

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

3:00PM - 4:00PM

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
	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 SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

OS-0919-01	<p><u>INTRODUCTIONS</u></p> <p>A. CALL TO ORDER – 3:03 PM</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), Arian Gibson (Excused absence), Aisha Nixon (Excused absence) and Lakethia McCoy (Excused Absence).</p> <p>F. PUBLIC ATTENDANCE — Beth Venit, AAVSB; Sarah Sirica, City Wildlife; Janine Calabro, DCVMA and Nicole Luensman, Friendship Hospital for Animals</p>
OS-0919-02	<p>Board Action:</p> <p>Acceptance of September 19, 2024 Open Session agenda.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session meeting agenda for September 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-0919-03	<p><u>APPROVAL OF OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</u></p> <p>Board Action:</p> <p>Consideration of Open Session minutes from July 18, 2024 meeting.</p> <p>Motion: Members move to approve the Open Session minutes from July 18, 2024 meeting.</p> <p>Moved By: Dan Teich, DVM, Board Chairperson</p> <p>Seconded By: Blair Zervos, Consumer Member</p> <p>Motion Carried</p>	
OS-0919-04	<p><u>OPEN SESSION CONSENT AGENDA:</u></p>	
OS-0919-05	<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 informed the Board that effective October 1, 2024, there will be a new department within DC Health, Environmental Health Administration and some of the Animal Services components will be transferred to it. This department will work under the leadership of Mr. Gibson.</p>	

OS-0919-06	<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 provided an update regarding the reciprocity agreement between DC, Maryland and Virginia. DC Health has received comments and feedback from Maryland regarding the agreement. We will have more updates after reviewing those comments.</p>	
OS-0919-07	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT</u></p> <p><i>Census</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Licenses: 464 • Paid Inactive: 24 • Expired Licenses: 667 • Approved Renewal Applications: 379 • New Applications Under Review: 04 • 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>	
OS-0919-08	<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>Ms. Joy McFarlane-Mills reported the ongoing animal related activities in the District. She mentioned Doggy Day Swim that DC Health administers in collaboration with DPR. The event was a huge success and hundreds of District residents brought their dogs to swim before the pools close for the winter season.</p> <p>Ms. McFarlane-Mills also reported 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. The series of these weekly free pet vaccine clinics kicked off on September 14, 2024 and they will continue through to the first week of November.</p> <p>Dr. Sarah Sirica stated that she will be collaborating with Animal Services' arbovirus team to report the data collected by City Wildlife since June 2024.</p>	
OS-0919-09	<p><u>BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT</u></p> <p>Dr. Dan Teich had nothing specific to report.</p>	
OS-0919-10	<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 style="padding-left: 40px;">i. Client Communication and Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. 	

	<div>ii. Natural Language Processing (NLP):</div> <div><div>- NLP algorithms can analyze veterinary literature, case reports, and clinical notes to extract relevant information.</div><div>- Veterinarians can benefit from AI-generated summaries and recommendations.</div></div> <div>iii. Diagnostics and Imaging:</div> <div>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.</div> <div>iv. Predictive Analytics:</div> <div><div>- 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.</div></div> <div>v. Treatment Planning:</div> <div><div>- AI can recommend personalized treatment plans based on an individual animal's health history, genetics, and response to previous treatments.</div><div>- It can also suggest optimal drug dosages and monitor treatment effectiveness.</div></div> <div>vi. Health Monitoring:</div> <div><div>- Wearable devices and sensors equipped with AI can continuously monitor vital signs, detect anomalies, and alert veterinarians to potential health issues.</div><div>- This real-time monitoring enhances early disease detection and intervention.</div></div> <div>vii. Research and Drug Discovery:</div> <div><div>- AI assists in analyzing large datasets, identifying genetic markers, and predicting drug interactions.</div><div>- It accelerates research and drug development for both animals and humans.</div></div>	
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	<p>viii. Population Health Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AI helps track population health trends, assess vaccination coverage, and manage disease control programs. - It contributes to better overall animal welfare. <p>Dr. Sophie Kindberg-Hanlon continued the discussion on cosmetic treatments of pets and the ethical aspects associated to it.</p> <p>She invited Dr. Nicole Luensman from Friendship Hospital for Animals who gave a presentation about how these cosmetic treatments affect pets' physical and mental health.</p> <p>Board will continue this discussion in the upcoming meetings.</p>	
OS-0919-11	<p><u>COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u></p> <p>Dr. Janine Calabro read DCVMA's support statement regarding the proposed Telemedicine Practice Act for healthcare professionals in the District.</p>	
OS-0919-12	<p><u>HOUSEKEEPING</u></p> <p>Future Board meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 17, 2024 (In-Person) • November 21, 2024 • December 19, 2024 • January 16, 2025 • February 20, 2025 • March 20, 2025 	

OS-0919-13	<p><u>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR VETERINARY ASSESSMENT (ICVA) UPDATES - FYI</u></p> <p>ICVA Volunteers</p> <p>Several exciting new volunteer opportunities are available beginning this year. ICVA invites all veterinarians, from experienced practitioners to recent graduates, to join our community of volunteers. You can learn more about volunteer opportunities here and how you can get involved, or contact us directly.</p>	
OS-0919-14	<p><u>AVMA UPDATES – FYI</u></p>	
OS-0919-15	<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"> • July 2024 Report • August 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. 	

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.

Seeking Volunteers for Working Group on Artificial Intelligence

The American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) seeks volunteer subject matter experts to assist in refining a Guidance Document on Regulatory Considerations on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Mid-Year passed Bill Report

<https://aavsbmemberservices.org/full-reports/>

2024 AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference

The Nominating Committee would like to thank all of the nominees and their Member Boards for their interest in being leaders of the AAVSB.

[View the nominating committee report](#)

AAVSB Bylaws and Resolution Committee

This year, the AAVSB received one resolution. During the AAVSB's Business Session for the upcoming 2024 Annual Meeting & Conference, the Delegate Assembly will vote on the proposed Bylaws Amendment, Resolution, and Proclamations. Please review the information found on the AAVSB Annual Meeting webpage and Voting Delegates tab.

2024 Nominee Interview Videos

To help you get to know this year's nominees running for leadership positions, the Meet the Nominee videos are available to view on the AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference website.

OS-0919-16

LEGISLATIVE/REGULATIONS
PDMP

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 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. A mark-up was held on [March 21st, 2024](#).
- This legislation was unanimously approved on first and second readings, was then signed by the Mayor on May 29th, and became law on July 19, 2024. DC Health is developing an implementation plan which will closely involve Board members.

Pets in Housing Amendment Act of 2024:

- On May 22nd, 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, and a hearing has been scheduled for October 8, 2024.

Council Recess:

- The District of Columbia Council is on recess from July 15th through September 15th.
- Upon their return, the Council will resume their regular legislative business.

Mr. Matteo Lieb reported the consolidation of some boards within DC Health and the formation of new ones.

He also informed that the Council is back from recess.

The Council is currently working on regulations about how housing entities can prohibit having certain breeds of animals in the apartment units.

	<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-0919-17	<p><u>LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS</u></p> <p>https://dccouncil.us/events/list/</p>	

DISCUSSION ITEMS

OS-0919-18	<u>MATTERS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION</u>
OS-0919-19	<u>FINAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u>
OS-0919-20	<u>READING OF OPEN SESSION MOTIONS</u>

CLOSING

OS-0919-21	<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</p>	
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	Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov	
OS-0919-22	<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 **October 17, 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