

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

July 24, 2024

ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chairperson, Elizabeth Farrington, DVM, at the Hampton Inn & Suites, Husker Conference Room, 7343 Husker Circle, Lincoln, NE 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
Christopher G. Byers, DVM, DACVECC, DACVIM (SAIM), CVJ, Secretary
Donovan Hauser, DVM
Public Member position vacant

A quorum being present, the meeting convened. Also present to participate in the meeting: Vonda Apking, Program Manager, Licensure Unit, Jan Gadeken-Harris, Health Licensing Coordinator, Licensure Unit; Abigail Nissen, Assistant Attorney General; Teresa Hampton, DHHS Department Legal; Larry Wiehn, Investigator, with the Investigation Unit.

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 on the Bulletin Board at the entrance to the Nebraska State Office Building on July 10, 2024 and revised on July 22, 2024.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Schlote moved, seconded by Byers to approve the April 24, 2024, minutes as written. Voting aye: Byers, Farrington, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE UPDATES

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

NPAI (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza) to date no detections have been made in Nebraska, this includes the bovine, poultry, or human population. The State of Colorado does have 3 confirmed reports in poultry and dairy.

EIA (Equine Infectious Anemia) one positive case was reported in NE and the horse was euthanized. The rest of the herd was tested and all tested negative for EIA.

The USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) released it's new ruling on Animal Disease Traceability in May. <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/traceability>

2024 LEGISLATION UPDATES

With the passing of LB910 the DHHS EMS Department is inquiring if the Board has any specific suggestions for additional education and or training that should be implemented.

The Board's basic suggestion is to take or review BLS (Basic Life Support) Training for canines.

LB910 - Authorize an emergency medical service to transport and emergency care providers to provide emergency medical care to injured law enforcement canines.

Approved by the Governor on April 16, 2024.

Slip Law: <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/108/PDF/Slip/LB910.pdf>

REGULATION UPDATES

The Board reviewed the Draft Regulations for Title 172 Chapter 180 Practice of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery. Schlote moved, seconded by Byers to approve the draft with the suggested changes in language.

Voting aye: Byers, Farrington, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Vonda Apking noted that the Regulations will be updated further once the Licensure Unit has received the opinion on LB16 from DHHS Legal Department.

LB16 - Require occupational boards to issue certain credentials based on credentials or work experience in another jurisdiction, provide and change requirements regarding applicants with a criminal conviction, provide for jurisprudential examinations and appeals, change requirements for membership of the State Electrical Board, and adopt the Interior Design Voluntary Registration Act

Approved by the Governor on March 5, 2024.

Slip Law: <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/108/PDF/Slip/LB16.pdf>

INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS AND APPLICATION REVIEW – CLOSED SESSION

Byers moved, seconded by Hauser, to go into closed session at 9:56 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: Byers, Farrington, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Board Break 9:57 a.m.

Board Reconvened 10:05 a.m.

Farrington, Chairperson opened the session at 12:07 p.m.

APPLICATION REVIEW (1)– OPEN SESSION

HARVEY, HANNAH – application requesting Board sponsorship to test for the VTNE past the 5th attempt. Byers moved, seconded by Hauser to recommend Board sponsorship to Ms. Harvey to retest for the VTNE. Voting aye: Byers, Farrington, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

AAVSB (American Association of Veterinary State Boards) Annual Meeting

The 2024 AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference is scheduled for September 25-28, 2024, in San Diego and registration is currently open.

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

Abigail Nissen, Assistant Attorney General will also plan to attend the AAVSB Annual Meeting as the Board's Legal Counsel.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There are currently no public comments.

SCHEDULE OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2024. 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 12:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

signature available upon request

Christopher G. Byers, DVM, DACVECC, DACVIM (SAIM), CVJ, Secretary
Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery