



PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark NJ 07102



MATTHEW J. PLATKIN
Attorney General

CARI FAIS
Acting Director

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES MAY 29, 2024

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 45020
Newark, NJ 07101
(973) 504-6500

I. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT NOTICE:

The May 29, 2024 meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners was not held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey, but remotely. Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice was provided electronically within 72 hours of the scheduled meeting, and was provided by mail to the Office of the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Bergen Record and the Courier Post and also posted on the Board's web page. The agenda reflected, to the extent known at the time of this notice, Board matters. The meeting began at 10:04A.M., and was conducted electronically only.

I. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Board President, Mark Logan, V.M.D.	(x)	()
Board Member, Barry Adler, D.V.M.	(x)	()
Board Member, Neal Beeber, D.V.M	(x)	()
Board Member, Donald Bruno, D.V.M.	(x)	()
Board Member, Steven Charnick, Ph.D.	(x)	()
Board Member, David Croman, V.M.D.	(x)	()

Board Staff Present:

Executive Director, Courtney Turner
Deputy Attorneys General, Barbara Lopez
Regulatory Analyst, Nicole Parelli

Members of the Public:

Matthew Edson, Dean of Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine of Rowan University
Michael Azzarello, President, New Jersey Veterinary Technician Association
Michael Yurkus, D.V.M.

II. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES:

i. **Public Minutes – May 1, 2024**

The Board reviewed the May 1, 2024 minutes.

On a motion by Dr. Beeber seconded by Dr. Croman, the Board approved the May 1, 2024 minutes as amended.

Motion approved unanimously.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

i. **Status of Board Operations**
(Executive Director, Courtney Turner)

At the May 1, 2024 meeting, the Board discussed changing the meeting dates for July, August, September, and December. ED Turner reported that the updated meeting dates have been reflected on the Board's website and communicated to the Secretary of State and the press, in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

The Division is seeking Board input regarding the use of a hybrid meeting platform. Board members weighed in on this topic, with some pointing out that in-person meetings would eliminate technology issues and be more effective for conducting investigative inquiries. It was agreed that the Board would be interested in exploring a hybrid meeting option, which would not require Board members or the public to attend in person.

The Board selected two delegates to attend the AAVBS Annual Conference, to be held in San Diego this September. Dr. Croman was chosen to represent the NJ Board as the Voting Delegate, and ED Turner will serve as the Board's Alternate Delegate. Dr. Logan will also attend the conference as a member of the AAVSB Finance Committee.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE:

None at this time

V. OLD BUSINESS:

None at this time

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

i. Rowan University Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine Committee

a) May 18, 2024 Committee Meeting Report – Dr. Croman

b) Schedule next committee meeting

At the last subcommittee meeting on May 18, 2024, the committee followed up on previously discussed matters with Dr. Matthew Edson, the Dean of Rowan University Shreiber School of Veterinary Medicine.

The committee discussed the possibility of an exemption for the veterinary school to begin rabies clinics even before student classes start. Regulatory Analyst is reviewing proposed language with her supervisor.

The committee discussed creating an institutional license for the staff at the veterinary school. This type of license, common in other states, would allow staff to work exclusively at the institution. The challenge is that New Jersey does not currently have an institutional license, and issuing a full license could allow individuals to work outside the school.

A proposed solution is to amend regulations to recognize an institutional license from another state as equivalent to a full New Jersey license, provided the individual works at the veterinary school. Creating an institutional license would likely require state legislative action, which is less preferable than amending existing regulations.

The committee will meet next on June 14, 2024 at 9A.M.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE:

i. Sharon Greenhut, DVM HomeHeart Vets – Consent on micro-chipped strays

The question pertains to whether a veterinarian's client, who finds a stray cat with a microchip, can prevent contact with the original owner.

The Board advised that the client cannot overlook the ethical responsibility to notify the Animal Control Officer (ACO) with the microchip's ID number and scan the database for the owner.

ii. Long Island Bird & Exotics Veterinary Clinic - Internship Confirmation

Several reinstatement applicants have inquired about using internship hours to fulfill the CE requirement. One applicant completed an internship in exotic pet medicine, but the correspondence received lacks details on the internship's parameters and the supervising veterinarians' qualifications.

Question: Can the Board evaluate the quality or acceptability of CE credits from non-RACE/AVMA approved sponsors?

The Board noted that internships themselves are not considered an approved form of CE.

iii. Christine Krenicki, DVM – Against Medical Advice Forms

The inquiry concerns New Jersey laws on AMA forms, asking if a doctor can simply document a patient's refusal of treatments or diagnostics in the medical records, or if a formal AMA form must be signed by the patient for valid documentation.

The Board advised that proper record keeping is essential. Documenting a patient's refusal of treatments in the records is sufficient; an AMA form is not necessary. Complete records are advisable to defend against possible complaints.

iv. Dr. Brittany Scott – Ethics question

The inquiry is from a veterinarian who attended a dermatology lecture, learned about Rayne nutrition, and recommended it to clients. The veterinarian received a commission check from the company and seeks an ethical opinion on depositing it.

The Board advised informing the nutritional company that providing commission to veterinarians for recommending their products is considered unethical and is not allowed in NJ.

IX. REGULATORY AFFAIRS

i. Chapter 44 Readoption Notice

The Board's regulations are set to expire on October 2, 2024. A readoption notice

was presented to maintain the current regulations. The Board should review the regulations for any necessary changes. A vote on this will take place at the next public session.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

The public portion of the meeting concluded at 10:44 A.M.

Dr. Bruno a motion, seconded by Dr. Beeber, for the Board to go into executive session to discuss matters exempt from the open public meetings act pursuant to N.J.S.A 10:4-12(b). The Board does not anticipate taking any public action today. The Board will not be returning to public session today. The next meeting is scheduled for July 3, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

Motion passed unanimously.