

# BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

**JUNE 20, 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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	EA
	<i><b>Vacancy</b></i>	--
	AMY HAYWOOD, LVT — VETERINARY TECHNICIAN BOARD MEMBER	P
	BLAIR ZERVOS — CONSUMER MEMBER	P

**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	EA
	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 JUNE 20, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

OS-0620-01	<p><b><u>INTRODUCTIONS</u></b></p> <p><b>A. CALL TO ORDER – 9:34 AM</b> <b>B. PRESIDING — Dr. Dan Teich, DVM — Chairperson</b> <b>C. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT — All Present except Sophie Kindberg-Hanlon (Excused absence) and one vacancy</b> <b>D. QUORUM — Yes</b> <b>E. STAFF PRESENT – All except Ayanna Bennett (Excused Absence), Arian Gibson (Excused absence), Aisha Nixon (Excused absence) and Lakethia McCoy (Excused absence).</b> <b>F. PUBLIC ATTENDANCE — Sarah Sirica (City Wildlife)</b></p>
OS-0620-02	<p><b>Board Action:</b></p> <p>Acceptance of June 20, 2024 Open Session agenda.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Members move to approve the Open Session meeting agenda for June 20, 2024.</p> <p><b>Moved By:</b> Amy Haywood, LVT Board Member</p> <p><b>Seconded By:</b> Dr. Dan Teich, DVM, Board Chairperson</p> <p><b>Motion Carried</b></p>

**MINUTES AND STAFF REPORTS**

OS-0620-03	<p><b><u>APPROVAL OF OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></b></p> <p><b>Board Action:</b></p> <p>Consideration of Open Session minutes from May 16, 2024 meeting.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Members move to approve the Open Session minutes for May 16, 2024 meeting.</p> <p><b>Moved By:</b> Dr. Dan Teich, DVM, Chairperson</p> <p><b>Seconded By:</b> Blair Zervos, Consumer Member</p> <p><b>Motion Carried</b></p>	
OS-0620-04	<p><b><u>OPEN SESSION CONSENT AGENDA:</u></b></p>	
OS-0620-05	<p><b><u>SENIOR DEPUTY REPORT:</u></b></p> <p>Dr. Vito DelVento reported on behalf of Mr. Arian Gibson who could not join the meeting due to other engagements. Mr. Gibson had nothing specific to report.</p>	

OS-0620-06	<p><b><u>ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:</u></b></p> <p>Dr. Vito DelVento reported on behalf of Ms. Aisha Nixon who could not join the meeting due to other engagements. Ms. Nixon had nothing specific to report.</p>	
OS-0620-07	<p><b><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u></b></p> <p><i>Census</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active Licenses: 456</li> <li>• Paid Inactive: 24</li> <li>• Expired Licenses: 667</li> <li>• Approved Renewal Applications: 377</li> <li>• New Applications Under Review: 08</li> <li>• Renewal Applications Under Review: 02</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Vito DelVento reported the following updates regarding the temporary licensing of students and licensing by reciprocity between DC, Maryland and Virginia.</p> <p>Dr. DelVento stated that the compact has been fully signed by DC. It has yet to be signed by Virginia and Maryland.</p> <p><b><u>Notice Regarding Practice by Veterinary Student</u></b></p> <p>According to D.C. Official Code §3-1201.03(c) and 17 DCMR § 2818, veterinary students are authorized to practice veterinary medicine under specific conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The practice must be part of the student's course of instruction.</li> <li>2. It must be supervised by a licensed veterinarian in the District of Columbia or a qualified teacher of veterinary medicine approved by the District of Columbia Board of Veterinary Medicine.</li> <li>3. The practice should occur at an appropriate veterinary facility (e.g., operated by the District of Columbia, federal government, or another approved facility).</li> <li>4. Procedures must adhere to guidelines established by the Board.</li> </ol>	

	<p><b><u>Reciprocity Agreement</u></b></p> <p>District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia have entered into an agreement to establish reciprocity amongst the parties to facilitate the expedited licensure of health professionals practicing within the three jurisdictions. The agreement is not yet fully signed by VA and MD.</p>	
OS-0620-08	<p><b><u>ANIMAL SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT (ASP)</u></b></p> <p><b>ONLINE DOG LICENSING APPLICATIONS</b></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><a href="https://dchealth.force.com/animalservices/s/login/?ec=302&amp;startURL=%2Fanimalservices%2Fs%2F">https://dchealth.force.com/animalservices/s/login/?ec=302&amp;startURL=%2Fanimalservices%2Fs%2F</a></p> <p><b>Action plan for dog licensing through partnership with veterinary facilities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Objective:</b> Use the influence and reach of veterinary facilities to educate dog owners about the importance of licensing their pets.</li> <li>- <b>Action Items:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide veterinary facilities with dog license manuals that highlight the benefits of licensing.</li> <li>- Ensure these manuals contain a QR code that directly links to the dog licensing portal, simplifying the application process.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<p>Ms. Joy McFarlane Mills stated that Animal Services staff has been working with IT to fix some issues in the portal before we can move forward with this partnership project.</p> <p>She also stated that arbovirus program is in its third week now and investigator, Mr. Eric Curry is on the field while our new investigator Ms. Lakethia McCoy has been shadowing him.</p> <p>Dr. Sarah Sirica reported about the songbird illness.</p> <p>In May through July 2021, a newly emerging illness affected mainly fledgling birds in eastern states, including Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, and the District of Columbia. The symptoms included crusty eyes, tremors, and paralysis among songbirds. However, no cause has been definitively determined.</p>	
OS-0620-09	<p><b><u>BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</u></b></p> <p>Dr. Dan Teich had nothing specific to report.</p>	
OS-0620-10	<p><b><u>BOARD COUNSELOR’S REPORT</u></b></p> <p><a href="#">Commercial animal facility regulations</a></p> <p><a href="#">Maryland Criminal Code on Animals</a></p> <p><b>Topics of Legislative Priorities:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cosmetic treatments on pets</li> <li>2. Artificial intelligence in veterinary medicine</li> </ol> <p>i. <b>Client Communication and Education:</b></p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Chatbots powered by AI can provide instant answers to common pet-related questions.</li><li>- Educational resources can be personalized based on an individual pet's needs.</li></ul> <p><b>ii. Natural Language Processing (NLP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- NLP algorithms can analyze veterinary literature, case reports, and clinical notes to extract relevant information.</li><li>- Veterinarians can benefit from AI-generated summaries and recommendations.</li></ul> <p><b>iii. Diagnostics and Imaging:</b></p> <p>AI algorithms can analyze medical images (such as X-rays, MRIs, and ultrasounds) to assist veterinarians in diagnosing conditions like fractures, tumors, or organ abnormalities.</p> <p><b>iv. Predictive Analytics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- AI models can predict disease outbreaks, track disease trends, and assess risk factors in animal populations for example, predicting the spread of infectious diseases or identifying at-risk animals for preventive measures.</li></ul> <p><b>v. Treatment Planning:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- AI can recommend personalized treatment plans based on an individual animal's health history, genetics, and response to previous treatments.</li><li>- It can also suggest optimal drug dosages and monitor treatment effectiveness.</li></ul> <p><b>vi. Health Monitoring:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Wearable devices and sensors equipped with AI can continuously monitor vital signs, detect anomalies, and alert veterinarians to potential health issues.</li><li>- This real-time monitoring enhances early disease detection and intervention.</li></ul> <p><b>vii. Research and Drug Discovery:</b></p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AI assists in analyzing large datasets, identifying genetic markers, and predicting drug interactions.</li> <li>- It accelerates research and drug development for both animals and humans.</li> </ul> <p><b>viii. Population Health Management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AI helps track population health trends, assess vaccination coverage, and manage disease control programs.</li> <li>- It contributes to better overall animal welfare.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Ed Rich stated that veterinary technician and euthanasia technician regulations were published on May 17, 2024.</p>	
OS-0620-11	<p><b><u>COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u></b></p> <p>Dr. Sarah Sirica informed us about an upcoming meeting on cosmetic procedures for pets. The meeting has been organized by <a href="#">DCVMA</a>. For more information, please contact DCVMA at <a href="mailto:dcveterinarymedicalassociation@gmail.com">dcveterinarymedicalassociation@gmail.com</a></p>	
OS-0620-12	<p><b><u>HOUSEKEEPING</u></b></p> <p><b>Future Board meeting dates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 18, 2024</li> <li>• August 2024 (Recess)</li> <li>• September 19, 2024</li> <li>• October 17, 2024</li> <li>• November 21, 2024</li> <li>• December 19, 2024</li> </ul>	

	Dr. Vito informed all board members and staff that July 2024 meeting will be in-person and we will meet at the 2201 Shannon PI SE location (2 <sup>nd</sup> floor).	
OS-0620-13	<p><b><u>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENT (ICVA) UPDATES - FYI</u></b></p> <p><b>ICVA's 2024 Foresighting Exercise</b></p> <p>The January ICVA Board of Directors meeting focused on foresight, emphasizing a forward-thinking mindset among board members and staff. The two days of exercises conducted during the meeting encouraged active engagement from all participants, with a core focus on identifying future opportunities and assessing their alignment with ongoing strategic planning initiatives.</p>	
OS-0620-14	<b><u>AVMA UPDATES – FYI</u></b>	
OS-0620-15	<p><b><u>AAVSB UPDATES – FYI</u></b></p> <p><b>Watchdog Tracking Report</b></p> <p>AAVSB's Watchdog released its monthly report for the month of September 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">May 2024 Report</a></li> </ul> <p><i>Watchdog is your resource center for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislative and regulatory activity reports</li> </ul>	

- 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**

- 2024 AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference — September 25 - 28, 2024 at the Loews Coronado Bay Resort in San Diego, CA

#### **Bylaws Amendments**

During the AAVSB's Business Session for the upcoming 2024 Annual Meeting & Conference, the Delegate Assembly will vote on the proposed Bylaws amendment. Please review the **Proposed AAVSB Bylaws Amendment Packet (PDF)**.

#### **AAVSB Veterinary Team Survey**

The American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) released its conclusions of its 2023 survey which reached veterinarians and veterinary technicians across North America. The survey was focused on exploring the potential delegation of tasks within veterinary teams as well as the potential introduction of a midlevel veterinary practitioner under a valid VCPR.

[Click to Download AAVSB Veterinary Team Survey: Understanding the Results](#)

OS-0620-16

**LEGISLATIVE/REGULATIONS**

**PDMP**

Mr. Matteo Lieb provided the following legal updates:

**Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) Update:**

- 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 7<sup>th</sup>](#). 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 was held on [March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024](#). The legislation was passed unanimously by the Committee of the Whole on First Reading on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and on Second Reading on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The legislation was signed by the Mayor on May 29<sup>th</sup> and will now go through Congressional Review. OGR anticipates this will become law by either early August or early September.

**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.
  - You can find information about the proposed Fiscal Year 2025 budget [here](#).
- There were two hearings, one on [April 10<sup>th</sup>](#) for public witnesses and one on [April 11<sup>th</sup>](#) for representatives from DC Health. During the hearing, there was discussion around staffing for health professional licensing boards and investments to address healthcare workforce issues.
- The mark-up for DC Health's budget in the Committee on Health was held on [May 9<sup>th</sup>](#). The marked-up FY25 budget was advanced unanimously out of Committee. It then went to the Committee of the Whole where it was passed on First Reading with 11 votes. The next legislative meeting is on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Council Recess:**

- The District of Columbia Council will be on recess starting on July 15<sup>th</sup> through September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- During that time, limited activity can take place by the Council.

**Pets in Housing Amendment Act of 2024:**

- On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Councilmember R. White along with Councilmembers Bonds, Pinto, T. White, and Lewis George introduced the *Pets in Housing Amendment Act of 2024* ([B25-0827](#)).
  - This legislation limits fees by housing providers (monthly rent and security deposits) for pets as well as banning breed restrictions.
- This legislation has been referred to the Committee on Housing, but not hearing has been scheduled.

**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>

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.

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.

OS-0620-17	<b><u>LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS</u></b>  <a href="https://dccouncil.us/events/list/">https://dccouncil.us/events/list/</a>	
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<b>DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>		
OS-0620-18	<b><u>MATTERS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION</u></b>	
OS-0620-19	<b><u>FINAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u></b>	
OS-0620-20	<b><u>READING OF OPEN SESSION MOTIONS</u></b>	

<b>CLOSING</b>		
OS-0620-21	<b><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></b>  <b>Board Action:</b> To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).	

	<p><b>Background:</b> 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 <a href="mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov">opengovoffice@dc.gov</a></p>	
OS-0620-22	<p><b><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u></b></p> <p><b>Board Action:</b> To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p><b>Background:</b> 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>	

This ends the Open Session Agenda, next meeting is scheduled for **July 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](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov)