

1 STATE OF ALASKA  
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY AND  
3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
4 DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS  
5 AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING  
6 BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS

7  
8 MINUTES OF MEETING

9  
10 June 3, 2016

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14 By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and AS 08.98.040, and in compliance with AS 44.62,  
15 Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Board of Veterinary Examiners was held on June 3,  
16 2016, 333 Willoughby Avenue, Juneau, Alaska.

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19 **Agenda Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call**

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21 The meeting was called to order by Dr. Teresa Beck, Chairperson, at 9:00 a.m.

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23 Those present, constituting a quorum, were:

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25 Teresa Beck, DVM – Palmer, AK  
26 Tamara Rose, DVM – Fairbanks, AK  
27 Rachel Bergartt, DVM – Juneau, AK  
28 James Hagee, DVM – Chugiak, AK  
29 Hal Geiger, PhD, Public Member – Juneau, AK

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

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34 Virginia Geary, Licensing Examiner - Juneau  
35 Sher Zinn, Records and Licensing Supervisor - Juneau  
36 Sara Chambers, Division Operations Manager - Juneau  
37 Martha Hewlett, Administrator Officer - Juneau  
38 Charles Ward, Paralegal - Juneau  
39 Angela Birt, Chief Investigator - Anchorage  
40 Greg Francois, Investigator - Anchorage  
41 Sonia Lipker, Investigator – Anchorage

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44 **Agenda Item 2 Review Agenda**

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46 The Board reviewed the agenda and approved it with no changes.

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**Agenda Item 3      Review/Approve Minutes**

The board reviewed the minutes for January 29, 2016 and accepted them as written.

**On a motion duly made by Dr. Beck and approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to approve the January 29, 2016 minutes as presented.**

**Agenda Item 4      Ethics Report**

There were no ethics violations to report.

**Agenda Item 5      Public Comment**

No one was present to comment.

**Agenda Item 6      Old and New Business**

**Hemp meds for pets.** The board briefly discussed an email forwarded from Thomas Lenhart concerning hemp meds for pets. The board had no comment at this time and noted there is no regulation for cannabis in pet meds in the state of Alaska. Ms. Geary will reply to the email.

**Shelter or rescue accountability for pet care.** Ms. Geary presented an email received from Beth Lockhart inquiring if Alaska had different requirements in accountability when caring for pets in a shelter or rescue. The board stated there is no exception to quality care and pointed that the statutes standard of veterinary care in Sec. 08.98.250 defines such care. Rachael Bergartt, DVM will respond to the email on behalf of the board.

**Microchip best practices.** The board discussed an email received from Cassie Miller concerning microchips in pets and why some clinics do not check when an animal is brought into a practice to see if it has a chip. The board agreed microchips are a courtesy and an individual decision for each practice to make. Hal Geiger will write a letter responding directly to Ms. Miller on behalf of the board.

**PAVE.** Audrey Tinsman submitted an email requesting how she can obtain an Alaska Veterinary license using the PAVE certificate. The board pointed to statute Sec. 08.98.165 which states an applicant is qualified to receive an Alaska license as a veterinarian who has graduated from an accredited veterinary school or who has completed the Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates certification process (ECFVG). Following the board's discussion Dr. Beck said she would contact the AAVSB board to address PAVE at the next veterinary meeting to be held in Anchorage, AK, September 30, 2016 at 10:00am at the Atwood Building in Anchorage, AK. Dr. Beck said the board has been supportive of PAVE and will follow up on HB 139, sponsored by Rep. Peggy Wilson and find out what the end result of the bill was. Ms. Geary will reply to Audrey Tinsman's email.

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**Continuing Education Approved.** The board approved 8 hours continuing education requested by Pam Tuomi for the March 12, 2016 Oiled Wildlife Responder Training Course offered to Veterinary Technicians.

**On a motion duly made by Dr. Hagee and seconded by Dr. Rose it was moved to accept Dr. Tuomi’s request for 8 CE credits for the March 12, 2016 Oiled Wildlife Responder Training course for Veterinary Technicians.**

**All in favor except Dr. Bergartt who approved the course for 2 CE hours.**

**Alaska CE dinner.** Dr. Kelly Moffat requested CE approval for a dinner event to be held in Anchorage, AK July 13, 2016. Dr. Moffat didn’t specify how many hours were being requested. The correspondence was tabled until the board receives needed information.

Break  
Off the record 10:15 – 10:25am

**Agenda Item 7      Budget Report**

Martha Hewlett reviewed the 3rd Quarter schedule of revenues and expenditures. The board had no questions or comments and thanked Ms. Hewlett for her time. Sara Chambers addressed the board on the proposed fee analysis drafted by Director Hovenden. Ms. Chambers said the board is running \$40,000 behind and revenue has to cover the next two years. She stated renewal time is the largest revenue. The board requested time to digest the proposed numbers. Ms. Chambers told the board they can make a fee recommendation on the proposed fee increase. A teleconference is scheduled July 8, 2016 at 9:00 – 10:30am to discuss the fee proposal and any thoughts on cost decreases the board may have. Ms. Chambers said she or Director Hovenden will be available for the teleconference. The proposal must to be ready for public comment by the end of July in order to be ready by the new on line renewal period. Ms. Chambers also addressed the board on the draft for Senate Bill 74 pertaining to telehealth regulations that may be signed into law by the Governor. Veterinarians who have DEA numbers will be required by July 17, 2017 to use the prescription drug monitoring database as prescribed by law to check prescriptions before they are written to be sure it meets guidelines for opioid prescription guidelines. The board is mandated to adopt regulations that are required by law and have the opportunity to write regulations that would discipline veterinarians or non-registered staff to veterinarians who may be assisting them with the prescription drug database. The board will read through the provided material concerning SB 74 and possibly write the Governor a letter. Dr. Hagee is going to contact AK AVMA to find out who the legislation liaison is and what they have been working on.

**Agenda Item 8      Investigation Report**

144 Investigator Greg Francois reported that for the period from January 16, through May 31,  
145 2016, the division opened five matters and closed two which includes intakes, complaints  
146 and investigations. A total of four matters remain on-going. No one is on probation. The  
147 board had no questions.

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149 **On a motion duly made by Dr. Hagee, seconded by Dr. Rose and**  
150 **approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to go into executive**  
151 **session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)(2)(3) , for the purpose of**  
152 **discussing investigative matters brought before the board.**

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154 Board staff to remain during executive session.

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156 Enter executive session at 11:19am - Off the record  
157 Exit executive session at 11:41am - On the record

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159 **On a motion duly made by Dr. Hagee, seconded by Dr. Rose, and**  
160 **approved unanimously, it was**

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162 **RESOLVED to adopt the license surrender, case # 2016-**  
163 **000094 for Sarah Black.**

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165 **On a motion duly made by Dr. Bergartt, seconded by Dr. Rose, and**  
166 **approved unanimously, it was**

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168 **Resolved to adopt the Consent Agreement, case #2015-001037**  
169 **for Dr. Deana Thornell.**

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171 Chief Investigator, Angela Birt notified the board that Greg Francois will now be  
172 working with the medical board. Sonja Lipker will be the veterinary investigator. The  
173 board said they look forward to working with Ms. Lipker.

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176 **Agenda Item 9      Old and New Business Continued**

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178 **AAVSB Memorandum.** Presented to the board for information only. Dr. Rachel  
179 Bergartt will check her schedule to see if she is available to attend the September 22-24,  
180 2016 Annual AAVSB Conference in Scottsdale, AZ. Ms. Geary will submit paperwork  
181 to the division travel department required for the funded delegate program. AAVSB  
182 covers all reasonable travel expenses for each board to send one voting delegate to the  
183 conference.

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186 Break  
187 Off the record at 12:05 – 12:10pm

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190 **Agenda Item 10      Regulations**

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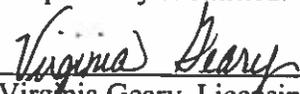
192 **Working Interview Regulation Project.** Sher Zinn, Records and Licensing Supervisor  
193 gave the board an overview of the regulation process. Ms. Zinn said boards can make  
194 regulations if the statutes give that authority. The board drafts regulations and states  
195 where they think it needs to go in the present regulations. The next step for the project is  
196 to the regulation specialist who will draft it in the proper language that is needed in order  
197 to be in compliance with state requirements. The board reviews it at their next meeting  
198 and can make changes or accept it as written. The regulation specialist would make any  
199 changes and redraft the project if the board chose to make changes. It would then go to  
200 Public Comment for a minimum of 30 days. The board would then receive the project  
201 back for adoption as is or can make changes after viewing the public comment. If  
202 adopted, the regulation project goes to law so they can review it and make any needed  
203 changes. The board will make the final edit before it proceeds to the Lieutenant  
204 Governor's office. When it is signed it goes into law in 30 days. The board is going to  
205 update the regulations to include a 30 day working interview license to aid in the  
206 recruiting/hiring process for positions offered by Alaska licensed veterinarians.  
207 The Board tabled the regulation project until the September 30 meeting scheduled for  
208 10:00am at the Atwood Building in Anchorage, AK so they have time to complete work.  
209 Dr. Beck will work on language for a working interview regulation project as well as two  
210 other possible regulations. Dr. Rose will work on language for what a student extern can  
211 do. Dr. Bergartt will work on a definition for veterinary medical facility.  
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213 **Agenda Item 11      Annual Report**

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215 Dr. Beck is going to work on the Annual Report and submit it to the division before due  
216 date of June 30, 2016.  
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218 **Agenda Item 12      Adjourn**

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220 There being no further business, Dr. Beck adjourned the meeting. All were in favor.  
221 The board adjourned the meeting at 1:05pm.  
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223 Respectfully submitted:  
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226 Virginia Geary, Licensing Examiner  
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229 Approved:  
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232 Teresa Beck, DVM, Chairperson  
233 Alaska State Board of Veterinary Examiners  
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235 Date: 9-30-16  
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