

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

DECEMBER 19, 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	EA
	<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	EA
	AISHA NIXON, MPT, CPM — ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR	EA
	VITO DELVENTO, DVM, MS — EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	P
	JOY MCFARLANE-MILLS, BS, CPM, ILAM — SUPERVISORY BIOLOGIST	P
	EMILIA MORAN — INVESTIGATOR //REPLACED BY REBECCA ODRICK-AUSTIN	EA
	SAHAR MAJID — HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	P

LEGAL STAFF / ATTENDANCE:

LEGAL STAFF MEMBERS:

	ED RICH, ESQ — BOARD ATTORNEY	P
	MATTEO LIEB — DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS	P

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

OPEN SESSION MINUTES DECEMBER 19, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

OS-1219-01	<p><u>INTRODUCTIONS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. CALL TO ORDER - 9:33 AMB. PRESIDING — Dr. Dan Teich, DVM — ChairpersonC. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT — All Present except Dr. Sophie Kindberg-Hanlon and one vacancyD. QUORUM — YesE. STAFF PRESENT - All except Ayanna Bennett (Excused absence), J. Sam Hurley (Excused absence), Aisha Nixon (Excused absence) and Emilia Moran (Excused Absence) replaced by Rebecca Odrick-Austin.F. PUBLIC ATTENDANCE — Adam Lamb (Brandywine Valley SPCA), Aaron Johnson (Brandywine Valley SPCA), Rese Cloyd (DOEE), Beth Venit (AAVSB) and Sarah Sirica (City Wildlife).
OS-1219-02	<p>Board Action:</p> <p>Acceptance of December 19, 2024 Open Session agenda.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session meeting agenda for December 19, 2024.</p> <p>Moved By: Dan Teich, DVM, Board Chairperson</p> <p>Seconded By: Amy Haywood, LVT Board Member</p> <p>Motion Carried</p>

MINUTES AND STAFF REPORTS		
OS-1219-03	<p><u>APPROVAL OF OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></p> <p>Board Action:</p> <p>Consideration of Open Session minutes from November 21, 2024 meeting.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session minutes from November 21, 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-1219-04	<p><u>OPEN SESSION CONSENT AGENDA:</u></p>	
OS-1219-05	<p><u>SENIOR DEPUTY REPORT:</u></p> <p>Dr. Vito DelVento reported on behalf of Mr. Sam Hurley who could not join the meeting due to other engagements. He did not have anything specific to report.</p>	

OS-1219-06	<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-1219-07	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u></p> <p><i>Census</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Licenses: 490 • Paid Inactive: 24 • Expired Licenses: 667 • Approved Renewal Applications: 379 • New Applications Under Review: 07 • Renewal Applications Under Review: 00 <p>Dr. Vito DelVento reported that the reciprocity agreement between DC, Maryland and Virginia is still under review.</p> <p>Non-veterinary commercial facility regulations are also under review.</p> <p>The communications material for the Veterinary Technician licensing portal announcement has been reviewed by the board members and they liked the communication rollout plan.</p>	
OS-1219-08	<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 formally introduced the staff members from Brandywine Valley SPCA: Mr. Adam Lamb and Mr. Aaron Johnson. They are excited for this new project and hope to do some useful stuff in the District.</p> <p>Brandywine Valley SPCA is a Delaware-based non-profit organization that has been awarded the animal control contract from DC Health. They will be replacing HRA and will officially take over from January 1, 2025.</p> <p>Dr. DelVento reported about the ongoing preparations for the inauguration parade. This time Emotional Support Animals (ESAs) will not be allowed.</p> <p>Due to a growing number of veterinary facilities in the District, zoonotic surveillance related communication will be going out separately.</p> <p>Ms. Joy McFarlane-Mills reported that the Animal Services team has been in the process of recording the arbovirus data.</p> <p>Dr. Sarah Sirica reported City Wildlife’s activities in the District. “Our team has paused in-house duckling rehabilitation, opting to export ducklings and reunite them with their families, a challenging task,” she said. Plans may include resuming in-house rehab next year.</p> <p>She further stated that there's limited information on HPAI in our area, but issues in California and Chicago are noted. Biosecurity measures are emphasized due to outbreaks in other regions. Recent webinars discussed HPAI's impact on cattle and captive large cats, who are highly susceptible. Dr. Karen Becker will address HPAI in a webinar tonight. Ongoing monitoring and updates will be provided.</p>	
OS-1219-09	<p><u>BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</u></p> <p>Dr. Dan Teich stated that the year 2024 has been great!</p> <p>He thanked the board members, DC Health staff and the public for their participation and support.</p> <p>He is excited for the launch of the veterinary technician licensing portal next year.</p>	

OS-1219-10

BOARD COUNSELOR'S REPORT

[Commercial animal facility regulations](#)

[Maryland Criminal Code on Animals](#)

Topics of Legislative Priorities:

1. Telehealth Policy — [AAVSB telehealth regulations](#)

Mr. Ed Rich provided the following Telehealth Regulations and Animal Care and Control Act regulations for the board members to review.

[DOH Veterinary Telehealth Regulations 17 DCMR Chapter 28](#)

2. [District of Columbia Animal Care and Control Act of 2024 \(Draft 1\)](#)

3. Cosmetic treatments on pets
4. Artificial intelligence in veterinary medicine

Mr. Ed Rich reviewed the draft of the AAVSB policy on Artificial Intelligence. He sent back his comments to Dr. Beth Venit to review.

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-1219-11	<p><u>COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u></p> <p>There were no comments from the public.</p>	
OS-1219-12	<p><u>HOUSEKEEPING</u></p> <p>Future Board meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 16, 2025 (<i>Meeting cancelled due to inauguration preparation</i>) • February 20, 2025 • March 20, 2025 • April 17, 2025 • May 15, 2025 • June 19, 2025 • July 17, 2025 	
OS-1219-13	<p><u>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENT (ICVA) UPDATES - FYI</u></p> <p>The ICVA is pleased to present the 2023-2024 NAVLE Technical Report. This report documents the development, administration, and psychometric analysis of the 2023-2024 NAVLE administration.</p> <p>View and Download the NAVLE Technical Report...</p>	

OS-1219-14	<u>AVMA UPDATES – FYI</u>	
OS-1219-15	<u>AAVSB UPDATES – FYI</u> Watchdog Tracking Report AAVSB’s Watchdog released its monthly report for the month of July and August -- 2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• November 2024 Report <i>Watchdog is your resource center for:</i> <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. 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. <u>Call for Bylaws Amendments</u> Below is important information from the AAVSB Bylaws and Resolution Committee for providing thoughts on the Bylaws and for proposing specific Bylaws amendments. AAVSB Call for Bylaws Amendments Packet for 2025.pdf	

OS-1219-16	<p><u>AAVMC UPDATES – FYI</u></p>	
OS-1219-17	<p><u>LEGISLATIVE/REGULATIONS</u> <u>PDMP</u></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. It also requires at least one of the city’s homeless shelters to accept pets. ▪ This legislation has been referred to the Committee on Housing, and a hearing was held on October 8, 2024. ▪ Following a markup on November 21st, the legislation was passed on first reading on December 3rd by a unanimous vote. <p>End of Council Period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council Period 25 will conclude on December 23, 2024. The Council will then go on recess. ▪ Any legislation that is not passed on both readings by the end of the Council Period will need to be reintroduced in the following Council Period. <p>New Council Period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council Period 26 will commence on January 2, 2024. ▪ Committee assignments for Council Period 26 will be released in late December. <p>Once those are approved, along with the Council Rules, the Council will move to conduct its performance oversight hearings.</p> <p><u>Veterinarian Regulations</u></p> <p>https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCMR/RuleList.aspx?ChapterNum=17-28&ChapterId=699</p>	

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.

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

[DC Vet Tech Communication Material.pdf](#)

11202 EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

11202.1 Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, an applicant for veterinary technician certification shall furnish proof satisfactory to the Board that the applicant has successfully graduated from a two (2) year associate program in the practice of veterinary technology or animal health at an institution accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) at the time the applicant graduated.

11203 NATIONAL EXAMINATION

11203.1 To qualify for certification, an applicant shall furnish proof of having obtained, no more than seven (7) years prior to the submission of a certification application under this chapter, a passing score on the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) or its successor examination, administered by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) or its successor.

11203.2 The passing score for the VTNE shall be as established by AAVSB.

11203.3 An applicant shall arrange for the score to be transmitted to the Board directly from AAVSB.

11204 KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VETERINARY JURISPRUDENCE

11204.1 To qualify for certification under this section, an applicant shall demonstrate to the Board's satisfaction that he or she possesses competent knowledge and understanding of the laws and rules pertaining to veterinary practice in the District. The Board may adopt or implement a District of Columbia Veterinary Jurisprudence Examination or other methods such as mandatory educational sessions.

11205 ALTERNATIVE QUALIFICATION THROUGH EDUCATION AND TRAINING

11205.1 Notwithstanding the requirement of § 11202, an applicant who does not meet the requirement of § 11202.1 may qualify for a veterinary technician certification if he or she:

(a) Has completed, with a minimum passing grade of C or equivalent, at least two-hundred and thirty (230) clock hours of post-secondary instruction relevant to the practice of veterinary technician, which includes:

- (1) Biology I;
- (2) Biology II;
- (3) Microbiology;
- (4) Chemistry;
- (5) Anatomy and physiology I; and
- (6) Anatomy and physiology II; and

(b) Has accrued at least four thousand (4,000) hours of Directed Clinical Practice under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian

	<p><u>Fee Schedule:</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="386 306 906 394">VETERINARY EUTHANASIA TECHNICIAN:</th> <th data-bbox="906 306 1299 394">VETERINARY TECHNICIAN:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="386 394 906 472">Initial Certification Fee \$ 50.00</td> <td data-bbox="906 394 1299 472">Initial Certification Fee \$ 50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="386 472 906 581">Inactive Status Fee \$ 10.00</td> <td data-bbox="906 472 1299 581">Inactive Status Fee \$ 10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="386 581 906 659">Renewal Fee \$ 50.00</td> <td data-bbox="906 581 1299 659">Renewal Fee \$ 50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="386 659 906 737">Late Renewal Fee \$ 20.00</td> <td data-bbox="906 659 1299 737">Late Renewal Fee \$ 20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="386 737 906 856">Certificate Duplication Fee \$ 34.00</td> <td data-bbox="906 737 1299 856">Certificate Duplication Fee \$ 34.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="386 856 906 934">Verification of Records \$ 34.00</td> <td data-bbox="906 856 1299 934">Verification of Records \$ 34.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="386 934 906 1012">Reinstatement Fee \$ 70.00</td> <td data-bbox="906 934 1299 1012">Reinstatement Fee \$ 70.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="386 1012 906 1129">Criminal Background Check \$ 50.00</td> <td data-bbox="906 1012 1299 1129">Criminal Background Check \$ 50.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	VETERINARY EUTHANASIA TECHNICIAN:	VETERINARY TECHNICIAN:	Initial Certification Fee \$ 50.00	Initial Certification Fee \$ 50.00	Inactive Status Fee \$ 10.00	Inactive Status Fee \$ 10.00	Renewal Fee \$ 50.00	Renewal Fee \$ 50.00	Late Renewal Fee \$ 20.00	Late Renewal Fee \$ 20.00	Certificate Duplication Fee \$ 34.00	Certificate Duplication Fee \$ 34.00	Verification of Records \$ 34.00	Verification of Records \$ 34.00	Reinstatement Fee \$ 70.00	Reinstatement Fee \$ 70.00	Criminal Background Check \$ 50.00	Criminal Background Check \$ 50.00	
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OS-1219-18	<p><u>LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS</u></p> <p>https://dccouncil.us/events/list/</p>																			

DISCUSSION ITEMS	
OS-1219-19	<u>MATTERS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION</u>
OS-1219-20	<u>FINAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u>
OS-1219-21	<u>READING OF OPEN SESSION MOTIONS</u>

CLOSING	
OS-1219-22	<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</p>

	<p>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-1219-23	<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>	

This ends the Open Session Agenda, next meeting is scheduled for **February 20, 2025**

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