff present: Executive Director Diane I. Romano
Deputy Attorney General Darlene Lapolav Isaura Roman, Principal Clerk
Susan Flores, Secretary to the Executive Director

Public present: Robert Gordon, NJVMA
Jonathan Wyman, DVM

A quorum was present for the entire meeting.

The meeting was presided over by Dr. Self.

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing to the Office of the Secretary of State, the Star Ledger, the Trenton Times, the Bergen Record and the Courier Post.

C. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

Upon unanimous consent of the Board, the January 24, 2001 public session Minutes were approved with one typographical correction. Page 3, Item J.2, first line change "find" to "fine".

D. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

1. Regulations

Regulatory Analyst Chuck Manning attended the meeting to give the Board a status report on pending regulations. The minor ministerial changes approved by the Board on May 24, 2000 are pending approval from the Office of the

Attorney General.

Also, subsequent to discussion, on a motion of Dr. Meirs, seconded by Dr. Jacks and unanimous vote, the Board determined to drop their request for a regulation requiring veterinarians utilizing solely computerized patient records to use a write-protected program.

Regarding the requested regulation prohibiting licensed veterinarians from being employed by a non-veterinarian, except for farm and herd animals, language will be drafted by Chuck Manning for presentment to the Board.

2. Legislative contact

Pursuant to the Division's legislative liaison's request, the Board considered naming contact persons who could be contacted by the legislative unit to provide the Board's positions on immediately pending legislation. The Board unanimously determined to name the President of the Board as contact and the Vice President as an alternate.

3. S-2176 (Cardinale)

Mrs. Romano distributed copies of S-2176 which was just introduced on February 26, 2001. This bill would provide for prompt notification to health care licensing boards when health care practitioner is suspected of injuring a patient or suspected of other wrongdoing.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE

(none)

F. CREDENTIALING

1. Robert J. Moffatt, VMD

On a motion of Dr. Jacks, seconded by Dr. Beeber and unanimous vote, the Board approved Dr. Moffatt to sit for the jurisprudence examination.

G. FINAL ORDERS/CONSENT ORDERS

(none)

H. MISCELLANEOUS

(none)

I. HEARING

(none)

J. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is March 28, 2001 at 9:30 a.m. in the Somerset Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion of Dr. Beeber, seconded by Dr. Jacks and unanimous vote, the Board went into executive session at 10:06

a.m. to hold an investigative inquiry and to consider new and pending consumer complaints and disciplinary matters. Immediately subsequent to executive session the Board returned to open session to vote on those matters resulting in disciplinary action:

1. Dr. Scott Campbell and Dr. Jeffrey Brandt

On a unanimous vote, the Board determined to fine Drs. Campbell and Brandt \$1,500 for two separate advertising violations in two advertisements for Banfield, the Pet Hospital.

2. File #00-084 ' Albert Berkelhammer, VMD

On a motion of Dr. Meirs, seconded by Mr. Scerni and unanimous vote, the Board determined to fine Dr. Berkelhammer \$250 for unprofessional conduct in charging consumer an unconscionable fee for copies of her pets' records.

3. File #00-112 ' Morsy Alsamadisi, BVSc

On a motion of Dr. Beeber, passed unanimously, the Board determined to fine Dr. Alsamadisi \$1,500 for repeated acts of negligence.

4. File #01-007 ' Donald Force, VMD

On a motion of Dr. Beeber, seconded by Dr. Halpern and unanimous vote, the Board determined to fine Dr. Force \$1,500 for misdiagnosis and for inadequate record keeping.

L. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting of the Board was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANE I. ROMANO
Executive Director