

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

**November 30, 2022**

**ROLL CALL**

The meeting of the Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery was called to order at 9:00 am by Vice Chairperson, Joshua Schlote, LVT, 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:

Joshua Schlote, LVT, Vice-Chairperson  
Christopher G. Byers, DVM, DACVECC, DACVIM (SAIM), CVJ, Secretary  
Donovan Hauser, DVM  
Theresa Clary, Public Member

Absent: Elizabeth Farrington, DVM, Chairperson

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; Mindy Lester, 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.

Schlote 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 November 18, 2022.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Byers moved, seconded by Hauser to approve the August 24, 2022 minutes as written. Voting aye: Byers, Clary, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: Farrington. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS AND APPLICATION REVIEW – CLOSED SESSION**

Byers moved, seconded by Hauser, to go into closed session at 9:05 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, Clary, Hauser and Schlote. Voting nay: None. Absent: Farrington. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Schlote, Vice Chairperson opened the session at 9:45 a.m.

**APPLICATION REVIEW (0)– OPEN SESSION**

No applications were presented for review.

## **REGULATIONS UPDATE**

Roger Dudley, DVM, Nebraska State Veterinarian and Animal Health Administrator was present at the meeting to discuss the proposed changes with Regulations.

The Board discussed proposing revisions for the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery Regulations, Title 172 Chapter 180. The Board is proposing revision to the "Surgery" definition as listed in 002.08 and adding "Suturing" to the list of tasks for a Veterinary Technician under "Direct" supervision as listed in 004.01(B).

The items suggested for proposed additions to the lists of tasks are as follows:

- Adding to the tasks under Immediate Supervision 004.01(A):
  - **Intraosseous catheterizations**
- Adding to the tasks under Direct Supervision 004.01(B)
  - **closing of skin tissue as directed by the veterinarian**
  - **thoracocentesis, abdominocentesis, excluding pericardiocentesis**
  - **suturing or closing of gingival tissue as directed by the veterinarian**

The proposed change to the definition of "Surgery" defined in 002.08 would be the following:

- The treatment, through revision, destruction, incision, closure except as permitted in this chapter, or other structural alteration of animal tissue.

Jesse Cushman, Program Manager will submit the proposed revisions for review as soon as reasonably appropriate.

## **2022 LEGISLATION UPDATES**

There were no Legislation updates at this time.

## **AAVSB CONFERENCE**

The American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) held their Annual Meeting & Conference in Charlotte, NC on September 15-17, 2022.

Dr. Farrington a member of the AAVSB Bylaws Committee, attended the meeting representing the AAVSB in that capacity. At the meeting Dr. Farrington was elected to serve on the International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA) as an (AAVSB) representative for 2023.

Dr. Byers represented the Nebraska Board at the meeting as the Voting Delegate. Dr. Byers was elected to serve on the Regulatory Policy Task Force for the AAVSB for 2023.

Mindy Lester, Assistant Attorney General also attended the meeting as legal counsel, representing the Nebraska Board and the Department.

The next Annual Meeting & Conference will be held in Kansas City, September 28-30, 2023.

Dr. Byers noted that suggestions for changes to the AAVSB bylaws will be due in March 2023.

Board Break 10:45 a.m.  
Board Reconvened 10:51 a.m.

### **COMPOUNDING ANIMAL DRUGS FROM BULK DRUG SUBSTANCES**

Dean Willson, RP, Pharmacy Inspector for the Department joined the meeting via WebEx to discuss the compounding animal drug issues with the Board.

Below are websites for review regarding Guidance Documents for Compounding from Bulk:

<https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/cvm-gfi-256-compounding-animal-drugs-bulk-drug-substances>

<https://www.fda.gov/animal-veterinary/unapproved-animal-drugs/animal-drug-compounding>

<https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=38-2867.01>

### **COALITION FOR CONNECTED VETERINARY CARE**

Dr. Byers explained that the Coalition is an alliance of veterinary and animal health organizations united to empower veterinarians to explore and integrate tools of telehealth into their practices in ways that work for them. To better serve patients, clients, veterinary teams, and practices in a variety of ways:

- Strengthen relationships among practices, clients, and patients
- Improve continuity in patient care
- Fully engage technology to advance care
- Enhance practice efficiency

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) believes the answer lies in a collaborative, grassroots approach. That's why the AVMA is a lead partner in the Coalition working together with the Coalition for Connected Veterinary Care to provide advocacy and resources that respect the integrity of the veterinarian-client-patient relationship and support the way veterinarians practice.

The Board suggested that the Nebraska Veterinary Medical Association (NVMA) may be interested in researching and joining the Coalition.

To learn more regarding the Coalition go to: <https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/telehealth-telemedicine-veterinary-practice/coalition-connected-veterinary-care>

### **SCHEDULE OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETING**

The next Board of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 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, Schlote, Vice Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\*signature available upon request\*

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