

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

FEBRUARY 15, 2024

9:30AM - 10:30AM

OPEN SESSION

MEETING MINUTES

HYBRID MEETING NOTICE

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board will have a hybrid schedule of in-person and virtual meetings. In-person meetings will resume in FY 2023, meeting dates can be found on the Board's webpage.

In-person meetings will be at 899 North Capitol Street, NE, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20002.

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
	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
	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 FEBRUARY 15, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

OS-0215-01	<p><u>INTRODUCTIONS</u></p> <p>A. CALL TO ORDER – 9:35 AM B. PRESIDING — Dr. Dan Teich, DVM — Chairperson C. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT — All Present 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), Beth Venit (AAVSB) and Emily Hovermale (HRA)</p>
OS-0215-02	<p>Board Action:</p> <p>Acceptance of February 15, 2024 Open Session agenda.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session meeting agenda for February 15, 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-0215-03	<p><u>APPROVAL OF OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></p> <p>Board Action:</p> <p>Consideration of the Open Session minutes from January 18, 2024 meeting.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session minutes for January 18, 2024 meeting.</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>	
OS-0215-04	<p><u>OPEN SESSION CONSENT AGENDA:</u></p>	
OS-0215-05	<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.</p> <p>Mr. Gibson stated that DC Health is all set to relocate. Our last day at 899 N. Capitol St NE building is February 23, 2024 and our first day in the new office located at 2201 Shannon Pl SE is February 26, 2024.</p>	

OS-0215-06	<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.</p> <p>Ms. Nixon thanked Dr. Dan Teich for attending the hearing on February 14, 2024. She acknowledged Dr. Teich's efforts in testifying before Councilmember Christina Henderson and presenting the work of Board of Veterinary Medicine.</p>	
OS-0215-07	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u></p> <p><i>Census</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Licenses: 391 • Expired Licenses: 748 • Approved Renewal Applications: 367 • New Applications Under Review: 07 • Renewal Applications Under Review: 12 <p>Dr. Vito DelVento stated that the renewal period for veterinary licenses has been officially ended on December 31, 2023. Licensees can still renew their licenses until March 1, 2024 with a late fee of \$85.</p> <p>After March 1, 2024, within five years, they can choose to reinstate their licenses.</p> <p>After five years, they will have to submit a new license application if they decide to practice in the District.</p>	
OS-0215-08	<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</p>	

	<p>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. DelVento stated that arbovirus program has come to an end for this season. The information collected will be transferred to the National Data Bank. This program will resume in Summer months. Rabies surveillance has been going on smoothly.</p>	
OS-0215-09	<p><u>BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</u></p> <p>Dr. Dan Teich reported his testimony experience that took place at DC Health on February 14, 2024. “Everything went well,” he said. He also mentioned the incident in which three D.C. MPD officers were shot while serving an animal cruelty warrant on February 14. Dr. Teich assured that Board is supportive and thankful of the Metropolitan Police Department.</p>	
OS-0215-10	<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 between 1800 and 1850 in the United States there were a handful of cases which allowed criminal prosecution for harm to animals.</p>	

	<p>Regarding cosmetic treatments of pets, Mr. Rich suggested that declawing should have an age restriction. Some other procedures should also be restricted that veterinarians will not perform at facilities.</p> <p>Regarding the commercial animal facility regulations and criminal code, members agreed that the Board does not regulate these issues and can only advise.</p> <p>These topics have been tabled for further discussion until the next board meeting.</p>	
OS-0215-11	<p><u>COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u></p> <p>Dr. Sarah Sirica reported that City Wildlife has been sampling the squirrels that died of rat poisoning last year.</p> <p>City Wildlife has been preparing for the spring season when a high number of pigeons are expected to arrive in D.C.</p>	
OS-0215-12	<p><u>HOUSEKEEPING</u></p> <p>Future Board meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 21, 2024 • April 18, 2024 (In-Person) • May 16, 2024 • June 20, 2024 • July 18, 2024 • August 2024 (Recess) 	
OS-0215-13	<p><u>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENT (ICVA) UPDATES - FYI</u></p> <p>Board of Directors nomination call</p> <p>The International Council for Veterinary Assessment is sending out a call for nominations to two at-large positions on the Board of Directors. You will find more information here.</p>	

	<p>Fee update</p> <p>At the recent January 2024 ICVA Board of Directors Meeting, the updated fees were approved for the 2024-2025 NAVLE testing cycle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NAVLE testing fee will be \$760. For the previous testing cycle, it was \$740. • The international testing fee (for candidates who schedule their test at a Prometric Testing Center outside of the US or Canada) will be \$365. For the previous testing cycle, it was \$355. This is an additional fee to the NAVLE testing fee. • For candidates applying through one of the 38 licensing boards that has the ICVA administer their NAVLE approvals on their behalf, the fee will be \$55. This is the same fee as the previous testing cycle. This will also be the fee for candidates applying to be approved for the test but not designating a licensing board for their application. <p>The NAVLE testing windows for the 2024-2025 cycle will be as follows: November 4 - December 21, 2024 and April 1-26, 2025. Please note, the ICVA may expand or extend testing windows if needed.</p> <p>Celebrating Five Years of ICVA Assessment Grants</p> <p>The Academic Veterinary Assessment Committee (AVAC) developed the ICVA Assessment Grant program in 2019 to support research in assessment practices in veterinary medical education worldwide. The ICVA Assessment Grant program stands out as a niche and vital resource in a field with limited funding opportunities, specifically for veterinary medicine assessment research.</p>	
OS-0215-14	<p><u>AVMA UPDATES – FYI</u></p> <p>Congress looks to pass new Farm Bill in 2024</p> <p>As Congress plans to reauthorize a new Farm Bill, the AVMA has been advocating to include funding for programs and initiatives that are critically important to the profession.</p>	

	<p>Advocate for the veterinary profession while earning rewards</p> <p>When you take action through the AVMA Congressional Advocacy Network (AVMA CAN), your advocacy can lead to rewards.</p> <p>Ambassador Program Update</p> <p>In 2023, AVMA ambassadors connected with 86 lawmakers at 49 events held in 25 states. Most recently, Ambassadors met with U.S. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), and Representatives Becca Balint (D-Vt.), Dan Kildee (D-Mich.), Jeff Van Drew (R-N.J.), Juan Ciscomani (R-Ariz.), and Ashley Hinson (R-Iowa).</p> <p>There have been 254 Ambassador meetings with 276 lawmakers since the program began in 2018.</p> <p>Help increase access to veterinary care in rural shortage areas</p> <p>The AVMA is urging Congress to pass the Rural Veterinary Workforce Act.</p> <p>State Advocacy Update</p> <p>State lawmakers are considering a broad range of topics that affect veterinary teams and our patients. To see more information about the AVMA’s activities on the state level, check out the latest State Legislative Update.</p> <p>Urge Congress to strengthen dog importation standards</p> <p>The AVMA is asking Congress to pass the Healthy Dog Importation Act, which strengthens dog importation requirements and provides the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) with the necessary tools to monitor and safeguard the health of dogs being imported into the United States.</p>	
OS-0215-15	<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>	

- [January 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.

	<p>Massachusetts Becomes Latest Jurisdiction to Accept VAULT Premium Transfer Services</p> <p>As of January 1, Massachusetts becomes the 59th jurisdiction to accept the VAULT Premium Transfer Service. The AAVSB is excited that with this acceptance, the Board’s staff and veterinary professionals alike will experience a more consistent and efficient licensure process.</p> <p>Call for By-Law Amendments</p> <p>Please send any proposed amendments in the actual wording for inclusion in the Bylaws by February 29, 2024.</p>	
OS-0215-16	<p><u>LEGISLATIVE/REGULATIONS</u> <u>PDMP</u></p> <p>DC Health FY 23 Performance Oversight Hearing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DC Health recently had its performance oversight hearing in the Committee on Health for Fiscal Year 2023. ▪ The first part of the hearing was held on January 18th, 2024. That hearing featured public witnesses and included representatives from advocacy organizations, healthcare systems, and non-profit providers. That hearing can be watched at the following link. ▪ Representatives from DC Health then testified to the Committee on January 22nd, 2024. Testimony was provided by Director Bennett and other members of leadership and subject matter experts. Councilmembers asked questions of DC Health on a variety of topics including health professional licensing, DC Health’s upcoming move, maternal health, food access, opioid abatement, and school health. That hearing can be watched at the following link. <p>Board Performance Oversight Hearing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On February 14th, the Committee on Health is hosting a Performance Oversight for the following health professional licensing boards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Board of Dietetics and Nutrition ○ Board of Massage Therapy ○ Board of Nursing ○ Board of Veterinary Medicine 	

- The hearing will feature testimony from public witnesses as well as from Chairpersons of the boards. Following their testimony, board Chairs will answer questions from Councilmembers.

Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023:

- Councilmembers Henderson and Parker introduced the *Health Professional Licensing Boards Residency Requirement Amendment Act of 2023* ([B25-0312](#)) on June 2, 2023.
 - This legislation would permit non-District residents to serve on health professional licensing boards.
 - There would be restrictions, including that the Board Chair and Consumer Members would continue to need to be District residents and no more than 50% of the Board could be made up of non-District residents.
- This bill received a hearing on [July 13, 2023](#). DC Health testified during this hearing and expressed support for the need for innovative solutions to fill board vacancies and offered some changes to the bill. It then passed on final reading on November 7th, was signed by the Mayor on November 21st, and became official law on January 23, 2024.

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-0215-17	<p><u>LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS</u></p> <p>https://dccouncil.us/events/list/</p>	

DISCUSSION ITEMS	
OS-0215-18	<u>MATTERS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION</u>
OS-0215-19	<u>FINAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u>
OS-0215-20	<u>READING OF OPEN SESSION MOTIONS</u>

CLOSING		
OS-0215-21	<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-0215-22	<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>	

This ends the Open Session Agenda, next meeting is scheduled for **March 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