

45 **BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS**
46 **MINUTES OF MEETING**
47 **February 21, 2014**
48 **PAGE 2**

49

50

51 **Agenda Item 3** **Ethics Disclosure**

52

53 There were no ethics violations to report from any board members.

54

55 Since the Board was running ahead of schedule they went on to agenda item 5.

56

57 **Agenda Item 5** **Investigative Report**

58

59 Ms. Dawn Bundick informed the Board that Chief Investigator Quinten Warren had taken
60 a position with Department of Law. John Clark is now interim Chief Investigator.

61

62 Currently, there are twelve open matters. Dr. Clair Rice, who surrendered her license at
63 the last Board meeting, also surrendered her DEA license.

64

65 Two cases have experts involved and are taking some time.

66

67 Ms. Hewlett joined the meeting.

68

69 Ms. Bundick requested the Board go into executive session to discuss an investigative
70 matter.

71

72 **On a motion duly made by Beck, seconded by Priddy, and approved unanimously, it
73 was**

74

75 **RESOLVED to go into executive session in accordance with AS
76 44.62.310(c)(2), for the purpose of discussing an investigative matter.**

77

78 Board staff to remain during executive session.

79

80 Off record at 9:17 a.m.

81

82 On record at 9:26 a.m.

83

84 **Agenda Item 4** **Budget Report**

85

86 Ms. Martha Hewlett, Administrative Officer II, was introduced to the Board. Ms.
87 Hewlett stated the Board is on track with expenditures. The Board has a surplus of
88 \$58,647.00. Ms. Hewlett explained account codes and revenues.

89

License fees will be evaluated with Board expenses and fee analyses should be completed
by end of FY2014.

89

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94
95 Ms. Hewlett discussed the breakdown of fiscal costs for end of FY2013, and direct versus
96 indirect expenses. Administrative costs are allocated based on total licenses per Board.
97 Dr. Beck asked Ms. Bundick if there was an uptick in the number of cases being reported.
98 Ms. Bundick said no, but advised there is one case that is more involved than usual and is
99 taking some time. It involves veterinary and euthanasia issues and the time is being split
100 between the Boards.

101 Ms. Hewlett stated investigative costs are personal services direct expenses.
102 Dr. Beck asked why there was such a difference in personal services from 2010 through
103 2013. Ms. Hewlett advised personal services included investigations, regulation
104 specialist's fees and licensing examiner's fee. The Board requested Ms. Hewlett look into
105 this and report back to the Board.
106 The Board thanked Ms. Hewlett for her time.

107
108 **Agenda Item 6 Miscellaneous Correspondence**

109
110 AAVSB Nominations – Ms. Kunow distributed information to Board members for
111 upcoming nominations for the American Association of Veterinary State Boards. For
112 Board information only.

113
114 Collaboration Update NBVME & NAVLE—Ms. Kunow distributed information
115 regarding the collaboration between National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
116 and North American Veterinary Licensing Examination. Board members can review the
117 NAVLE exam on line. Drs. Hagee and Priddy volunteered to take the exam if their
118 schedules allow. Exam window is November 17 through December 13, 2014.

119
120 Ms. Bundick left the meeting. The Board thanked her for her time.

121
122 AAVSB Resolutions – Ms. Kunow distributed a resolutions form for Board information.
123 Board members can submit resolutions to AAVSB.

124
125 **Agenda Item 7 Public Comment**

126
127 No one was present for public comment.

128
129

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134
135 **Agenda Item 8** **Continuing Education Audit**
136

137 Ms. Kunow distributed the remaining list of continuing education audits that the Board
138 members were assigned. The audit was from January 1, 2011 through December 31,
139 2012.

140 A Memorandum was sent to the Paralegal for veterinarian Dr. Paula Schmidt #523 on
141 October 9, 2013.

142 Veterinary Technician Melanie Boswell #297 provided no documentation of continuing
143 education. Ms. Kunow will send a Memorandum to the Paralegal.

144
145 **On a motion duly made by Rose, seconded by Hagee, and approved unanimously, it**
146 **was**

147
148 **RESOLVED that the Board accept the reviewing Board member's approval**
149 **for the continuing education audit.**

150
151 The Board approved the continuing education audits for:

- 152
153 Veterinary Technician Jill Uphus #312
154 Veterinarian James Leach #63
155 Veterinarian Mike Bailey #535
156 Veterinarian Cynthia Collins #575
157

158 This concluded the continuing education audit.
159

160 **Agenda Item 9** **Old/New Business**
161

162 Letter to Tony Hollis – The Board reviewed the draft letter to Tony Hollis, State of
163 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, regarding an arrow removal from a moose in
164 October of 2013. Dr. Hagee asked if the veterinarian that removed the arrow received
165 compensation. The veterinarian, Dr. Marianne Lian, was working for Department of Fish
166 and Game but was not State licensed. The Board agreed the letter is an advisory letter to
167 Fish and Game to remind them that veterinary services should be done by licensed State
168 veterinarians. Dr. Priddy expressed concern that a contracted, consulting veterinarian
169 may not have touched an animal in several years. Dr. Beck said the event could have
170 been situational and Dr. Lian may have been the only one on scene that could have
171 rendered aid. Dr. Rose wondered how the moose was approached, sedated, etc.
172

173 Dr. Beck advised the Board the loose dog in Soldotna was finally captured without the
174 assistance of the courtesy veterinarian.
175

176 AAVSB Fall Conference – The Fall conference is scheduled for September 11-13, 2014
177 in St. Petersburg, FL. The Board agreed Florida was quite a distance and expense. No
178 Board member could commit to the time frame required to travel to the east coast.
179

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184
185 Dr. Priddy was unavailable for the October, 2013 conference and did not attend. Dr.
186 Rose will review the 2013 conference video and report back to the Board.
187 The Board will select a member to review the 2014 conference video when it becomes
188 available.

189
190 On-The-Job Training Requirements for Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) –
191 Dr. Beck expressed concern that many out of state veterinary technician applicants are
192 using Alaska as a loop hole to sit for the VTNE with no intention of ever practicing in
193 Alaska. The applicants only pay the application fee to sit for the VTNE and never pay
194 the licensing fee. Alaska is the only state that will approve out of state on-the-job
195 training. There has been an increase in veterinary technician applications since the other
196 states that accepted on-the-job training now require that training happen in state.

197 Dr. Priddy expressed concerns for military families, for example, that may have been
198 working in veterinary practice in Kansas for five or six years and may want to sit for the
199 VTNE about the time the spouse gets shipped up to Alaska. Dr. Rose thought that was
200 what all the out of state applications were. Dr. Priddy stated he did not want to close up a
201 loop hole that was a opportunity for those who wanted to move and practice in Alaska.
202 Dr. Rose thought the reason the application was originally set up was because training in
203 Alaska is limited.

204 Ms. Kunow advised that, at most, technician licenses issued might be 15% of the total
205 applications received. Dr. Beck asked if an Alaska technician license could be valid in
206 other states. Each state is different with reciprocity. Ms. Kunow stated that most
207 applicants are using Alaska to sit for the VTNE and then transferring the score to their
208 home state for licensure.

209 Dr. Hagee asked if the need for technicians is being met in Alaska. Dr. Rose said it was
210 easy for a person to work in a clinic. They don't have to go to Denver and attend a
211 training program. Dr. Beck suggested the applicants should have some tie to Alaska.

212 Dr. Priddy suggested some type of fee structure for Alaska residents versus out of state
213 residents. Dr. Hagee suggested a \$450.00 application fee for out of state residents and a
214 \$50.00 fee for Alaska residents, similar to hunting or fishing licenses.

215 The Board discussed requiring an applicant be a resident of Alaska or have in state
216 training.

217 Ms. Kunow explained the application procedures for follow up letters and abandoned
218 applications. The Board agreed the administrative costs outweighed the \$50.00
219 application fee.

220 Ms. Kunow suggested having at least one year of in state training in Alaska out of the
221 two years required. The Board agreed this was a good solution for having a commitment
222 to Alaska.

223 Amend 12 AAC 68.310 (b)(4)(B) to read: employment verification forms completed by
224 the supervising veterinarian verifying that the applicant has been working at least 700
225 hours a year for at least two of the previous three years immediately preceding the date of
226 application, **of which one year must be within the State of Alaska.**

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235 Jurisprudence Exam Questions – Question 47 on the JP exam refers to accredited
236 veterinarians reporting heartworm. The handbook states heartworm should be reported.
237 Dr. Hagee advised the answer is false. Heartworm does not have to be reported. Dr.
238 Priddy advised heartworm is not transmissible to people. Accredited or not, it is not a
239 reportable disease. Dr. Beck stated it is in the handbook to report. Dr. Rose stated there
240 are several diseases listed to report that do not have to be reported. The State
241 Veterinarian generates the handbook. Dr. Priddy suggested contacting the State
242 Veterinarian and have him review the list of reportable diseases. Ms. Kunow agreed to
243 send an email to State Veterinarian Dr. Bob Gerlach.
244

245 On question 7, ‘e (all of the above)’ should come before ‘d.’ Ms. Kunow will update the
246 exam.
247

248 Dr. Beck suggested a five minute break.
249

250 Off record at 10:35 a.m.

251 On record at 11:44 a.m.
252

253 **Agenda Item 9 Old/New Business (con’t)**
254 .

255 Dispensing Medications to Bush Clients – The Board reviewed an email submitted by Dr.
256 Ciara Vollaro. Dr. Hagee referred to the Board’s vision statement: “To ensure that
257 quality veterinary care be available to all Alaskans.” It doesn’t say Alaskans on the road
258 system or in the Anchorage bowl. Ironically, many Alaskans don’t want veterinary care
259 and if the cost is more than the animal is worth, the animal is shot. Dr. Hagee stated he
260 has sent medications to patients in the bush without seeing them, but has seen the owner.
261 The statute would need to be changed and that would require opening the practice act.

262 Dr. Priddy stated the veterinarian/client/patient relationship is going to vary.
263 Veterinarians cannot fly up to a remote village just to deworm a dog.

264 Dr. Hagee stated that with today’s technology, you can learn a lot about a client and
265 develop a relationship. Dr. Beck said Skype and video pictures are great tools. Dr. Rose
266 advised that if there is a horse in the bush with a laceration, it has to be sent antibiotics.
267 Dr. Priddy said that he has had clients call in asking for help and his advice could be
268 wrong because he is at the mercy of what they are telling him. They also understand he
269 could be wrong, but are appreciative of the advice. The animal could die if they didn’t do
270 anything. The general consensus is that they are appreciative of any help they can get.
271 They are always given the first option of sending the animal in. Sometimes, it is cheaper
272 to fly the veterinarian to them for two days than fly the animal. Attitudes of people living
273 in the bush are different because they don’t have readily available resources.

274 Ms. Kunow read 12 AAC 68.080, Treatment of Patients: “A licensed veterinarian shall
275 exercise the degree of care, skill, and diligence in treating patients that is ordinarily used
276 in the same or similar circumstances by average members of the veterinary medical
277 profession in the community in which the veterinarian practices.” Alaskan veterinarians
278 do the best they can under the circumstances regarding where the animal is located.
279

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284

285 Dr. Priddy reiterated the bush mentality is that they are appreciative of any help they can
286 get when they call. Dr. Rose stated veterinarians' approaches are conservative; they are
287 not going to go out on a limb as to what they send out.

288 Dr. Priddy said it sometimes takes more time when a veterinarian cannot see the animal.

289 Dr. Hagee stated, in Alaska, a veterinarian cannot always make timely visits to a premise
290 where the animal is kept or be personally acquainted with the care of the animal.

291 Dr. Priddy stated that if a complaint were made from the bush, the Board would probably
292 look at it as the veterinarian was trying to do the best they could, given the circumstances.

293

294 Treatments in Equine Medicine Continuing Education Courses – Ms. Kunow advised Dr.
295 Richard Saporito from OnlineCE.com had requested to speak to the Board telephonically.
296 The Board decided to go into executive session to discuss the courses.

297

298 **On a motion duly made by Priddy, seconded by Hagee, and approved unanimously,**
299 **it was**

300

301 **RESOLVED to go into executive session in accordance with AS**
302 **44.62.310(c)(2), for the purpose of discussing continuing education eligibility**
303 **credits offered by OnlineCE LLC.**

304

305 Board staff to remain during executive session.

306

307 Off record at 10:56 a.m.

308 On record at 11:07 a.m.

309

310 Dr. Saporito was contacted telephonically. Dr. Saporito stated OnlineCE had been in
311 business thirteen years and has provided distance based asynchronous continuing
312 education for a number of professions. Courses come in a number of different formats,
313 the bulk of which being text based formats. In text based, the doctor reads material and
314 embedded throughout the program are mastery level questions that have to be answered
315 in order to proceed. Mastery systems have been documented with higher retention and
316 implementation rates than face-to-face learning. One of the issues we have dealt with
317 since the beginning is compliance. One of the issues of distance based learning is the
318 verification of doctor participation and time component. The program itself is timed and
319 the doctor cannot move through the program faster than the time allows. A one hour CE
320 course cannot be finished faster than fifty minutes. The master level questions require
321 the doctor read the material. Log in and log out times are monitored. There is an eight
322 part program which covers equine medicine. There is also a program done in conjunction
323 with Michigan State University, as well as acupuncture and more non-traditional
324 treatments.

325 Dr. Beck asked if the courses are in the process of seeking Registry of Approved
326 Education (RACE) approval. Dr. Saporito advised the Michigan State course was RACE
327 approved and some emergency medicine courses have been approved.

328 Dr. Beck asked who teaches the courses. Does Dr. DuPont teach all the courses? Dr.
329 Saporito advised Dr. DuPont is the moderator for the courses. There is a licensing

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334
335 agreement for the equine courses with Elsevier Publishers. Dr. DuPont's role as
336 moderator is to answer questions that arise. If Dr. DuPont cannot answer the question,
337 she can go back to the authors.
338 The Board thanked Dr. Saporito for his time.

339
340 **On a motion duly made by Priddy, seconded by Hagee, and approved unanimously,**
341 **it was**

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343 **RESOLVED to go into executive session in accordance with AS**
344 **44.62.310(c)(2), for the purpose of finishing the discussion of continuing**
345 **education eligibility credits offered by OnlineCE LLC.**

346
347 Board staff to remain during executive session.

348
349 Off record at 11:19 a.m.

350 On record at 11:28 a.m.

351
352 **On a motion duly made by Beck, seconded by Hagee, and approved unanimously, it**
353 **was**

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355 **RESOLVED to approve OnlineCE continuing education courses consisting**
356 **of Diagnosis and Treatment in Equine Medicine 201 to 208, Veterinary**
357 **Acupuncture 201 to 204, and Natural Veterinary Medicine 201 to 204**
358 **pending RACE approval.**

359
360 **Agenda Item 10 Proposed Regulation Changes**

361
362 12 AAC 68.010(a)(3) – no changes

363 12 AAC 68.045(a)(4) – no changes

364 12 AAC 68.045(b) – no changes

365 12 AAC 68.315(b) – no changes

366
367 12 AAC 68.500(b)(3) – The Board will repeal this change since it is in statute that the
368 applicant for student permit must be in fourth year of veterinary school.

369 Dr. Priddy stated the Alaska Veterinary Association should be contacting their
370 representatives regarding this issue.

371
372 Amend 12 AAC 68.310 (b)(4)(B) to read: employment verification forms completed by
373 the supervising veterinarian verifying that the applicant has been working at least 700
374 hours a year for at least two of the previous three years immediately preceding the date of
375 application, **of which one year must be within the State of Alaska.**

376
377 The Board agreed to send these regulation changes to the regulation specialist for public
378 comment.

379

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Agenda Item 11 Goals & Objectives

#2 is amended to update the jurisprudence exam as necessary.
#8 is amended to update the handbook as necessary rather than annually.

391 **Agenda Item 12 Office Business**

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393
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The Board set next meeting dates for May 2, 2014 for a teleconference and October 24, 2014 in Anchorage at the Atwood Building.
Final minutes from October 4, 2013 meeting signed by Dr. Beck.
Letter to Tony Hollis signed by Dr. Beck.
Wall certificates signed.
Travel authorizations signed.

400 There being no further business, Dr. Beck called for adjournment of the meeting.

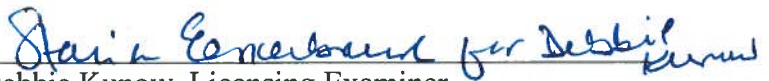
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The board adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

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Respectfully submitted:

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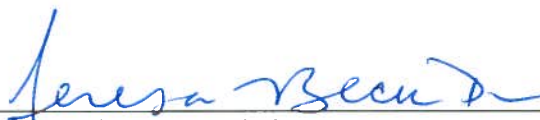

Debbie Kunow, Licensing Examiner

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Approved:

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Teresa Beck, DVM, Chairperson
Alaska State Board of Veterinary Examiners

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Date: 10-24-14