



Board of Veterinary Examiners

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
October 3rd, 2024, at 9:00 AM AKST via Zoom

These minutes were approved at the February 14th, 2025 meeting of the board.

Members Present: Rachel Bergartt, DVM, Chair; Denise Albert, DVM; Hal Geiger, PhD; Ciara Vollaro, DVM; Sarah Johnson, DVM

Staff Present: Tami Bowman, Occupational Licensing Examiner; Rachel Billet, Program Coordinator 1; Reid Bowman, Program Coordinator II; Sara Chambers, Boards and Regulations Advisor;

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Chair Bergartt and a quorum was established; she then read the board's mission statement onto the record. When asked if any members had any ethics violations to disclose, Dr. Albert stated she would like to recuse herself from any discussion regarding agenda item 10(H) where it relates to going into executive session to discuss Kentucky Veterinary Board allegations. She was assured that board conversation would be limited to what has been publicly communicated unless something comes up requiring discussion that falls under one of the reasons to go into executive session as defined by statute. Chair Bergartt disclosed that she attended the AKVMA conference and spoke with several licensees about different topics, and her conversation with Dr. Montalbano is the only concerning discussion she had a there is a possibility that UAA will not receive accreditation for this first cohort of veterinary technicians, and she asked whether the board might consider the mentoring hours of students to count for hours as being "employed" by a veterinarian in furtherance of the alternate pathway. Further discussion on the matter to take place later in the meeting.

Introductions with new board member Dr. Sarah Johnson

The board was introduced to their newest board member, Dr. Sarah Johnson DVM, who fills the previously vacant 5th seat on the board. She has been practicing for about 10 years, 7 of which have been in Alaska. She's worked in private practice, shelter practice, and now owns her own mobile practice while providing relief to some emergency clinics.

Agenda

After discussion the board decided to remove agenda item 10(H) to avoid accidentally discussing confidential matters on the record. Since Dr. Beth Venit with the AAVSB was on the line the board also wished to move the recap of the 2024 AAVSB meeting up to take

place after the division update to accommodate her and allow for her input. Lastly, as Dr. Johnson must leave early, the board moved the discussion of their next meeting date up to take place after the VCPR discussion so that she may be included in the decision.

Motion by Dr. Geiger to approve the agenda with discussed changes. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

Motion by Dr. Vollaro to approve the minutes from June 20th, 2024, with the changes submitted to staff. Seconded by Dr. Geiger. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

Motion by Dr. Geiger to approve the minutes from September 9th, 2024, with the changes submitted to staff. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

Investigations

Investigative Report presented by Jennifer Summers

Jennifer Summers presented the Investigative report for the period of June 8th, 2024, through September 25th, 2024. She informed the board that their previous investigator Dawn Bundick has retired, and their new investigator Roger Rouse will be starting next week. There are 22 cases open, 3 of which were veterinary techs. 3 cases were closed via license actions, all involving continuing education violations. Jennifer stated that she is in the process of going through cases that were sent out and then went back to Dawn and fell through the cracks. As she finds them, she will be sending new DocuSign approvals out to reviewing board members to update records. The board wished to formally commend Dawn on the record for her time with the division.

Division Update

Licensing Report

i. Examiner Update

Ms. Bowman presented her licensing report.

License Issued:	FY2023	FY2024	7/1/24 to date	In Process:
Veterinarians	40	33	5	4
Veterinary Techs	15	28	9	11
Courtesy	54	57	3	0
Student Permits*	30	24	10	0
Temporary Permits*	11	8	6	0
Temporary Licenses	1	3	0	0

Ms. Bowman reported that most licensees in process are waiting for the next testing window, so actual applications have not yet been received. The updated sponsorship form for the student permit application has been published and makes it simpler to identify who the sponsor and supervisor is for the applicant, if they differ. She stated that with the Iditarod and other races fast approaching she has reached out to the Iditarod and Nina Hansen in preparation for those applications. As Dr. Stewart Nelson recently passed away there is some uncertainty as to who the head veterinarian for the Iditarod this year is, but she will work with Joanne Potts to determine a plan forward. Dr. Albert has a close connection with the Iditarod and will see if she can find out who is in charge this year now, but there is an expectation that Dr. Stewart's sudden passing may result in some delays as everyone tries to reorganize and grieve.

She informed the board that she has already received one request for the renewal application for the upcoming renewal period, but they are not available yet. Program Coordinator Rachel Billiet provided an update that she has received the finalized forms from the publication team and will be reviewing them soon. She is expecting availability within 2 weeks or so.

AAVSB Annual Meeting and Conference Recap (moved for discussion with Dr. Beth Venit on the line).

Presenters: Denise Albert, Hal Geiger

Topics of interest from the AAVSB Annual Meeting and Conference attended by Dr. Albert and Dr. Geiger in September:

- AAVSB has a working group established regarding AI in Veterinary Medicine to determine how to move forward.
- The importance of member boards reminding themselves that they are evaluating applicants and licensees based on *minimum competency*. Important to consider during investigations as well.
- Instead of establishing a new position in veterinary medicine similar to a physician's assistant, there is now discussion of expanding the role of what a veterinary technician can do with the goal of enhancing responsibilities. Some responsibilities suggested were cat neuters and small needle aspirates.
- Dr. Albert reported that Canada regulates the full medical record, and that this may be prudent to the boards later discussion regarding revisions to their own medical record regulations.
- A court case out of Texas regarding VCPR/telemedicine in which the defendant was found to be participating in free speech and *not* VCPR related conduct.
- Concern regarding residual drugs in landfills as it has come to light that there are no federally approved liquid disposal jars available for liquid drugs.

- How cognitive decline in human medicine is being handled and how that relates to veterinary medicine, including how to self-regulate.
- The importance of having a veterinary technician seat on member boards. Without one, boards are regulating a profession that doesn't have a seat at the table or a voice on the board. Dr. Albert thinks it was more than half of the boards across the nation have a veterinary technician seat.
- Decline of veterinary practice in foreign countries. A foreign panel reported that six corporations own all practices in Great Britain, and there have been negative effects on funding for schools following Brexit. Italy dropped from an estimated 12,000 veterinarians to 4,000 during COVID.
- RACE committee did not meet but is planning a rewrite for some of their guidelines.
- Dr. Beth Venit presented on the Safe Haven Project, which aims to get providers with substance abuse disorders into some kind of help as opposed to sanctioning their license. The board wishes to hear more from Dr. Venit on this topic – staff will reach out to her to schedule time on the next agenda. Some information on the project can be found on the AAVSB website.

Both Dr. Albert and Dr. Geiger said they were told that presentations at the conference were recorded and would be available to view. Ms. Billiet will reach out to Dr. Venit about this.

Regulations

Review changes from LAW - VCPR Regulations

At the discretion of the chair, the VCPR discussion was pulled from the agenda just before the meeting started since the board had not yet been provided a new draft of the regulations following a meeting that Chair Bergartt had with AAG Patty Burley, Sara Chambers, Alison Osborne, and Rachel Billiet earlier that week. Since AAG Burley joined the call at the originally scheduled time, the board chose to hear the ideas she's proposing.

There was discussion between the board and LAW as to how much authority a veterinarian would have under an absent veterinarian's VCPR in regards prescribing medicine. The board clarified that they want to grant full authority to the covering provider, as their overall intention is that a veterinarian licensed in the state of Alaska that has access to the patient's medical records can treat the animal under the definition of the practice of veterinary medicine in Sec 08.98.250(6). An example was provided using human medicine where a patient who needs a prescription refill can have that refill sent in by a different provider if their provider is out, which helped clarify the intent of the board with these regulations, with the distinction that the board means *any veterinarian* in the state with access to the patient records, not just a veterinarian in the same practice.

The board and LAW were able to clear up the long-standing confusion as to whether the board wishes to mandate a VCPR or not. The board clarified that yes, they want a mandated VCPR to practice veterinary medicine with named exceptions, including that the VCPR extends to a veterinarian holding a license or permit under AS 08.98 with access to the patients records, but that language keeps getting removed in the LRLR review. The board does not wish to consider every possible scenario in which a veterinarian may need to have a patient come in and establish their own VCPR, they want to extend the VCPR to every licensed veterinarian with access to the records knowing that there will be times when some veterinary discretion will need to take place. The VCPR doesn't transfer in the sense that a NEW VCPR is created – it is an extension or an umbrella of the original veterinarians VCPR to the subbing veterinarian allowing them to prescribe/treat/etc. It's not their "own" VCPR, it is an exception to establishing their own VCPR where it makes sense. The goal is to create clear regulations that allow for professional judgement.

AAG Burley brought up the issue of word choice here, as carveout/transfer/umbrella have different legal interpretations and concepts. VCPR's have legal requirements, so if a veterinarian is working under an "umbrella", what regulations also transfer and for how long? Using exception/ carveout, these questions don't apply. To remedy this there was discussion about saying in the instance of a subbing veterinarian a VCPR isn't necessary, but that isn't possible due to federal guidelines. Board clarified that a veterinarians VCPR expires after 12 months, and since the subbing veterinarian does not have their own, they could not see the patient after original veterinarian's VCPR ends. If they had to physically see the patient for any reason, that would establish a new VCPR *only* for the subbing veterinarian.

The board gave their new member Dr. Johnson permission to abstain from the conversation if she chose to, given the extensive years long history of this topic on the board. Chair Bergartt noted that we were nearing the time when Dr. Johnson needed to leave, so she asked that the topic of regulations pause for now so that they could move on to choosing their next meeting date.

Set next meeting date

February 13th and 14th, 2025 in Juneau to discuss legislative needs and meet with elected officials.

i. Special Meeting Date

November 8th at 11 am for 4 hours to review a new VCPR regulations draft and the tabled application review for R.R.

Break

Board went off the record at 11:20 am. Returned on the record at 11:31 am. Dr. Johnson left the meeting at this time; a quorum was maintained.

AAG Burley was still on the line when the board returned from lunch, but stated she did not need anything further from the board and had what she needed to create a new VCPR regulations draft.

Review changes from Regulation Specialist - non-scientific to non-medical CE Regulations

Motion by Dr. Geiger to adopt 12 AAC 68.230(b). Seconded by Dr. Albert. **Discussion to follow prior to voting.**

The board reviewed the revisions to the proposed edits to 12 AAC 68.230(b) from Regulations Specialist Alison Osborne. They agreed that the revisions contained all the original language that the board came up with but suggested that sections be moved around so that all medical CE language is first, and all non-medical CE language is second. After Ms. Osborne makes her edits the board is okay with being sent just the first revised version and the newly revised version for review, the original language they submitted is not necessary.

Motion amended by Dr. Geiger to adopt 12 AAC 68.230(b) with the changes discussed on record being sent by Alison Osborne. Seconded by Dr. Albert. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

Chair Bergartt asked if the board would like to continue regulation discussion at this time and table for a future meeting date. The board opted to continue discussion for the time being as to not overcrowd the agenda for their special meeting on November 8th.

Conceptual Regulations Changes

i. Maintenance of Medical Records

The board discussed how they want to rewrite 12 ACC 68.910 using a draft created by Dr. Vollaro earlier this year. How detailed they want this regulation has been an ongoing struggle, but Dr. Vollaro reported that she did some independent research and found that what has been drafted so far is like what other states have come up, with the acknowledgement that the board has the unique task of figuring out how to write these regulations in a way that supports sled dogs.

Discussion was had as to whether putting sled dogs into a “herd health” or “performance animals” category was a possible solution, and members stressed the importance of making a carveout for sled dogs that ensures professional competence is adhered to in the medical record. There were some concerns with this proposed terminology since animals *typically* defined as herds or performance animals could be deemed as pets in some situations, and it may be prudent to leave it to the veterinarian to determine when an animal group exists.

Discussion on animal groupings came up regarding how record keeping for anesthesia is written in the draft as it currently reads too dog centric and needs to be reworded to be applicable to all animals in the veterinarians care. Members also believe the subsection on changing a medical record needs to be expanded on to include a clear pathway to legally changing a record when necessary.

Chair Bergartt stated that she believes enough discussion has taken place at this point that they have established a better understanding of what the board wants to see in these regulations and asked that Dr. Albert and Dr. Vollaro create a subcommittee to do a rewrite for review at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

Motion by Dr. Geiger to create a subcommittee to work on the language for revisions to 12 AAC 68.910. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed by unanimous consent**

Lunch Break

Board went off the record for a brief lunch at 12:15 pm. Returned on the record at 12:30 pm. A quorum was maintained.

As the board jumped to what would be agenda item 7 to respect the time of those on the line for the scheduled public comment period.

Public Comment

Dr. Venit from AAVSB joined to clarify a point from the earlier AAVSB meeting recap by board members. She stated that the AAVSB is not actively supporting veterinary technicians to perform cat neuters, but that overall, they are hearing more support for than against. As far the education session on Friday and Saturday afternoon, these were recorded and will be available in a few weeks for viewing, but not the DEA presentation. She reported that currently 36 out of 63 AAVSB member boards have a veterinary technician on their board. She also said the earlier mentioned AI guidance should be coming out sometime in Q1 or Q2 next year to point out ways that using AI tools can fall under veterinary practice.

No other members of the public wished to speak.

Sometime after the public comment period, Dr. McKayla Dick texted Chair Bergartt that she had trouble connecting during public comment but wanted to express on the record that the AKVMA has the same VCPR concerns that the board had expressed, and the AKVMA thanks for the board for their diligence.

At the conclusion of public comment, the board resumed their regulations discussion.

ii. Other changes recommended by licensing examiner and board chair

12 AAC 68.080 and 12 AAC 68.140 – Changes to both 12 AAC 68.080 and 68.140 were drafted by Dr. Vollaro as the board discussed a long time ago the lack of emergency services in the State as well as concerns with the treatment of patients regulation, so she made these proposed changes while working the medical records regulations. There was a question why livestock is partially exempt in both drafted regulations, and Dr. Vollaro said she likely included this wording as it was present in the regulations for several other states. The board also feels that client or client's agent should be used as opposed to owner, to be consistent. The board was largely in favor of the proposed changes to the treatment of patients regulations as they will be extremely helpful in terms of investigations so a record will leave nothing to question. Chair Bergartt asked the earlier established subcommittee also work on 12 AAC 68.080 and 140.

Dr. Vollaro walked the board through the changes to the emergency medicine regulations, especially since she has worked in emergency offices in Anchorage and the Valley. The goal is to answer the question of what the public does in an emergency regarding the care of their pet, while also ensuring that an obligation isn't being made that a solo practitioner is required to be in an emergency environment for x amount of time. Did the practitioner meet the reasonable burden of being available or not available? What differences, if any, exist for emergencies in remote areas? Care of the public is the best option, and, in an emergency, they should have an idea as to where they can seek help. A veterinarian has the responsibility to establish a method of which services are available in case of an emergency.

12 AAC 68.040 – The licensing examiner recommended this regulation be repealed since applicants no longer apply to take the NAVLE through the division.

Motion by Dr. Albert to repeal 12 AAC 68.040. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

12 AAC 68.041(e) – The licensing examiner recommended the language regarding obtaining a notary for a verification of license (VOL) be removed as it is not a notaries job to determine the validity of a VOL.

Motion by Dr. Albert to strike language in 12 AAC 68.041(e) beginning with the word notwithstanding and ending with the word jurisdiction. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

12 AAC 68.045(3) and 12 AAC 68.046(3) – The licensing examiner recommended the language regarding obtaining a notary for a transcript be removed for both regulations as it is not a notaries job to determine the validity of a transcript.

Motion by Dr. Albert to strike the language in 12 AAC 68.045(a)(3) “a notarized copy for the applicant’s veterinary school diploma from and accredited veterinary school,”. Seconded by Dr Vollaro. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

Motion by Dr. Albert to strike the language in 12 AAC 68.046(a)(3) “a notarized copy for the applicant’s veterinary school diploma from and accredited veterinary school,”. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

Following these motions the board jumped to what would be agenda item 8 Conceptual Statute Changes to respect the time of Deputy Director Glenn Saviers on the line for the discussion.

Conceptual Statute Changes

Recommendation to Division for Euthanasia Statutes and Regulations

Presenter: Glenn Saviers

Deputy Director Glenn Saviers attended the meeting to assist in the board discussion regarding their possible involvement with the EUT program, whether that be through recommendations to the division or adopting their own changes in statute or regulation to gain some authority.

Ms. Saviers said the division would love any recommendations to changes to current regulations as the division does currently have the authority, but that statute changes might be a hard sell as a state licensing board would be overseeing government entities as it is not individuals being permitted to administer euthanasia, it is a government agency being permitted and then it is the agencies responsibility to ensure their employees providing services have the required training to do so. Since the courses defined in statute that are accepted for permitting are not available anymore, the division has created a workaround that is outside what the statute specifies. Current language on the website in bold below. The board expressed concern that the Florida course is entirely online if only part 1 is completed, and they’d like the division to clarify on the website that parts 1 and 2 of the course must be completed. Ms. Saviers will submit the website change request and Ms. Billiet will notify the board when the

website has been updated.

Due to these changes since the statute was put into place, the division has determined the following certification courses will still qualify under the intent of AS 08.02.050(a)(2):

- **Completion of a euthanasia technician certification course recommended by the National Animal Care and Control Association;**
- **Training under an individual who held certification as a trainer by the Humane Society of the United States when those certifications were still offered; or**
- **Completion of the University of Florida’s Euthanasia by Injection course, which has been recommended as an acceptable standard by the National Animal Care and Control Association and the Humane Society of the United States.**

Statute changes are needed, but Ms. Saviers clarified that clean ups are notoriously difficult to get changed at the legislative level. Chair Bergartt explained she has been working with Representative Ruffridge and the Board of Pharmacy to do a big bill including several healthcare related changes and suggested including EUT changes in that might be more attractive to the legislature. It was suggested that the board could take the whole program under, determine the courses and education required for the permits, and in the meantime suggest to the division any current regulation changes that would be helpful.

Another issue with the current statute that has been identified by the board is that it points to only two specific drugs that can be used to euthanize animals, and “other drugs as specified in regulation”, but no such regulations exist. The board discussed whether there is a reason that only the two specific drugs are referred to in statute, but they are not presently aware of what that reason could be. Sedation can be a huge part of humane euthanasia, and without regulation allowing the use of sedation drugs they cannot be used in the euthanasia procedure. The board believes that just because a surgery can be performed that without involving agents that make it easier on an animal, it doesn’t mean that should be the accepted practice. The board recognizes that if they choose to specify additional drugs, they will need to proceed with caution as any drug deemed a controlled substance would then require registration with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), and they will need to research how permit holders can meet this requirement. The board would like to hear what providers are seeing and if they have complaints regarding the inability to use additional drugs and understand that they may need to explore laws at the municipal level since the division doesn’t permit specific people – they permit agencies. Licensing examiner Tami Bowman added that only 27 permits have ever been issued, so there likely isn’t a lot of room for complaints. There are currently maybe 15 or so active, with 4 being issued by Ms. Bowman in her years with the program.

Overall board temperature is that more investigation is needed to make an informed decision on how to proceed. They would like to get an answer as to whether those performing the procedures think there is a need for pre-medication. Is there a usefulness / do they want the responsibility? Dr. Albert and Dr. Vollaro will draft questions they have for agencies providing euthanasia and read them on the record at the next meeting, after which board staff will seek out permit holders to invite to the following meeting to answer questions.

08.98.180 Temporary License

The board determined that statute 08.98.180 needs to be changed to say “results of the examination” instead of “results of the examinations” since only one national examination is required now.

Other changes recommended by licensing examiner and board chair

08.98.150 – The licensing examiner recommended that this statute be repealed entirely as it was created when the division offered exams and required them to be proctored, which is no longer the case.

08.98.160 – The licensing examiner recommended that this statute be repealed entirely as the division is no longer administering the exam or requiring a fee.

08.98.010 – Board members discussed adding a veterinary technician seat to the board by either making one of the veterinarian seats on the board a veterinary technician, adding one seat, or adding two. Adding one seat isn’t ideal because it creates an even numbered board, which Ms. Saviers confirmed is something the division tries to avoid. Ultimately, the board wants the option of a technician seat regardless of how many members are on the board. They’d rather have the board be the same size with a flex spot, using “may” so that the seat could be a technician *or* a veterinarian, but the overall goal is to gain legislative approval regardless of where the board size goes.

Ms. Saviers added at the end of the discussion that she may be coming to the board with another statute change when it comes to veterinary licensing that will take some specificity out of statute and putting it in regulation, but that will come at a later date.

Break

Board went off the record at 2:32 pm. Returned on the record at 2:45 pm. A quorum was maintained.

The board resumed their discussion of 5(D)(ii) Other (regulation) changes recommended by licensing examiner and board chair.

12 AAC 68.330(d)(2) – There was a regulation change done earlier in the year to allow veterinary technicians supervised as opposed to employed by veterinarians to perform certain services, but based on 12 AAC 68.330(a)(2) the technician must be an employee, so Chair Bergartt is suggesting the board add “unless exempt under (d)(2)” to clear up the contradictory language. The board agrees to the need for an exemption as there may be an occasion where a technician wants to donate their time and may work under the supervision of a veterinarian as opposed to being employed by them, and that’s a service the board wishes to support.

Dr. Vollaro brought up that the scope of practice for veterinary technicians has been discussed in several clinics that she has worked in, and it is likely that this topic needs to be explored more in depth if the board is going to proceed with regulating technicians more – RE: the addition of a jurisprudence examination, adding a technician member to the board, etc.

12 AAC 68.330(1) - Another conflict like the above; employed vs. supervised. The board discussed whether they should revamp the technician regulations entirely at this time or wait until they have a technician seat on the board and just proceed with these smaller changes being discussed. It was ultimately decided that the glaring contradictions should be dealt with immediately, and over the longer term the board will look at updating the overall scope of practice regulation for technicians and do more of a deep dive.

12 AAC 68.310(b)(4)(B) – As mentioned at the top of the meeting. Chair Bergartt has a discussion with Dr. Montalbano at the AKVMA meeting regarding the accreditation status of the UAA Veterinary Technician Program. Dr. Montalbano reported that they do not yet know their accreditation status and won’t until at least March of 2026. If the program is not granted accreditation, Chair Bergartt proposed to the board that they consider amending 12 AAC 68.310(b)(4)(B) to allow the hours students in the current cohort gain from their schooling be accepted as employment hours so that they can apply the hours towards the 700 required if applying for a veterinary technician license via on-the-job training. She confirmed that the hours are being gained through a bona fide preceptorship – students are actively performing technician duties under the mentorship of a licensed supervising veterinarian; they are not classroom or lab hours. After some discussion, Chair Bergartt withdrew her request for the time being to research how to allow these students to use their hours while also safeguarding against people who volunteer casually at their local veterinary office that might then wish to apply their hours to an on-the-job training license. She will provide an update at the next

regularly scheduled board meeting.

Board went off the record at 3:15 pm. Returned on the record at 3:29 pm. A quorum was maintained.

Motion by Dr. Vollaro to amend 12 AAC 68.300(a)(2) to read as “the employee of a veterinarian licensed under AS 08.98, unless exempt under 12 AAC 68.300(d)(2).”
Seconded by Dr. Albert. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

Motion by Dr. Vollaro to amend 12 AAC 68.330(1) to read as “practicing or offering to practice as a veterinary technician without being employed and supervised by a licensed veterinarian, unless exempt under 12 AAC 68.300(d)(2).” Seconded by Dr. Albert.
Passed by unanimous consent.

After the motions were made there was some confusion amongst members that thought the purpose of the changes to 68.300(a)(2) and 68.330(1) was to remove the word employed and leave it just as supervised by. Further clarification was given that the intent of the exception under 68.300(d)(2) is to allow technicians to go out into rural areas and perform services while under the supervision of a veterinarian but not the employment of that veterinarian, and that removing the employment requirement all together could have some unintended consequences. There was a brief discussion regarding concern about who would be billing for services being rendered, stressing the importance of making sure language remains that ensures that is the job of the veterinarian. After discussion the previously motioned changes remain unanimously accepted.

Motion by Dr. Albert to initiate a regulations project regarding multiple regulations 12 AAC 68.040, 12 AAC 68.041(e), 12 AAC 68.045(3), 12 AAC 68.046(3), 12 AAC 68.300(a)(2), and 12 AAC 68.330(1), by approving the following language for public comment, unless substantive changes are made by the regulations specialist or Department of Law.
Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed unanimously via roll call vote.**

Proposed language as read on the record:

Repeal 12 AAC 68.040 in its entirety.

Strike the following language from 12 AAC 68.041(e) “Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this section, an applicant may submit under this subsection a notarized copy of a license that meets the requirements of (b)(4) of this section in lieu of license verification from the other jurisdiction.”

Strike the following language from 12 AAC 68.045(3) “a notarized copy of the applicant’s veterinary school diploma from an accredited veterinary school,”

Strike the following language from 12 AAC 68.046(3) “a notarized copy of the applicant’s veterinary school diploma from an accredited veterinary school,”

Edit 12 AAC 68.300(a)(2) to read “the employee of a veterinarian licensed under AS 08.98, unless exempt under 12 AAC 68.300(d)(2),” and

Edit 12 AAC 68.330(1) to read “practicing or offering to practice as a veterinary technician without being employed and supervised by a licensed veterinarian unless exempt under 12 AAC 68.300(d)(2).”

Chair Bergartt will complete the project opening questionnaire.

Board Administrative Business

Update on board terms/appointments/chair position

No updates on board seats.

Other Business

Staff presented an example of an AAVSB CE Broker report to the board to determine whether these reports can be accepted as evidence of completed CE in lieu of individual certificates. While the report would include any completed RACE track CE, it was not clear whether CE had to be RACE approved to be included on the report, and it is not staff responsibility to conduct additional research to confirm CE approval, so the board needs more information on what qualifies CE to be on the broker report before they can determine acceptability. If staff cannot easily identify accreditation, then submission of the report over certificates shouldn't be permissible.

Ms. Bowman will reach out to AAVSB to gather more information on the approval process for listing courses on the report.

Break

Board went off the record at 4:32 pm. Returned on the record at 4:40 pm. A quorum was maintained.

Board Chair Summit Attendance

Dr. Vollaro is available for the December 4 Board Chair Summit. Staff will be in contact regarding the details.

AKVMA Annual Symposium Recap

Presenter: Rachel Bergartt

Chair Bergartt attended the AKVMA Symposium last week. She provided a board update to them during the meeting and talked to several licensed veterinarians about the application process for becoming a board member and is optimistic we should see several applicants coming in over the coming days/weeks for open seats. She stressed the importance of the relationship between the BOVE and the AKVMA and that it is imperative that the strong relationship formed over the last few years, especially through mutual dislike for the PDMP, be maintained so that the board can continue to have a seat at their table as it is especially valuable. To any future chair – simply showing up and providing the board updates is incredibly important in rewarding in relationship building.

As previously mentioned in the meeting, she also been talking to Dr. Shaffer and Representative Ruffridge to do some clean up statutes and wants to know if the board wishes her to still pursue that endeavor. She cannot act as a legislative liaison unless the board appoints her, but the board can appoint someone else as well.

Motion by Dr. Albert to support Chair Bergartt as legislative liaison for promoting a veterinary technician member for the board as well as the health care clean-up project. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed unanimously, Chair Bergartt abstained from voting.**

Review Jurisprudence Exam Questions (Executive Session)

Motion by Dr. Geiger to table this discussion item for a future meeting. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed unanimously.**

Adjourn

Motion by Dr. Albert to adjourn the October 3, 2024, meeting of the Board of Veterinary Examiners. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

The board went off the record at 4:51 pm.