

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND SURGERY**

July 26, 2023

ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairperson, Elizabeth Farrington, DVM, at the Hampton Inn & Suites, in the Husker Conference Room at 7343 Husker Circle, Lincoln, Nebraska 68504. The meeting was conducted In-Person and by WebEx. Board members present and answering roll call were:

Elizabeth Farrington, DVM, Chairperson
Joshua Schlote, LVT, Vice-Chairperson
Donovan Hauser, DVM

Absent: Christopher G. Byers, DVM, DACVECC, DACVIM (SAIM), CVJ, Secretary
Theresa Clary, Public Member

A quorum being present, the meeting convened. Also present to participate in the meeting: Jesse Cushman, Program Manager, Licensure Unit, Jan Gadeken-Harris, Health Licensing Coordinator, Licensure Unit; Dina Mekic, Program Manager, Behavior Health; Mindy Lester, Assistant Attorney General; Jeanne Burke, Assistant Attorney General; Teresa Hampton, DHHS Department Legal via WebEx; Larry Wiehn, Investigator, with the Investigation Unit and Anna Harrison, Compliance Monitor, with the Licensure and Investigation Units via WebEx.

Farrington announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Board members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>, and posted in the Licensure Unit on July 13, 2023.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Schlote moved, seconded by Hauser, to adopt the Agenda. Voting aye: Farrington, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: Byers and Clary. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Hauser moved, seconded by Schlote to approve the April 26, 2023, minutes as written. Voting aye: Farrington, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: Byers and Clary. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

LEGISLATION & REGULATION UPDATES

Kaylie Fritts, DVM, Deputy Nebraska State Veterinarian with the Agriculture Department was present for discussion with the Board.

Dr. Fritts reported that the last commercial outbreak for NPAI (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza) was in May, nationally, and there are no current open control zones in the United States at this time.

Dr. Fritts also reported that the USDA does routine surveillance for pseudorabies (PRV) in pigs. There was a report of a positive result at the end of April at a slaughterhouse in Nebraska. Ultimately after all the checks and triple checks were performed, they came back as false positives or non-negative and the situation has been resolved.

The Board continued the discussion regarding the need for Veterinary Technicians in the field of large animal veterinary practices and the possibility of amending the scope of practice for Veterinary Technicians.

Dr. Farrington has drafted survey questions from the Board and consulted with Megan Kilgore, Executive Director of the NVMA to construct a survey with the questions to be sent out to the NVMA constituents for their feedback responses.

INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS AND APPLICATION REVIEW – CLOSED SESSION

Schlote moved, seconded by Hauser, to go into closed session at 9:20 a.m., for the purpose of review and discussion of investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Voting aye: Farrington, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: Byers and Clary. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Board Break 10:00 a.m.

Board Reconvened 10:15 a.m.

Farrington, Chairperson opened the session at 10:15 a.m.

APPLICATION REVIEW (0)– OPEN SESSION

There were no applications to be reviewed by the Board.

PRACTICE QUESTION(S)

- A. Can the Board provide some guidance on the ethics and policies of corrective surgery for stenotic nares in dogs? Most notably the age in which a DVM should ethically perform the surgery?
It is the opinion of the Board that answers should be researched using the current guidance regarding stenotic nares that are available on various veterinary professional association websites.

2023 AAVSB ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

The 2023 AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference is scheduled for September 28-30, 2023, in Kansas City, MO.

Hauser moved and seconded by Schlote, to have Dr. Hauser represent the Board at the AAVSB Conference as the Voting Delegate and Joshua Schlote as the Alternate Delegate. Voting aye: Farrington, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: Byers and Clary. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

In addition to Dr. Hauser and Josh attending and representing the Nebraska Board, Dr. Farrington and Dr. Byers are both on AAVSB Committees and will be attending the meeting to represent the Nebraska Board as well as the AAVSB Board. Mindy Lester, Assistant Attorney General will also attend the meeting as the Legal Counsel representative.

Theresa Clary, the public member of the Nebraska Board will consult her schedule to see if she is available to attend the meeting.

SCHEDULE OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 2023. The schedule will be posted on the DHHS website. <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Farrington, Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

signature available upon request

Joshua Schlote, LVT, Vice-Chairperson
Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery