



Veterinary Medical Board

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MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee

November 13, 2013
Sacramento, California

Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) Chair Dr. William Grant, II, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Veterinary Medical Board (Board) Executive Officer Susan Geranen called roll; seven members of the MDC were present and thus a quorum was established.

Members Present

William Grant, II, DVM, Chair
Jennifer Boyle, RVT, Vice-Chair
Allan Drusys, DVM
David Johnson, RVT
Jon Klingborg, DVM
Diana Woodward Hagle, Public Member
Richard Sullivan, DVM, Board Liaison

Staff Present

Susan Geranen, Executive Officer, Veterinary Medical Board
Annemarie Del Mugnaio, Incoming Executive Office, Veterinary Medical Board
Paul Sanchez, Assistant Executive Officer
Rebecca Bon, Legal Counsel
Erika Calderon, Enforcement Analyst
Diann Sokoloff, Deputy Attorney General Liaison
Ethan Mathes, Administrative Programs Coordinator
Sandra Monterrubio, Enforcement Program Coordinator
Allison Nagao-Dutra, Enforcement Analyst
Elizabeth Parker-Smith, Administrative Analyst
Karen Robison, Administrative Analyst
Beth Parvin, DVM

Guests Present

Nancy Ehrlich, RVT, California Registered Veterinary Technicians Association (CaRVTA)
Val Fenstermaker, Executive Director, California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)
Corrine Fishman, DCA
Alex Henderson, RVT, VASE
Ron Kelpo, DVM, California Veterinary Medical Association
Tom Kendall, DVM, Veterinary Medical Board President
Eric Mills
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, California Veterinary Medical Association
Greg Prudin, Department of Consumer Affairs, Legislative Unit
Dan Segna, DVM, California Veterinary Medical Association
Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM, Board Member
Kim Williams, RVT, Veterinary Medical Board Vice-President

Annemarie Del Mugnaio was introduced as the new Executive Officer of the Veterinary Medical Board effective December 2, 2013.

1. Approve March 13, 2013 Meeting Minutes

- **Dr. Jon Klingborg motioned and Dr. Allan Drusys seconded the motion to approve the March 13, 2013 Meeting Minutes with amendments. The motioned carried 7-0**

2. Executive Officer Report

Ms. Geranen reported the minimum standards regulation has been approved and will become effective January 1, 2014. She thanked Ethan Mathes for his hard work over the past four years on this rulemaking file.

A. Board Program Reports

Paul Sanchez reported the Board is addressing workload and staffing issues through the budget process. Ms. Del Mugnaio and Mr. Sanchez will work on new hires in 2014.

Dr. Grant, II inquired about the BreEZe database conversion. Mr. Sanchez reported staff participation has been minimal but expects participation to increase once the rollout of Phase 1 is complete.

Dr. Jon Klingborg asked if the Board would move to webcast all meetings when the Board moves to their new office. Mr. Mathes reported the board meetings would be webcast.

Sandra Monterrubio reported the Board has hired Emily Kast as support staff in enforcement. Ms. Kast, who starts November 18, 2013 will open enforcement complaints and assist enforcement staff, as needed.

Ms. Monterrubio reported enforcement has assigned 200 routine hospital inspections and 25 complaint related hospital inspections. Dr. Grant II, asked if that was 20%. Ms. Monterrubio noted the Board would need to inspect approximately 600 hospitals each year to reach 20% and that they did not have the funds in the budget to increase the amount of inspections this year.

Mr. Mathes reported the transition to the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) would take place on March 1, 2014. Frequently asked questions (FAQ's) will be addressed at the Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) Task Force Meeting and will be added to the Board website. The contract with the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) to administer the VTNE is approximately ninety days out.

Discuss SB 304 – Sunset

Ms. Geranen reported legislature extended the Boards Sunset date until January 1, 2016. The legislature should send questions to the Board around May 2014 and the Board will need to submit their response in November 2014. A bill to extend the Board four to six years should be introduced in 2015 if the questions are answered satisfactorily.

Ms. Geranen reported the bill requires the MDC to add a veterinary member from the Board and the RVT member from the Board effective January 1, 2014, and the RVT Task Force will be eliminated.

SB 304 requires the Board, contingent on adequate board staffing levels, to issue a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit to a Veterinary Assistant (VA) who does not have any drug related convictions as confirmed by the background check, to obtain or administer controlled substances. The bill requires an applicant to furnish a set of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting a background check and to update their mailing address, employer and renew the permit.

Ms. Del Mugnaio stated staff will be gathering data on how many VA's are employed. The estimate is there are between six and twelve thousand VA's employed in California whereby; Dr. Grant, II surmised that number is a low estimate.

The definition of access to controlled substances was questioned. Rebecca Bon responded that access was defined as: to obtain and administer a controlled substance; whereas, Greg Prudin countered with access is as designated by a veterinarian to a VA to obtain or administer controlled substances. Obtain was clarified as having access to the locked cabinet and it was suggested that access to the locked cabinet should be kept to a minimum.

Ms. Geranen informed the MDC that the \$12 CURES fee becomes effective April 1, 2014, and will affect all licensed veterinarians.

3. Discuss On-going Issues

The MDC reviewed the existing Multidisciplinary Committee proposed assignments from the Veterinary Medical Board Action Plan. The list was updated to reflect the status of each assignment.

A. Update on Minimum Standards Regulations and the Impact of Implementation

Minimum standards will be effective January 1, 2014 and the Board is going to take an educational approach to getting the new information out to the profession. Excerpts of substantial changes will be up on the website in the hospital/premise section and an article will be in the next newsletter. There will be a short grace period before hospital inspectors cite any of the changes in their inspections.

Dr. Allan Drusys stated minimum standards were needed for shelters. Ms. Geranen noted the Board does not have jurisdiction over shelters unless the shelter includes a hospital however; shelter FAQ's are included on the website. Concern over not having authority over shelters was expressed and Diann Sokoloff stated an option could be citing shelters for unlicensed activity.

i. Hospital Premises

Changing unregistered assistant to veterinary assistant on the Veterinary Premise Application was addressed however; staff is going to review the application to capture other revisions needed to the application.

ii. Hospital Standards Checklist

Information on changes to the hospital standards will be sent out to the premises and managing licensees as soon as possible. Updating the hospital standards checklist and adding a PDF version of the changes to the Board website is expected to be completed in early 2014. Val Fenstermaker offered the help of the CVMA to assist the Board in getting the changes out to the profession. Diann Sokoloff noted a check box on the hospital renewal form affirming knowledge of the minimum standard regulation would be acceptable proof at a hearing. Dr. Grant, II thanked Mr. Mathes for his hard work on the minimum standards regulation.

B. Review and Consider Telemedicine

The MDC discussed telemedicine which included defining telemedicine, defining types of care such as primary vs. consultant, the level of care, and level of supervision. Ms. Del Mugnaio noted there is no exemption for primary care and the Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) was discussed. Dr. Grant, II asked what the Board needs to write the regulation and Ms. Sokoloff suggested to map as you write to ensure information is not missed or duplicated. Dr. Sullivan noted Board staff or a subcommittee can address specific issues such as exemptions and conflicts with the practice act. Jennifer Boyle, RVT suggested using primary veterinarian in place of primary care.

C. Review and Consider University License

Dr. Grant II, stated the UC Regents make decisions about the UC system and the Board has no control over them. A university license would need to be a fast process. Meeting with the university dean's and faculty members to obtain their "buy-in" for licensure and include human medical protocol in the reasoning for licensure since the schools have transitioned from teaching to serving the public and there is a need for accountability. Dr. Drusys stated the ECFVG or PAVE certificate is a two year process and is not needed to teach. Dr. Ron Kelpie suggested a jurisprudence exam be taken by these applicants. Dr. Tom Kendall suggested a reciprocity route for faculty to transition from a university license to a regular veterinary license and Dr. Segna suggested a temporary license for those faculty members who need time to complete the ECFVG or PAVE in order to transition to a regular veterinary license. Dr. Grant, II suggested a subcommittee work on this and report back to the MDC at the March meeting.

D. Review and Consider Electronic Record Keeping

Diane Woodward Hagle thanked Dr. Klingborg for his work on the Electronic Record Keeping language. Discussion ensued regarding time locks on record entries and it was noted that each hospital has a different policies in place for entering information into the record. Concern about preventing altered records was discussed. Addendums to existing records is acceptable and it is noted discipline is already in place to address the issue of altering the original record entry. Changing electronic to digital and other word changes were noted.

4. Comments from Public/Outside Agencies/Associations

Eric Mills with Action for Animals is requesting assistance in amending Penal Code 596.7 to require a licensed veterinarian or RVT, with a veterinarian on call, at all rodeos held in California. Mr. Mills stated there are at least 95 sanctioned rodeos held in California each year and the amount of Rodeo reporting forms received by the Board seems extremely low.

Dr. Grant, II thanked Ms. Geranen for her work at the Board and stated he was looking forward to working with Ms. Del Mugnaio in the future.

5. Agenda Items and Next Meeting Dates
 - A. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
 - B. RVT Task Force Meeting - Sacramento
 - i. November 14, 2013
 - C. Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee Meetings - Sacramento
 - i. March 12, 2014

Adjourn

The MDC meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

- **Dr. Richard Sullivan motioned and Dr. Jon Klingborg seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion carried 7-0**