



Mission: To protect all consumers and animals by regulating licensees, promoting professional standards, and enforcing the California Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.

**CALIFORNIA VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD
 MEETING MINUTES¹
 APRIL 15-16, 2026**

Physical Location:
 Department of Consumer Affairs
 1625 North Market Boulevard, Hearing Room
 Sacramento, CA 95834

Additional Public Participation:
 Teleconference/WebEx Events

Recordings of the webcast are available here:
 Agenda Items 1-6, 8-11, 12.B., and 15 (<https://youtu.be/TFHrWUWbRNw>)
 Agenda Items 7, 13, 14, 16, 18, and 19-25 (https://youtu.be/5_FyrFRZzal)
Agenda Items 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12.B., 13, 15, and 16 were taken out of order.

10:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Members Present:	Management Staff Present:
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	Jessica Siefertman, Executive Officer (EO)
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	Matt McKinney, Deputy EO
Christina Bradbury, DVM	Andrea Amaya-Torres, Administration/Licensing Manager
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	Patty Rodriguez, Enforcement Manager
Steven Manyak, DVM	Ashley Sanchez, Enforcement Manager
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	Justin Sotelo, Policy Specialist
Anna Orlowski, Esq.	Robert Stephanopoulos, Enforcement Manager
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	
	Legal Affairs Division Staff Present:
Student Liaisons Present:	Elizabeth Dietzen-Olsen, Regulations Counsel, Attorney III
Anna Styles, Western University	Ken Swenson, Board Counsel, Attorney III
	Other Staff and Guests Present: On File

*Protection of the public shall be the highest priority for the California Veterinary Medical Board in exercising its licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. Whenever the protection of the public is inconsistent with other interests sought to be promoted, **the protection of the public shall be paramount.** (BPC, § 4800.1)*

1. **Call to Order / Roll Call / Establishment of a Quorum**

Board President, Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. EO, Jessica Sieferman, called roll, and a quorum was established.

2. **Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda**

Public comment was received from:

- [Bonnie Lutz](#), Esq., Klinedinst

3. **Review and Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**

A. **October 15-16, 2025**

1. **Full Minutes**
2. **Action Minutes**

B. **January 21-22, 2026**

1. **Action Minutes**

Motion: C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, moved and Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, seconded a motion to approve the October 15-16, 2025 action minutes, as amended, and the January 21-22, 2026 action minutes.

There was no public comment on this item.

The motion carried 7-0-1 with Anna Orłowski abstaining.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orłowski, Esq.			X	
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

4. **Report and Update from Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA)**

There was no action or public comment on this item.

5. **Interviews, Discussion, and Possible Appointments to Fill Vacant Public, Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT), and Veterinarian Member Positions on the Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC)**

Meeting materials available [here](#).

Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, moved and Steven Manyak, DVM, seconded a motion to reappoint Kathy Bowler to the MDC as a public member to serve through June 30, 2029.

There was no public comment on this motion.

The motion carried 8-0.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orłowski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

Motion: Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, moved and C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, seconded a motion to appoint Kristin Spring, RVT, to the MDC as an RVT member to serve through June 30, 2029.

There was no public comment on this motion.

The motion carried 8-0.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orłowski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, moved and Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, seconded a motion to reappoint Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM, to the MDC as a Veterinarian member.

Amended Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, amended the motion to clarify that the recommended reappointment of Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM, would be for the Veterinarian member term ending June 30, 2029. Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, accepted the amendment to the motion.

Second Amendment to the Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, amended the motion to instead recommend reappointment of Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM, to the Veterinarian member term ending June 30, 2028. Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, accepted the amendment to the motion.

There was no public comment on this motion.

The motion carried 6-2.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM		X		
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orłowski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM		X		

Motion: C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, moved and Christina Bradbury, DVM, seconded a motion to appoint Colleen Tansey, DVM, to the MDC as a Veterinarian member to serve through June 30, 2029.

There was no public comment on this motion.

The motion carried 8-0.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orłowski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

6. **Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) Report—Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM, Chair, MDC**

A. **Overview of April 14, 2026 MDC Meeting**

April 14, 2026 MDC Meeting Agenda and Materials available [here](#).

There was no action or public comment on this item.

B. **Minimum Standards for Alternate Premises Regulations**

1. **HQHVSN Services and MASH Clinics**

Meeting materials available [here](#).

There was no action on this item.

Public comment was received from:

- [Dan Baxter](#), Executive Director, California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)
- [Bonnie Lutz](#), Esq., Klinedinst
- [Laura James](#)
- [Fix Our Shelters](#)
- [Amanda Vance](#), DVM, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Animal Health and Food Safety Services, Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship Program
- [Athea Pagano](#)

2. **Recommendation to Initiate Rulemaking to Amend California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Section 2030.1 Regarding Small Animal Fixed Veterinary Premises and Handling Animal Remains**

Meeting materials available [here](#).

Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, moved and C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, seconded a motion to:

- Approve the regulatory text to amend CCR, title 16, section 2030.1, as amended.
- Direct staff to submit the text to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency for review, and if the Board does not receive any comments providing objections or adverse recommendations specifically directed at the proposed action or to the procedures followed by the Board in proposing or adopting the action,

then the Board authorizes the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, make any technical or non-substantive changes to the package, and set the matter for hearing, if requested.

- If after the 45-day public comment period, no adverse comments are received, and no public hearing is requested, authorize the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to complete the rulemaking, and adopt the proposed regulations as described in the text notice for CCR, title 16, section 2030.1.

Amended Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, amended the motion to include striking the words "...cremated or..." from newly proposed subsection (b) of CCR, title 16, section 2030.1. C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, accepted the amendment to the motion.

Second Amendment to the Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, amended the motion to include adding the words "...to the veterinary premise" to newly proposed subsection (e)(8) of CCR, title 16, section 2030.1. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, accepted the amendment to the motion.

Public comment was received from:

- [Bonnie Lutz](#), Esq., Klinedinst
- [Grant Miller](#), DVM, Director of Regulatory Affairs, CVMA

Third Amendment to the Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, amended the motion to include striking the words "...at least..." and adding the words "...a holding period of..." to subsection (a) of CCR, title 16, section 2030.1. C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, accepted the amendment to the motion.

There was no additional public comment on this item.

The motion carried 8-0.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orlowski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

C. [Potential Recommendation to Initiate Rulemaking to Amend CCR, Title 16, Section 2032.3 Regarding Record Keeping; Records; Contents; Transfer](#)

Meeting materials available [here](#).

Motion: Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, moved and Steven Manyak, DVM, seconded a motion to:

- Rescind the prior 2024 motion approving proposed regulatory text for CCR, title 16, section 2032.3 and approve the new regulatory text to amend CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, as revised by the MDC on April 14, 2026 (adding "...January 1, 2031..." to newly proposed subsection (h)).
- Direct staff to submit the text in Attachment 1 as one proposal to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency for review, and if the Board does not receive any comments providing objections or adverse recommendations specifically directed at the proposed action or to the procedures followed by the Board in proposing or adopting the action, then the Board authorizes the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, make any technical or non-substantive changes to the package, and set the matter for hearing, if requested.
- If after the 45-day public comment period, no adverse comments are received, and no public hearing is requested, authorize the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to complete the rulemaking, and adopt the proposed regulations as described in the text notice for CCR, title 16, section 2032.3.

Amended Motion: Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, amended the motion to include adding the word "...typed..." to and striking the words "...practice management..." from newly proposed subsection (h) of CCR section 2032.3. Steven Manyak, DVM, accepted the amendment to the motion.

Public comment was received from:

- [Bonnie Lutz](#), Esq., Klinedinst
- [Stephen Niño Cital](#), RVT, Director, California Registered Veterinary Technicians Association
- [Grant Miller](#), DVM, Director of Regulatory Affairs, CVMA

The motion failed, with a vote of 2-6.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President		X		
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM		X		
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.		X		
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor		X		
Anna Orlovski, Esq.		X		
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM		X		

7. [Discussion and Possible Action on Business and Professions Code Section 4809.8, the MDC’s Mandated Responsibilities and Processes, and Potential Improvements](#)

Meeting materials available [here](#).

There was no action on this item.

Public comment was received from:

- [Grant Miller](#), DVM, Director of Regulatory Affairs, CVMA
- [Dan Baxter](#), Executive Director, CVMA

8. [Presentation on the International Council for Veterinary Assessment \(ICVA\) Communication Skills Assessment Taskforce Progress](#)—*Heather Case, DVM, Chief Executive Officer*

Meeting materials available [here](#).

There was no action or public comment on this item.

9. **Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on 2025-2026 Legislation Impacting the Board, DCA, and/or the Veterinary Profession**

A. [Priority Legislation for Board Consideration](#)

Meeting materials available [here](#).

1. Assembly Bill (AB) [1733](#) (Lee, 2026) License and Registration Renewal: Continuing Education

Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, moved and Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, seconded a motion to support AB 1733, as written.

There was no public comment on this item.

The motion carried 8-0.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orlovski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

2. AB [1999](#) (Kalra, 2026) Veterinary Medicine

Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, moved and Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, seconded a motion to support AB 1999, as written.

Public comment was received from:

- [Bonnie Lutz](#), Esq., Klinedinst

The motion carried 8-0.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orlovski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

3. AB [2010](#) (Soria, 2026) Veterinary Medicine: Veterinary Surgery Premises: Spay and Neuter Services

Motion: C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, moved and Mayor Evelyn Mitchell seconded a motion to oppose AB 2010, unless amended.

There was no public comment on this item.

The motion carried 7-1.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM		X		
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orlowski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

4. Senate Bill (SB) [1269](#) (Ochoa Bogh, 2026) Chiropractors: Animal Chiropractic Practitioners

Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, moved and C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, seconded a motion to oppose SB 1269, as written.

There was no public comment on this item.

The motion carried 8-0.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orlowski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

5. SB [1311](#) (Wahab, 2026) Licensed Professions

Motion: Christina Bradbury, DVM, moved and Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, seconded a motion to support SB 1311, as written.

There was no public comment on this item.

The motion carried 8-0.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orlowski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

6. **SB 1445 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development, 2026) Healing Arts**

Motion: Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, moved and C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM, seconded a motion to support SB 1445, if amended.

There was no public comment on this item.

The motion carried 8-0.

Members	Vote			
	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	X			
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	X			
Christina Bradbury, DVM	X			
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	X			
Steven Manyak, DVM	X			
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	X			
Anna Orlowski, Esq.	X			
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	X			

B. Other Board-Monitored Legislation

1. **AB 1558 (Arambula, 2026) Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act**

Meeting materials available [here](#).

This item was not discussed.

10. Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on Pending Regulations

A. [Status on Pending Regulations](#)

Meeting materials available [here](#).

There was no action or public comment on this item.

11. Update, Discussion, and Possible Action Regarding American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) Activities—*Christina Bradbury, DVM*

A. [AAVSB Activities Overview](#)

Meeting materials available [here](#).

There was no action on this item.

Public comment was received from:

- [Dan Baxter](#), Executive Director, CVMA

12. Student Liaison Reports

A. University of California, Davis, Liaison—*Sebastian Lidikay*

This item was not discussed.

B. [Western University of Health Sciences Liaison](#)—*Anna Styles*

There was no action or public comment on this item.

13. [Board President Report](#)—*Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM*

There was no action or public comment on this item.

14. [Registered Veterinary Technician Report](#)—*Kristi Pawlowski, RVT*

There was no action or public comment on this item.

15. [Executive Management Reports](#)

Presentations were not provided for the Executive Management Reports.

A. Administration

Meeting materials available [here](#).

B. Examination/Licensing

Meeting materials available [here](#).

C. Enforcement

Meeting materials available [here](#).

D. Outreach

Meeting materials available [here](#).

E. Strategic Plan

Meeting materials available [here](#).

There was no action or public comment on these items.

16. [Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Dates](#)

There was no action or public comment on this item.

17. Recess Open Session until April 16, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Solacito recessed open session at 5:09 p.m.

DRAFT

9:00 a.m., Thursday, April 16, 2026

Members Present:	Management Staff Present:
Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, President	Jessica Siefertman, EO
Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, Vice President	Matt McKinney, Deputy EO
Christina Bradbury, DVM	Justin Sotelo, Policy Specialist
Patrick Espinoza, Esq.	
Steven Manyak, DVM	Legal Affairs Division Staff Present:
Evelyn Mitchell, Mayor	Ken Swenson, Board Counsel, Attorney III
Anna Orlowski, Esq.	
C. Mike Tomlinson, DVM	Other Staff and Guests Present: On File

18. Reconvene Open Session – Establishment of a Quorum

Board President, Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. EO, Jessica Siefertman, called roll a quorum was established.

19. Special Order of Business

A. Hearing on Petition for Early Termination or Modification of Probation of J. Wade Byrd, DVM, License No. 10381

Meeting materials available [here](#).

B. Hearing on Petition for Reinstatement of Nisar Ahmed, DVM, Surrendered License No. 12267

Meeting materials available [here](#).

20. Recess Open Session

Dr. Solacito recessed open session at 12:04 a.m.

21. Convene Closed Session

Dr. Solacito convened closed session at 12:17 p.m.

22. Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(3), the Board Will Meet in Closed Session to Deliberate and Vote on Disciplinary Matters, Including the Above Petitions, Stipulated Settlements, and Proposed Decisions

In the Matter of the Petition for Early Termination or Modification of Probation of J. Wade Byrd, DVM, License No. 10381; Board Case No. 4602021000373; OAH Case No. 2026030316

The Board granted the petition for early termination of probation.

In the Matter of the Petition for Reinstatement of Nisar Ahmed, DVM, Surrendered License No. 12267; Board Case No. 4602026001136; OAH Case No. 2026031076

The Board denied the petition for reinstatement.

In the Matter of the Accusation Against Lauryn Harker, RVT, Registration No. 9242; Board Case No. 4602022001335

The Board rejected the Respondent's counteroffer and proposed a new counteroffer.

23. Pursuant to Government Code Section [11126](#)(e)(1) and (2)(A), the Board Will Meet in Closed Session to Confer and Receive Advice From Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Legislation

A. *Gurdeep Deol, DVM v. Veterinary Medical Board, Riverside County Superior Court, Case No. CVPS2402058*

This item was not discussed.

B. *Amy Edelen v. Department of Consumer Affairs, Veterinary Medical Board, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 25WM000190*

This item was not discussed.

24. Adjourn Closed Session

Dr. Solacito adjourned closed session at 1:17 p.m.

25. Adjournment

Dr. Solacito reconvened open session at 1:23 p.m.

Dr. Solacito adjourned the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

ⁱ The Board maintains action minutes that record official actions taken, including motions and votes. Video recordings, when made, are provided for convenience and do not constitute the official record of Board action. Hyperlinks to the video are controlled by a third-party and may be removed at any time.