

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

OCTOBER 17, 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	P

STAFF MEMBERSHIP / ATTENDANCE:

STAFF MEMBERS:

	AYANNA BENNETT, MD, MSPH, FAAP — DIRECTOR	EA
	J. SAM HURLEY, MPH, EMPS, NRP — SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR	P
	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
	EMILY MCANDREW — LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS SPECIALIST	P

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

OPEN SESSION MINUTES OCTOBER 17, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

OS-1017-01	<p><u>INTRODUCTIONS</u></p> <p>A. CALL TO ORDER - 9:40 AM</p> <p>B. PRESIDING — Dr. Dan Teich, DVM — Chairperson</p> <p>C. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT — All Present and one vacancy</p> <p>D. QUORUM — Yes</p> <p>E. STAFF PRESENT - All except Ayanna Bennett (Excused Absence), Aisha Nixon (Excused absence) and Lakethia McCoy (Excused Absence).</p> <p>F. PUBLIC ATTENDANCE — Beth Venit, AAVSB</p>
OS-1017-02	<p>Board Action:</p> <p>Acceptance of October 17, 2024 Open Session agenda.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session meeting agenda for October 17, 2024.</p> <p>Moved By: Amy Haywood, LVT Board Member</p> <p>Seconded By: Sophie Kindberg-Hanlon, BVetMed PGCertSAS MRCVS, Board Member</p> <p>Motion Carried</p>

MINUTES AND STAFF REPORTS		
OS-1017-03	<p><u>APPROVAL OF OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></p> <p>Board Action:</p> <p>Consideration of Open Session minutes from September 19, 2024 meeting.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session minutes from September 19, 2024 meeting.</p> <p>Moved By: Amy Haywood, LVT Board Member</p> <p>Seconded By: Blair Zervos, Consumer Member</p> <p>Motion Carried</p>	
OS-1017-04	<p><u>OPEN SESSION CONSENT AGENDA:</u></p>	
OS-1017-05	<p><u>SENIOR DEPUTY REPORT:</u></p> <p>Mr. Sam Hurley introduced himself to the Board as the new Senior Deputy Director of Health Systems & Preparedness Administration (HSPA), which is comprised of HRLA and HEPRA. “We are excited about this merger,” Mr. Hurley said.</p>	

	<p>“I understand that we do a lot of human health, but my background and training is about One Health and really focusing on the importance of animals in these conversations.”</p> <p>Mr. Hurley elaborated that this new merger is really taking a systems approach of how we think of the healthcare as healthcare environment — as a system versus these individual silos of care or interaction with healthcare professionals in the District of Columbia.</p> <p>“I also want to be very deliberate in saying that I want to make sure that we are incorporating your concerns,” he said.</p> <p>Dr. DelVento will retain the Executive Director’s role with the Board of Veterinary Medicine.</p> <p>Mr. Hurley encouraged the Board members to collaborate with DC Health in various veterinary/animal projects that are forthcoming.</p>	
OS-1017-06	<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 did not have anything specific to report.</p>	
OS-1017-07	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT</u></p> <p><i>Census</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Licenses: 472 • Paid Inactive: 24 • Expired Licenses: 667 • Approved Renewal Applications: 379 • New Applications Under Review: 10 • Renewal Applications Under Review: 00 <p>Dr. Vito DelVento provided an update about the launch of the veterinary technician licensing portal. The portal should be available for the techs soon.</p>	

	<p>The Communications Department at DC Health has been working to prepare the promotional material for the launch of this new license category.</p>	
<p>OS-1017-08</p>	<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>Ms. Joy McFarlane-Mills provided an update about the ongoing Animal Health Fair in which free vaccines are provided to the pets in DC. The event is a joint venture between DC Health and HRA.</p> <p>The series of these weekly vaccine clinics kicked off on September 14, 2024 and they will continue through to the first week of November.</p> <p>So far hundreds of dogs and cats across the District have been provided free vaccines through this program.</p>	
<p>OS-1017-09</p>	<p><u>BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</u></p> <p>Dr. Dan Teich welcomed Mr. Sam Hurley and appreciated his intentions to collaborate with the Board members on animal related projects.</p>	

OS-1017-10

BOARD COUNSELOR'S REPORT

[Commercial animal facility regulations](#)

[Maryland Criminal Code on Animals](#)

Mr. Ed Rich provided an update about the commercial animal facility regulations.

So far, he has received one comment from a Board member to make sure that these facilities do not use choke and prong collars.

"I have added that to the to the draft regulations," Mr. Rich said.

He further stated that there is a provision in the commercial pet care facility regulations that these facilities can perform emergency procedures that are reviewed and approved by the director of the department.

Mr. Rich will propose these regulations after Board's review.

Topics of Legislative Priorities:

1. Telehealth Policy
2. Cosmetic treatments on pets
3. Artificial intelligence in veterinary medicine

i. Client Communication and Education:

- Chatbots powered by AI can provide instant answers to common pet-related questions.

- Educational resources can be personalized based on an individual pet's needs.

ii. Natural Language Processing (NLP):

- NLP algorithms can analyze veterinary literature, case reports, and clinical notes to extract relevant information.

- Veterinarians can benefit from AI-generated summaries and recommendations.

iii. Diagnostics and Imaging:

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.

iv. Predictive Analytics:

- 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.

v. Treatment Planning:

- AI can recommend personalized treatment plans based on an individual animal's health history, genetics, and response to previous treatments.
- It can also suggest optimal drug dosages and monitor treatment effectiveness.

vi. Health Monitoring:

- Wearable devices and sensors equipped with AI can continuously monitor vital signs, detect anomalies, and alert veterinarians to potential health issues.
- This real-time monitoring enhances early disease detection and intervention.

vii. Research and Drug Discovery:

- AI assists in analyzing large datasets, identifying genetic markers, and predicting drug interactions.
- It accelerates research and drug development for both animals and humans.

viii. Population Health Management:

- AI helps track population health trends, assess vaccination coverage, and manage disease control programs.
- It contributes to better overall animal welfare.

OS-1017-11	<p><u>COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u></p> <p>Dr. Beth Venit said that she is looking forward to the telehealth medicine regulations. She also offered to use AAVSB telehealth manual as a reference.</p>	
OS-1017-12	<p><u>HOUSEKEEPING</u></p> <p>Future Board meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 21, 2024 • December 19, 2024 • January 16, 2025 • February 20, 2025 • March 20, 2025 • April 17, 2025 	
OS-1017-13	<p><u>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENT (ICVA) UPDATES - FYI</u></p> <p>New Board Chair – Dr. Keith Poulsen</p> <p>ICVA is proud to announce Keith Poulsen, DVM, PhD, DACVIM as the new Chair of the Board of Directors, reflecting his extensive experience. Read more...</p> <p>ICVA’s Productive June 2024 Board Meeting</p> <p>At the recent ICVA Board of Directors meeting, key updates were shared on initiatives, and included new fore sighting efforts. Read more ...</p> <p>New Officers Elected to ICVA Board of Directors</p> <p>Dr. Helen Tuzio has transitioned into the Chair-Elect role, and Dr. Joseph Taboada has stepped into the role of Secretary-Treasurer. Read more ...</p>	

Meet Anecia Whitehead, ICVA's New SAVMA Liaison

This appointment marks the second year of a special collaboration designed to strengthen communication between ICVA and SAVMA members. [Read more ...](#)

ICVA Announces New ADC Members

Two new members join the ICVA Assessment Development Committee (ADC), playing a vital role in maintaining the NAVLE®. [Read more ...](#)

ICVA Celebrates Team Member Anniversaries

2024 marks significant work anniversaries for several team members, as they look back on their time and forward to their future work at ICVA. [Read more ...](#)

NAVLE Retake Policy

Recently, ICVA made important updates to the NAVLE® policy regarding the number of attempts candidates may take the exam.

Updated Retake Policy:

- Candidates will have the opportunity for up to **five attempts**.
- All attempts since the NAVLE® was implemented in 2000 will count toward the five-attempt limit.
- This policy applies to all candidates.
- Candidates who reach the five-attempt limit may file an appeal with the ICVA Board of Directors to request permission to take the NAVLE® beyond this limit.

Why Limit to Five Attempts?

- Aligns with best assessment practices.
- Provides ample opportunities for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge.

	<p>The 2024 Report to Licensing Boards is now available</p> <p>https://icva.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8d7ec731d5a06f7e6a93261ad&id=4f6171d0b0&e=0ea644e4d7</p>	
OS-1017-14	<p><u>AVMA UPDATES – FYI</u></p>	
OS-1017-15	<p><u>AAVSB UPDATES – FYI</u></p> <p>Watchdog Tracking Report</p> <p>AAVSB’s Watchdog released its monthly report for the month of July and August -- 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2024 Report <p><i>Watchdog is your resource center for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>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</p>	

	<p>powerful research tool and increase their usability of key legislative advancements.</p> <p>The AAVSB Implements VTNE Policy Changes for 2025</p> <p>After months of conversations with Member Boards, Program Directors, Allied Organizations, and licensure candidates, the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) identified changes to the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE®) application process and exam windows that will take effect for all 2025 exams and applications.</p>	
OS-1017-16	<p><u>LEGISLATIVE/REGULATIONS</u></p> <p><u>PDMP</u></p> <p>Ms. Emily McAndrew provided the following update regarding the Pets in Housing Amendment Act of 2024.</p> <p>Pets in Housing Amendment Act of 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On May 22nd, Councilmember R. White along with Councilmembers Bonds, Pinto, T. White, and Lewis George introduced the <i>Pets in Housing Amendment Act of 2024</i> (B25-0827). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This legislation limits fees by housing providers (monthly rent and security deposits) for pets as well as banning breed restrictions. <p>This legislation has been referred to the Committee on Housing, and a hearing was held on October 8th.</p> <p><u>Veterinarian Regulations</u></p> <p>https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-28&ChapterId=699</p>	

	<p><u>Veterinary Technician Regulations</u></p> <p>https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-112&ChapterId=3904</p> <p><u>Veterinary Euthanasia Technician Regulations</u></p> <p>https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-111&ChapterId=3903</p> <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-1017-17	<p><u>LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS</u></p> <p>https://dccouncil.us/events/list/</p>	

DISCUSSION ITEMS

OS-1017-18	<p><u>MATTERS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION</u></p>
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OS-1017-19	<u>FINAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u>
OS-1017-20	<u>READING OF OPEN SESSION MOTIONS</u>

CLOSING	
OS-1017-21	<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-1017-22	<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 **November 21, 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