

**STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS
AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS**

**MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 2008**

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and AS 08.98.040, and in compliance with AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Board of Veterinary Examiners was held on February 1, 2008, at the Atwood Building, 550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1270, Anchorage, Alaska.

Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Steve Torrence, Chairperson, at 9:00 a.m.

Those present, constituting a quorum of the board, were:

Dr. Steve Torrence, Veterinarian, Chairperson
Dr. Timothy Bowser, Veterinarian,
Dr. Cynthia Trout, Veterinarian
Dr. David Hunt, Veterinarian

Members absent and excused:

Martin Buser, Public Member

In attendance from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development:

Brenda Donohue, Licensing Examiner – Juneau

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Agenda Item 1 Review Agenda

Dr. Torrence reviewed the agenda and asked for updates or additions.

Ms. Donohue noted the following additions to the agenda:

- Item #6, Correspondence
 Email from Sen. Green's office re: PAVE program
- Item #7, Public Comment
 Email from Harold Spalding, Vet #50
- Item #11 Application Review
 Rick Scherr, DVM, Veterinary Application
 CE Course Approval – CVC Group

Agenda Item 2 Review/Approve Minutes

The board reviewed the minutes of the October 12, 2007 meeting and noted the following corrections: page 3, line 4, correct "enquiring" to "inquiring"; page 7, line 3, correct "state's" to "states".

On a motion duly made by Dr. Bowser, seconded by Dr. Trout, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to approve the Oct. 12, 2007 minutes as corrected.

Agenda Item 3 Ethics Disclosure

There were no ethics violations to report from any board members. Ms. Donohue informed the Board there is new training being conducted for the new Ethics Law, and that she will keep them updated on when this training will be offered.

Agenda Item 4 Budget Report

Upon review of the budget it was noted that expenses for FY 2008 as of 1/16/08 are \$42.2 thousand, and revenues are \$10.9 thousand. 2007 was not a renewal year which accounts for the low revenues, which will pick-up during 2008 which is a renewal year. There is a carry-forward amount at the end of FY 2006 of \$45.5 thousand. The board had no corrections or further questions about the budget.

Agenda Item 5 Investigative Report

JoAnna Williamson, Investigator will join the meeting at 9:45 a.m. to present the Investigative Report. In the meantime the Board reviewed the Stipulated Agreement in Case 3100-07-007. This is a continuing education compliance case

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Following review and discussion the board took the following action on Case #3100-07-007.

On a motion duly made by Dr. Hunt, seconded by Dr. Trout, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to not approve the “Astrobiology Laboratory Institute for Instructors” course, offered July 17-22, 2005 for 40 CEs; to accept 6 continuing education hours for “Update on Nephrology/Urology” presented 4/15/07, and 4 continuing education hours of the total 19.5 CEs for the “2007 Alaska Veterinary Medical Association Annual Continuing Education Symposium, presented Oct. 5-7, 2007, to fulfill the 10 CEs required for renewal, and to adopt the Stipulated Agreement in Case 3100-07-007. These 10 CEs are not available for the 2007-2008 renewal cycle.

For the record, the licensee in case #3100-07-007 is Susan M. Dent, DVM, holding Alaska Veterinary License #251.

JoAnna Williamson joined the meeting to present the Investigative Report.

Ms. Williamson reported there are currently ten (10) open investigations, one (1) case has been closed since the last meeting, two (2) open complaints, two (2) complaints closed since the meeting, and one pending MOA, awaiting more information from the respondent. The Board wanted to discuss one of the open cases further, and determined to enter executive session.

On a motion duly made by Dr. Bowser, seconded by Dr. Trout and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to enter executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)(2) and (3), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of reviewing an investigative case with the Investigator.

Entered into executive session at 9:53 a.m.
Out of executive session at 10:08 a.m.

Following discussion of the report, Dr. Torrence thanked Ms. Williamson for her report and she left the meeting.

The default judgment noted on the Agenda is not ready to be presented to the Board at this time.

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Recess

**The board recessed at 10:08 a.m.;
reconvened at 10:22 a.m.**

Agenda Item 6 Correspondence

The board reviewed the following correspondence presented.

Kim Johner – Letter from Ms. Johner asking if the Alaska Board is working toward recognition of the PAVE program. Following discussion, the Board noted they may consider the PAVE program in the future, but as it will require a statute change, they are not currently working on it. The legislation that is currently before the Legislature is of the highest priority for the Board, and once those changes have been accomplished they will review the issue of accepting PAVE.

Dr. Hunt will contact AAVSB to arrange to have a representative attend an upcoming Board meeting to make a presentation on PAVE. Ms. Donohue will respond to Ms. Johner with the Board's position.

In conjunction with this correspondence, Ms. Donohue provided a copy of email correspondence from Janey Wineinger of Senator Lyda Green's office. Ms. Johner had contacted Sen. Green office with the same request she sent to the Board, and Sen. Green was wondering if the Board has any concerns or plans on supporting changes to the licensing for Veterinarians. Ms. Wineinger indicated that she felt Sen. Green would be supportive of changes the Board would be interested in pursuing, when the Board was ready to do so. Information only – no response necessary.

Agenda Item 7 Public Comment

There were no public members present. However, Dr. Torrence read into the record an email from Harold Spaulding, Veterinarian.

“Greetings. Was planning on attending this meeting but due to medical problem unable to attend.

Several issues I would like to comment on. We have two special interest groups trying to modify “our” practice act: Alaska Sealife Center and foreign graduates who cannot pass or will not take an AVMA approved exam. That is their problem. We in no way should be lowering “our” standards to accept exceptions. The PAVE exam is not AVMA accredited. The AVMA exam is considered the “gold standard” throughout the world. PAVE is accepted by only 25 jurisdictions throughout the world. St. Georges and Ross

Universities need to upgrade their programs to comply with AVMA standards like the other 20 or so North American Colleges of Veterinary Medicine have done. No more exceptions.

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Please read into public comment as I will be unable to attend.
Harold Spalding, DVM”

Dr. Bowser remarked that he agrees that the Board shouldn't lower its standards for licensing and the Board will take Dr. Spalding's remarks into consideration. He understands Dr. Spalding's concerns that AVMA has been the standard.

In order for an applicant to obtain an Alaska Veterinary license they must have passed the NAVLE and either have graduated from an AVMA accredited school, or passed the ECVFG program if they graduated from a foreign school. We continue to use the AVMA as a standard.

Dr. Torrence remarked that he is unaware of any legislation addressing changes for applicants who are foreign graduates.

Dr. Bowser and Dr. Torrence remarked that the current legislation provides for an exemption for a veterinarian licensed and residing in another jurisdiction who provides assistance, as requested by and under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed in this state, for the purpose of providing skills not otherwise available in this state in conducting research or other practice of veterinary medicine on captive or free-ranging wildlife. However, that assistance is limited to not more than three events in a calendar year for not more than a total of 60 days in the year, and may not be on a regular or recurring basis. Dr. Torrence remarked that he feels this legislation improves the care provided for research projects.

The current legislation provides for student permits for 4th year college students to participate in externships in Alaska, under the supervision of an Alaska licensed Veterinarian; expands and clarifies the list of exemptions from licensure; and updates the list of definitions. The Board feels these changes are necessary in order to maintain minimum standards for licensure and to practice the best veterinary medicine today, using all the technology that has been developed since the Practice Act was last updated.

The board has some concern that graduates of some AVMA accredited schools hold a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree, not a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. Dr. Torrence and Dr. Bowser will research AVMA accreditation standards for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree to determine if the Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree is equivalent. The Board wants to assure there is no loophole in state licensing laws that allows doctor level licensing be issued to applicants with less than equivalent training.

Dr. Bowser reported that Dr. Nelson Priddy, President of the AKVMA, would be unable to personally attend the board meeting due to a work conflict. He planned on having

other representation of the AKVMA at the public comment time. Since nobody appeared for public comment, Dr. Bowser suggested that we contact Dr. Priddy by telephone as

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time allowed during the day.

Recess

The board recessed at 10:58 a.m.;
reconvened at 11:09 a.m.

Agenda Item 8 Goals & Objectives

The board reviewed the Goals and Objectives for FY 2008 and noted they are on track. The wording in #8 is changed to “may” from “will”. No new items were added to the list.

The Board determined to go into Executive Session to discuss changes to the Jurisprudence Exam.

On a motion duly made by Dr. Trout, seconded by Dr. Bowser and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to enter executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)(2) and (3), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of reviewing and updating the Board’s Jurisprudence Exam.

Entered into executive session at 11:14 a.m.
Out of executive session at 12:05 p.m.

LUNCH

Off record at 12:05 p.m.
Back on record at 1:26 p.m.

Agenda Item 8 Public Comment

Dr. Bowser reported his conversation with Dr. Nelson Priddy, President of the AK Veterinary Medical Association. Dr. Priddy stated he feels the practice of veterinary medicine should be limited to individuals with formal veterinary training and credentials noting that accomplishment. He further stated the practice of veterinary medicine should exclude anyone other than a licensed veterinarian. It is not in the best interest of patient care to have other people working on animals.

He is also concerned that alternative and complementary practices such as acupuncture and chiropractic should not be practiced by other than a licensed and trained veterinarian as they are potentially dangerous to patients and clients otherwise.

He is very supportive of the current legislation.

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Agenda Item 10 Practice Act Legislation Review

The Board reviewed HB297 and SB 250. Dr. Torrence advised that he has been at the Capitol to testify for the bill, and welcomes any support and time the other board members are able to devote to this effort, either in person or by teleconference.

The definition for Complementary and Alternative veterinary medicine is not in the current legislation because the sponsor felt that was an element that could mire the bill in controversy. The current definition of “practice of veterinary medicine” encompasses these practices as only being allowed to be performed by a licensed veterinarian. The board feels it is important to more specifically define these practices, as they are becoming more common, but not at the expense of slowing the progress of the current legislation. Dr. Hunt noted that requiring student permits, defining consultants and updating the list of exemptions are elements that shouldn’t be dropped from the legislation.

Recess

The board recessed at 1:47 p.m.;
reconvened at 1:49 p.m.

Agenda Item 11 Application Review

The Board reviewed the application files for Courtesy Veterinary license for the Iditarod 2008 Sled Dog Race.

On a motion duly made by Dr. Trout, seconded by Dr. Bowser, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to approve the following applications for Courtesy Veterinary License for the 2008 Iditarod Race:

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Belinda Abbott | Randy Basaraba | Michael Yacapraro |
| H. Dean Bauman | Rachel Bergman | Steve Bowen |
| James Brick | John Calhoun | Glenn Cantor |
| Veronica Devall | Mike Gascoigne | Vincent Gresham |
| Samantha Yeltatzie | Kobi Johnson | Julie Kittams |
| Justine Lee | Janiene Licciardi | Michael Lindeen |
| Maureen Loughlin | Douglas Marks | Caroline Murray |
| Vern Otte | David Palmini | John Reichart |
| Dawn Ruben | Carl Rogge | William Sampson |
| Carolyn Scharer | George Stroberg | Ron Svec |

**Alan Taylor
Roger Troutman
Jennifer Wells
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**Gayle Tate
Jerome Vanek
Denise Wilson**

**Al Townshend
Michael Walker**

On a motion duly made by Dr. Hunt, seconded by Dr. Bowser, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to approve Dennis Griffin's application for Courtesy Veterinary License for the 2008 Iditarod pending receipt of current license verification verifying no license actions from a jurisdiction where he holds a current license.

On a motion duly made by Dr. Torrence, seconded by Dr. Trout, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to deny Dana King's application for Courtesy Veterinary License for the 2008 Iditarod in accordance with AS 08.98.235 and 12 AAC 68.041 for license actions on his Ohio license, and for failing to disclose this information on his application as required by the statement "I am not omitting any information which might be of value to this board in determining my qualifications and character, whether it is called for or not."

On a motion duly made by Dr. Bowser, seconded by Dr. Hunt, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to approve the application for Courtesy Veterinary License for the 2008 Iditarod Race for Markus Barth.

On a motion duly made by Dr. Trout, seconded by Dr. Bowser, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to deny Jay Butan's application for Courtesy Veterinary License for the 2008 Iditarod in accordance with AS 08.98.235 and 12 AAC 68.041 for license actions on his Florida license, and for failing to disclose this information on his application as required by the statement "I am not omitting any information which might be of value to this board in determining my qualifications and character, whether it is called for or not."

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On a motion duly made by Dr. Hunt, seconded by Dr. Bowser, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to deny Katrina Jackson's application for Courtesy Veterinary License for the 2008 Iditarod in accordance with 12 AAC 68.041 for license actions on her Pennsylvania license, which resulted in suspension of that license, and for failing to disclose this information on her application as required by the statement "I am not omitting any information which might be of value to this board in determining my qualifications and character, whether it is called for or not."

Dr. Torrence read into the record the Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians licensed by mail ballot during calendar year 2007

On a motion duly made by Dr. Trout, seconded by Dr. Hunt, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to approve the following applicants, licensed as Veterinarians, in accordance with approved Mail Ballots:

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|----------|
| KAREN HIGGS | VET 561 | 1/4/07 |
| REBECCA WALKER | VET 562 | 1/4/07 |
| MATTHEW WEGNER | VET 563 | 2/8/07 |
| SHANNON KESTING | VET 564 | 4/23/07 |
| CHRISTINA KILBY | VET 565 | 5/3/07 |
| LINDSAY WINGERTER | VET 566 | 5/30/07 |
| SARAH YOUNG | VET 567 | 6/1/07 |
| SHAWNA WISHART | VET 568 | 6/14/07 |
| MARGARET DEGRAVELLES | VET 569 | 6/25/07 |
| RICHARD MAGLIULA | VET 570 | 7/10/07 |
| CHRISTINA HANSEN | VET 571 | 7/10/07 |
| JAMES BAILEY | VET 572 | 7/20/07 |
| KEVIN HATTEN | VET 573 | 7/20/07 |
| MARY HUHDORFG | VET 574 | 7/25/07 |
| CYNTHIA COLLINS | VET 575 | 8/10/07 |
| MARNA HALL | VET 576 | 9/5/07 |
| KATRINA ZWOLINSKI | VET 577 | 11/19/07 |
| JOHN SYKES | VET 578 | 11/20/07 |

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On a motion duly made by Dr. Bowser, seconded by Dr. Trout, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to approve the following applicants, licensed as Veterinary Technicians, in accordance with approved Mail Ballots:

| | | |
|------------------|-----|----------|
| HOLLY CLOUD | 221 | 3/7/07 |
| NORA WORTHINGTON | 222 | 3/7/07 |
| MARION DUNN | 223 | 4/5/07 |
| SARA RINGGENBERG | 224 | 4/24/07 |
| SARA THORSRUD | 225 | 5/10/07 |
| HILLARY PFANNER | 226 | 7/25/07 |
| ROBERT BECKMAN | 227 | 8/08/07 |
| JILL BISIGNANI | 228 | 8/22/07 |
| MOLLY MEADER | 229 | 8/24/07 |
| LESLIE BERTA | 230 | 8/29/07 |
| LYNDA LEPPERT | 231 | 11/27/07 |

Following review of the application file for Continuing Education courses the board approved the following course:

On a motion duly made by Dr. Torrence, seconded by Dr. Hunt, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to approve 32.75 continuing education hours for Veterinarians and 28.75 continuing education hours for veterinary technicians for “2008 Continuing Education Offering Outline”, sponsored by CVC Group, presented on various dates in 2008. No Exhibit Hall hours are approved.

Following review of a request from Jennifer Coffey asking for approval of three University of Alaska-Anchorage courses, the board took the following action:

On a motion duly made by Dr. Hunt, seconded by Dr. Bowser, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to approve 60.0 continuing education hours for each of the following University of Alaska-Anchorage courses: Biology A415 Comparative Animal Physiology; Biology A425 Mammalogy; and Comparative Anatomy of Vertebrates.

Following review of the application file for Rick Scherr, DVM, applying for Veterinary license by credentials, the board approved Dr. Scherr for licensure.

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On a motion duly made by Dr. Bowser, seconded by Dr. Trout, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to approve the application of Rich Scherr, DVM for Veterinary license by credentials.

Agenda Item 12 New/Old Business

There was no new or old business.

Agenda Item 13 Office Business

- Travel Authorizations

The board reviewed, signed and submitted all available receipts for Travel Authorizations.

- Sign Wall Certificate

There were no wall certificates.

- Confirm Next Meeting Date

May 16, 2008
Sitka, Alaska

- Sign Minutes

Ms. Donohue will obtain Dr. Torrence's signature on the corrected minutes of the Oct. 12, 2007 meeting.

Agenda Item 14

There being no further business Dr. Torrence called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On a motion duly made by Dr. Trout, seconded by Dr. Hunt and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Veterinary Examiners.

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The board adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda Donohue, Licensing Examiner

Approved:

Steve Torrence, DVM, Chairperson
Alaska State Board of Veterinary Examiners

Date: _____

Task List

Dr. Steve Torrence:

Research DVM/BVS equivalency

Dr. Cynthia Trout

Dr. Timothy Bowser

Research DVM/BVS equivalency

Dr. David Hunt

Arrange for AAVSB representative to come to a Board meeting and do a presentation on the PAVE

Martin Buser

Brenda Donohue

Pass on to Board changes in other states' Practice Acts.
Update Jurisprudence Exam