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VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES MAY 1, 2024

I. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT NOTICE:

The May 1, 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 10:05A.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) Excused
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
Regulatory Analyst, Nicole Parelli
Government Representative, Rhonda Frobose

Members of the Public:

Matthew Edson, Dean of Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine of Rowan University
Michael Azzarello, President, New Jersey Veterinary Technician Association
Rebecca Linke, V.M.D.
Megan Williams, CVT

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES:

i. Public Minutes – March 13, 2024

After a review of the minutes, the Board approved the March 13, 2024 minutes.

On a motion by Dr. Beeber seconded by Dr. Croman, the Board approved the March 13, 2024 minutes as written.

Motion approved unanimously.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

i. Status of Board Operations

(Executive Director Turner)

Deputy Attorney General Amy Ramirez has been assigned to another licensing Board.

AAVSB nominations are due May 29, 2024. The Board will select delegates to attend the AAVSB conference being held this year in San Diego September 25-28

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. 2024 Meeting Dates

Due to DAG assignment changes, request to reschedule the following dates:
July 10, August 14, September 11, December 11

After a discussion by the Board, it was determined to make the following changes to the 2024 Board meeting dates:

July 10, 2024 to be rescheduled to July 3, 2024
August 14, 2024 to be rescheduled to August 7, 2024
September 11, 2024 to be rescheduled to September 4, 2024
December 11, 2024 to be rescheduled to December 4, 2024

Motion by Dr. Beeber, seconded by Dr. Adler, to approve the changes to the 2024 Board meeting schedule.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

None at this time.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

i. **Municipal Rabies Clinic Regulation**

Municipal rabies clinic regulation **N.J.A.C. 13:44-4.2** exempts veterinarians performing these community outreach events on behalf of the New Jersey Department of Health from establishing a VCPR.

At issue is the State Board of Health requires licensed veterinarians to give vaccinations. The Schreiber School of Veterinary Medicine at Rowan University wants students to be able to give rabies vaccinations.

The Board discussed considering adding the Rowan Veterinary School mobile unit +/- Rowan outreach units to this regulation, so that Rowan can provide rabies vaccination support throughout the state as well.

The Board discussed applying to modify a rule state sponsored through municipalities to include the Schreiber School of Veterinary Medicine at Rowan University as a sponsor of rabies clinics in area of need, therefore there would be no need to establish protocols of a Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR).

The Board directed Regulatory Analyst, Nicole Parelli, to provide language for the Board to vote on at the next meeting that will insert permission for the school to participate in rabies clinics as a state university without a VCPR. The Department of Health will need to address allowing veterinary students to give rabies vaccinations.

Board President, Dr. Logan, directed the committee to discuss language for the regulation at the May 10, 2024 committee meeting and present a report at the May 29, 2024 meeting to the full Board.

ii. **Schreiber School of Veterinary Medicine Committee Report**

Dr. Croman presented the report to the Board.

In attendance were: Dr. Logan, Dr. Bruno, Dr. Croman, Dean of School Schreiber School of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Matthew Edson, DAG Lopez, Regulatory Analyst Nicole Parelli, and Board Staff, Rhonda Frobose were in attendance.

The committee met on March 28, 2024 and discussed the process for revising regulations and possible revisions to exempt faculty from licensure. Also discussed was timeframe for obtaining licensure as it relates to internships that will last for only twelve months. Regulatory Analyst Nicole Parelli will look into temporary licensure options for interns and faculty.

The Board also discussed 13:44-4.13 regarding consent for veterinary students to provide veterinary services.

The committee met again on April 12, 2024 and discussed rabies clinics, length of time to process license applications, institutional licenses, and an exemption form for students to provide rabies vaccinations.

The committee is scheduled to meet again on Friday, May 10, 2024 at 9am.

VIII. REGULATORY AFFAIRS:

None at this time.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

i. **David H. Migliaccio, D.V.M. 29VI00225600 – Bat Euthanasia**

A licensed veterinarian from New Jersey raised concerns regarding the protocol for testing bats for rabies. The veterinarian noted a change in procedure, where bats must now be euthanized before being sent for testing. They questioned their liability if a bat were to escape before euthanasia, potentially exposing someone to rabies. The veterinarian sought clarification on whether they would be responsible for covering the costs of vaccination for individuals exposed to the bat and whether they could face liability to affected individuals or the state if a bat were to escape.

The Board advised the veterinarian that they were unable to provide legal advice on the matter and recommended contacting the Department of Health for clarification on regulations concerning sample submission. Additionally, the Board suggested seeking independent legal counsel for further guidance on potential liabilities and responsibilities in this situation.

ii. **AAVSB – Annual Meeting and Conference Delegate Registration**

The AAVSB's Annual Meeting and Conference is scheduled for September 25-28, 2024, in San Diego. The AAVSB encourages Boards to designate Delegates for the event (one voting Delegate and one alternate) through the Delegate Funding Program.

The Board acknowledged that Dr. Logan currently serves on the AAVSB Finance

Committee and is automatically funded to attend the conference. Dr. Croman, having previously represented New Jersey as the voting Delegate, agreed to serve in this capacity again for the upcoming conference in San Diego.

Furthermore, the Board decided to select an Alternative Delegate during the May 29, 2024, Board meeting. Potential candidates for this role include Executive Director Turner.

iii. **North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) – Changes to NAVLE Testing Cycle**

The NAVLE testing cycle will transition from two to three testing windows each year, aimed at improving scheduling flexibility for candidates and addressing logistical challenges. The new cycle will feature shorter testing periods spread throughout the year. Benefits of the revised cycle include increased options for candidates, adjustments for schools and licensing boards, and mitigation of rescheduling issues.

The Board accepted this as informational.

iv. **North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) – Application Update**

Starting from the November-December 2024 NAVLE testing window, two key changes will be implemented in the ICVA NAVLE application process:

1. Candidates can opt not to specify a licensing board on their application, gaining approval through ICVA instead. They can later transfer their scores to their chosen board(s) via the AAVSB's VAULT process after passing the exam.
2. Once a candidate selects a licensing board on their ICVA application, it cannot be changed. However, if approval is not granted, a partial refund will be issued, and scores can be transferred through VAULT to another board.

These changes aim to streamline the application process, addressing candidate uncertainties and reducing administrative burdens on licensing boards. The revisions seek to provide clarity and efficiency for NAVLE candidates while preparing for the exam.

The Board accepted this as informational.

X. ORDERS FILED WITH THE BOARD:

None at this time.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

i. Michael Azzarello, New Jersey Veterinary Technicians and Assistants (NJVTA)

Mr. Azzarello had no comment, but noted his attendance at the NJVMA Veterinary Education Conference in Atlantic City, NJ, scheduled for May 18-19, 2024.

ii. Matthew Edson, Dean of Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine of Rowan University

Dean Edson thanked the Board for their efforts during the subcommittee meeting and anticipated continued collaboration.

iii. Rebecca Linke, VMD

Dr. Linke had no comment, but thanked the Board for their discussion regarding bat euthanasia and offered additional insights on the matter.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

The public portion of the meeting concluded at 11:20A.M.

Dr. Beeber made a motion, seconded by Dr. Adler, 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 May 29, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

Motion passed unanimously.