

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

MARCH 21, 2024

9:30AM - 10:30AM

OPEN SESSION

MEETING MINUTES

HYBRID MEETING NOTICE

In-person meetings will resume in FY 2024, meeting dates can be found on the Board's webpage.

In-person meetings will be at 2201 Shannon Place SE, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20020.

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting virtually is listed below:

This meeting is available by web:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=meaac4d7d4904dd32c60e11d87ee69c30>

This meeting is available by phone:

Call in Number:

+1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

BOARD MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:

	DANIEL TEICH, DVM — CHAIRPERSON	P
	SOPHIE KINDBERG-HANLON, BVetMed PGCertSAS MRCVS — BOARD MEMBER	P
	<i>Vacancy</i>	--
	AMY HAYWOOD, LVT — VETERINARY TECHNICIAN BOARD MEMBER	P
	BLAIR ZERVOS — CONSUMER MEMBER	EA

STAFF MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE:

STAFF MEMBERS:

	AYANNA BENNETT, MD, MSPH, FAAP — DIRECTOR	EA
	ARIAN R. GIBSON, M.S. — SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR	EA
	AISHA NIXON, MPT, CPM — ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR	EA
	VITO DELVENTO, DVM, MS — EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	P
	JOY MCFARLANE-MILLS, BS, CPM, ILAM — SUPERVISORY BIOLOGIST	P
	LAKETHIA MCCOY, INVESTIGATOR	P
	EMILIA MORAN — INVESTIGATOR	P
	SAHAR MAJID — HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	P

LEGAL STAFF / ATTENDANCE:

LEGAL STAFF MEMBERS:

	ED RICH, ESQ — BOARD ATTORNEY	P
	MATTEO LIEB — LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS SPECIALIST	P

**BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES MARCH 21, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

OS-0321-01	<p><u>INTRODUCTIONS</u></p> <p>A. CALL TO ORDER – 9:51 AM B. PRESIDING — Dr. Dan Teich, DVM — Chairperson C. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT — All Present except Blair Zervos (Excused absence) and one vacancy D. QUORUM — Yes E. STAFF PRESENT – All except Ayanna Bennett (Excused Absence), Arian Gibson (Excused absence) and Aisha Nixon (Excused absence). F. PUBLIC ATTENDANCE — Sarah Sirica (City Wildlife), Leslie Brooks (DCVMA) and Pamela Abney (DCVMA)</p>
OS-0321-02	<p>Board Action:</p> <p>Acceptance of March 21, 2024 Open Session agenda.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session meeting agenda for March 21, 2024.</p> <p>Moved By: Dr. Dan Teich, DVM, Chairperson</p> <p>Seconded By: Amy Haywood, LVT Board Member</p> <p>Motion Carried</p>

MINUTES AND STAFF REPORTS		
OS-0321-03	<p><u>APPROVAL OF OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></p> <p>Board Action:</p> <p>Consideration of the Open Session minutes from February 15, 2024 meeting.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session minutes for February 15, 2024 meeting.</p> <p>Moved By: Amy Haywood, LVT Board Member</p> <p>Seconded By: Dr. Dan Teich, DVM, Chairperson</p> <p>Motion Carried</p>	
OS-0321-04	<p><u>OPEN SESSION CONSENT AGENDA:</u></p>	
OS-0321-05	<p><u>SENIOR DEPUTY REPORT:</u></p> <p>Dr. Vito DelVento reported on behalf of Mr. Arian Gibson who could not join the meeting due to other engagements. Mr. Gibson has confirmed the successful relocation of DC Health building to 2201 Shannon PI SE.</p>	

OS-0321-06	<p><u>ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:</u></p> <p>Dr. Vito DelVento reported on behalf of Ms. Aisha Nixon who could not join the meeting due to other engagements. She had nothing specific to report.</p>	
OS-0321-07	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u></p> <p><i>Census</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Licenses: 396 • Expired Licenses: 748 • Approved Renewal Applications: 374 • New Applications Under Review: 09 • Renewal Applications Under Review: 05 <p>Dr. Vito DelVento stated that we are working to develop the veterinary technician license application portal. The portal should be ready to launch soon.</p>	
OS-0321-08	<p><u>ANIMAL SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT (ASP)</u></p> <p>ONLINE DOG LICENSING APPLICATIONS</p> <p>DC Health, Health Regulation and Licensing Administration (HRLA) is excited to announce the opening of our new online dog licensing system. All dog owners in the District are required to submit their dog registration or renewal applications by going to the below link and submitting an online application.</p> <p>https://dchealth.force.com/animalservices/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fanimalservices%2Fs%2F</p> <p>Dr. Vito DelVento reported that the animal services team has been gearing up for the arbovirus program in May when mosquito season will be in full swing.</p>	

OS-0321-09	<p><u>BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</u></p> <p>Dr. Dan Teich had nothing specific to report.</p>	
OS-0321-10	<p><u>BOARD COUNSELOR’S REPORT</u></p> <p>Commercial animal facility regulations</p> <p>Maryland Criminal Code on Animals</p> <p>Topics of Legislative Priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cosmetic treatments on pets 2. Artificial intelligence in veterinary medicine <p>Mr. Ed Rich stated that his legal team in collaboration with Ms. Aisha Nixon has been putting together a fee schedule for veterinary technician and veterinary euthanasia licensing.</p> <p>Board also discussed the possible uses of artificial intelligence (AI) and ethical concerns related to the responsible use of AI.</p> <p>Some possible uses of AI in the veterinary medicine include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing the patient chart • Client communication • Image analysis <p>These topics and more will be discussed in the next board meeting.</p>	
OS-0321-11	<p><u>COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u></p> <p>Dr. Leslie Brooks discussed the possibility of a collaboration between DCVMA and DC veterinary board to work on One Health approach.</p> <p>She also emphasized the need to put together regulations for telemedicine best practices for veterinarians.</p> <p>Dr. Vito stated that in general, the first meeting between a veterinarian and their patients must be in person before any follow up telemedicine appointments.</p>	

	<p>These topics will be further discussed in the next board meeting.</p>	
OS-0321-12	<p><u>HOUSEKEEPING</u></p> <p>Future Board meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 18, 2024 • May 16, 2024 • June 20, 2024 • July 18, 2024 • August 2024 (Recess) • September 19, 2024 • October 17, 2024 • November 21, 2024 • December 19, 2024 <p>Board may plan to meet in person in the month of May but it's not yet confirmed.</p>	
OS-0321-13	<p><u>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENT (ICVA) UPDATES - FYI</u></p>	
OS-0321-14	<p><u>AVMA UPDATES – FYI</u></p>	
OS-0321-15	<p><u>AAVSB UPDATES – FYI</u></p> <p>Watchdog Tracking Report</p> <p>AAVSB's Watchdog released its monthly report for the month of September 2023.</p>	

- [February 2024 Report](#)

Watchdog is your resource center for:

- Legislative and regulatory activity reports
- Board updates
- VMA updates
- Map view of Legislative Sessions
- Conveniently linked news coverage of recent legislative activity and issues affecting the veterinary regulatory community.

The AAVSB is thrilled to bring you this new member service in support of its mission to support and advance the regulatory process for veterinary medicine. As this online resource center expands, Member Boards will gain a powerful research tool and increase their usability of key legislative advancements.

Dates to Remember

- Executive Director and Registrar Summit — April 10 - 11, 2024 at The Fontaine Hotel in Kansas City, MO
- Board Basics and Beyond — April 12 - 13, 2024 at The Fontaine Hotel in Kansas City, MO
- 2024 AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference — September 25 - 28, 2024 at the Loews Coronado Bay Resort in San Diego, CA

AAVSB Call for Nominations

Nominations for the 2024-2025 leadership year are now open. The AAVSB Nominating Committee asks that you review the Call for Nominations document and visit www.aavsb.org/nominations to submit nominations online.

Welcome our new Executive Directors and Registrars

- Jacob Bell- Ohio Board
- Christine Arnold- British Columbia Board

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vonda Apking- Nebraska Board <p>Changes to the VTNE Policy</p> <p>In December 2023, the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) Board of Directors approved proposed amendments to the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) application eligibility policy. While approved, research is still underway before these changes are implemented. This research phase is projected to extend through most of the year, and the approved changes will not take effect for any of the 2024 exam windows.</p> <p>NAVLE Import</p> <p>Scores from the fall exam window of the NAVLE have been uploaded to the ICVA/NBME portal.</p> <p>Member Board Presentations</p> <p>If you would like a presentation (live or via zoom) to your board to learn more about the services offered by the AAVSB, email member services at memberservices@aavsb.org.</p> <p>Member Board Staff Updates</p> <p>Keeping our database updated is vital to providing the best communications. Don't forget to let us know of any staffing changes or updates at memberservices@aavsb.org. This helps us to make sure communications are being sent to the appropriate people.</p>	
OS-0321-16	<p><u>LEGISLATIVE/REGULATIONS</u> <u>PDMP</u></p> <p>Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) Update:</p>	

- DC Health worked on a significant revision of the HORA. This would be the first significant revision in seventeen years.
- The revised HORA received Mayoral approval and has been introduced in the Council as the Health Occupations Revision General Amendment Act of 2023 (B25-0545).
- This legislation received a hearing on December 7th. Over 80 witnesses, many of whom were healthcare professionals, signed up to provide testimony. DC Health's Associate Director of Health Professional Licensing Boards provided testimony in support and answered questions from the Council.
- DC Health has been working on the Committee on Health following that hearing. A mark-up has been scheduled for March 21st, 2024.

DC Health Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Oversight

- DC Health will have its Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Oversight hearing in early April. This hearing offers an opportunity for the Committee on Health to review DC Health's proposed budget for the 2025 Fiscal Year.
- There will be two hearings, one on April 1st for public witnesses and one on April 4th for representatives from DC Health.

Veterinarian Regulations

<https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-28&ChapterId=699>

Veterinary Technician Regulations

<https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-112&ChapterId=3904>

Veterinary Euthanasia Technician Regulations

<https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-111&ChapterId=3903>

	<p>The new Veterinary Technician and Euthanasia Technicians regulations became effective Friday, August 6, 2021. At this time, the DC Department of Health will not be issuing registrations until the process is in place.</p> <p>The Department of Health is currently creating the platform by which individuals can submit an application for registration as either a Veterinary Technician or a Veterinary Euthanasia Technician. Once the platform is available, there will be a grace period for which individuals will need to come into full compliance.</p>	
OS-0321-17	<p><u>LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS</u></p> <p>https://dccouncil.us/events/list/</p>	

DISCUSSION ITEMS

OS-0321-18	<p><u>MATTERS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION</u></p>
OS-0321-19	<p><u>FINAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u></p> <p>Dr. Sarah Sirica reported on the beginning of Duck Watch program in the city.</p> <p>City Wildlife’s Duck Watch program aims to educate residents and building managers on ways to support Mallard families and discourage unsuitable nesting sites for mother Mallards.</p>

	<p>During nesting season, dedicated Duck Watch volunteers closely monitor Mallard nests. Ideally, once the ducklings hatch, the mother duck will guide them to water. In situations where ducklings become trapped, volunteers are readily available to provide assistance.</p>
OS-0321-20	<p><u>READING OF OPEN SESSION MOTIONS</u></p>

CLOSING	
OS-0321-21	<p><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></p> <p>Board Action: To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p>Background: This concludes the Public Open Session of the meeting. The Board will now move into the Executive Section, which is closed to the public, to seek the advice of counsel to the board, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(4); to administer licensing of health professionals governed by the Board, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(6); to discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(9); administration of licensing pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(6); discuss ongoing or planned investigations pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(14). This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov</p>

OS-0321-22	<p><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u></p> <p>Board Action: To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>Background: At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Board.</p>	
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This ends the Open Session Agenda, next meeting is scheduled for **April 18, 2024**

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov