



New Jersey Office of the Attorney General



PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark NJ 07102

MATTHEW J. PLATKIN
Attorney General

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

CARI FAIS
Acting Director

VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS **REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING** **PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES** **JANUARY 10, 2024**

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 45020
Newark, NJ 07101
(973) 504-6500

I. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT NOTICE:

The January 10, 2024 meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners was not held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey, but remotely. Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice was provided electronically within 72 hours of the scheduled meeting, and was provided by mail to the Office of the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Bergen Record and the Courier Post and also posted on the Board’s web page. The agenda reflected, to the extent known at the time of this notice, Board matters. The meeting began at 10:15 A.M., and was conducted electronically only.

II. ROLL CALL:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Board President, Mark Logan, V.M.D.	(x)	()
Board Member, Barry Adler, D.V.M.	(x)	()
Board Member, Neal Beeber, D.V.M	(x)	()
Board Member, Donald Bruno, D.V.M.	(x)	()
Board Member, Steven Charnick, Ph.D.	(x)	()
Board Member, David Croman, V.M.D.	(x)	()

Board Staff Present:

Executive Director, Courtney Turner
Deputy Attorneys General, Barbara Lopez, Amy Ramirez
Regulatory Analyst, Nicole Parelli
Government Representative, Rhonda Frobose
Board Staff, Allison Davis

Members of the Public:

Todd Craig
Randi Weiner, Esq
Daniel Wallace
Linda Tran
Michelle Bauer
Michael Azzarello

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES:

i. Public Minutes – December 13, 2023

After a review of the minutes by the Board, the December 13, 2023 minutes were approved.

On a motion by Dr. Beeber seconded by Dr. Croman, the Board approved the December 13, 2023 minutes.

Motion approved unanimously.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

i. Status of Board Operations (Executive Director Turner)

Applications are processed as received and are currently being processed in a timely manner. All letters regarding complaints reviewed in 2023 have been sent. Board correspondence regarding complaints are currently being drafted.

The Board office remains open to the public from 10am to 2pm weekdays. Board staff is also accessible via email and phone. There is no update on resuming in-person meetings.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE:

i. Standing Motions for 2024

A. Resolution Regarding Board Action Between Meetings

The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners hereby moves to designate and authorize the Board President to function as Head of the Board to take action regarding certain events arising between Board meetings, where time is of the essence. Such actions would include:

1. Issuing an Order to Show Cause upon the filing by the Attorney General of a Verified Complaint seeking emergent relief;
2. Call a meeting of a committee of the Board to conduct an emergent Temporary Suspension hearing based upon such Complaint and issuing an Order to be ratified by the Board at its next meeting and having immediate effect, or call a meeting of the full Board to conduct an emergent

Temporary Suspension hearing based upon such Complaint and issuing an Order having immediate effect.

3. Determining settlement terms of a disciplinary case pending review and approval of the full board, including but not limited to, those cases where a final determination by the board must be made on short notice to effectuate global settlement with other civil or criminal authorities or where there is an immediate danger to the public health safety and welfare should a licensee remain in practice.
4. In matters of licensure, allow the Board President to take action on applications for licensure, renewal, reinstatement, and reactivation in order to facilitate the licensure of individuals who otherwise would be unable to practice pending a meeting of a quorum of the Board;
5. Allowing the Board President to use decisional authority when decisions will be delayed due to a meeting being cancelled or the lack of a quorum at a meeting. Said authority is conferred upon the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board, acting as President pro tempore, and then to remaining Board members in order of seniority.

Each of the above actions is subject to review by the full Board at the next meeting at which such review can be scheduled. The full Board may then ratify, modify or vacate the emergent action taken by the President. In the absence, unavailability or ineligibility of the President to address the matter, said authority is conferred upon the Secretary of the Board, acting as President pro tempore, and then to remaining Board members in order of seniority.

The Board hereby moves to authorize the Executive Director of the Board to approve routine applications that clearly meet the requirements for:

- 1) Vet License and
- 2) Temporary License

On a motion by Dr. Adler, seconded by Dr. Beeber, the Board determined to approve Dr. Logan to act between meetings on emergent issues.

B. Resolution Regarding Approval of Minutes

The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners moves to delegate authority to a committee for the purpose of approving minutes as final and making minutes available to the public promptly. The committee shall consist of Dr. Bruno and Dr. Beeber. Minutes approved by the committee are final and shall be marked “approved” with the date of approval. The “approved” minutes will then be placed on an agenda as an FYI. If a quorum of the Board later votes to amend the minutes, a second set of minutes will be marked “amended” and dated.

On a motion by Dr. Adler, seconded by Dr. Bruno, the Board determined to approve Dr. Adler as Minutes Committee Chair with the committee to include Dr. Bruno and Dr. Beeber.

C. Resolution Regarding Designation of Representative for the Prescription Monitoring Program

The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners also authorizes the Executive Director of the Board to make requests for a look-up of the Prescription Monitoring Program, when the purpose is to conduct a bona fide investigation by the Board.

On a motion by Dr. Adler, seconded by Dr. Bruno, the Board determined to grant authorization to the Executive Director Turner as the Board's designated representative for the Prescription Monitoring Program.

Motions on A, B, and C approved unanimously.

Dr. Beeber made a motion to approve the resolution, with revisions, for the 2024 Standing Motions, seconded by Dr. Adler

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

None at this time.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time.

VIII. REGULATORY AFFAIRS:

None at this time.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

i. AAVSB 2024 Call for Nominations

Taken as informational.

ii. Todd A. Craig – Question about Alkaline Hydrolysis

Mr. Craig asked if there is there a list of providers of the alkaline hydrolysis procedure in the state of New Jersey.

The Board explained the process of alkaline hydrolysis. Instead of cremation, bodies are put into a holding tank where chemicals dissolve the body, resulting in pure water.

This is under the purview of Department of Environmental Protection.

This matter will be referred to the Department of Environmental Protection.

X. ORDERS FILED WITH THE BOARD:

None at this time.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Michael Azzarello – Mr. Azzarello greeted the Board
2. Regina – asked if all seats on Board are filled.

There are currently two (2) open seats; 1 Public, 1 Government
Regina was directed to contact the Governor's office directly for information on the processed to apply for an open seat on the Board.

Regina asked if there has been a public member?

Yes, Dr. Charnick is a public member.

XII. GOOD AND WELFARE:

None at this time

XIII. ADJOURNMENT:

The public portion of the meeting concluded at 10:55 A.M.

Dr. Beeber, made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bruno, for the Board to go into executive session to discuss matters exempt from the open public meetings act pursuant to N.J.S.A 10:4-12(b). The Board does not anticipate taking any public action today. The Board will not be returning to public session today. The next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

Motion passed unanimously.