



MEMORANDUM

DATE	July 2, 2026
TO	California Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Kathy Bowler, Vice Chair Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC)
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 6. Update and Discussion on MDC Assignments

During its April meeting, the Board raised concerns with MDC processes, and the lack of time Board members have to consider MDC and stakeholder discussions before Board meetings the following day. As a result, the Board directed the MDC to meet at least one month prior to each Board meeting. As such, the remaining 2026 meeting dates were shifted to September 10 and December 16. The 2027 meeting dates will be posted to the Board’s website as soon as they are finalized.

MDC members were provided with a link to the Board’s April discussion, so they can fully understand the concerns raised and proposed solutions. The MDC Chair, Vice Chair and members are committed to fulfilling the needs of the Board.

New MDC Member Orientations

On May 14 and 20, the MDC Chair and Board Executive Officer (EO) provided MDC member orientations with the newest MDC members. During the orientation, the new members learned more about the Board and the MDC’s role within it. They also learned about the different subcommittees and pending assignments with each and shared interest in serving on specific committees.

Subcommittee Updates and Pending Assignments

After onboarding the two new members, the MDC Chair and Board EO met to discuss the vacancies on various subcommittees and the pending assignments. Based on each member’s strengths/interests, the subcommittees were reconstituted and provided their assignments. Subcommittee updates on pending assignments are as follows:

- **Veterinary Practice Subcommittee** - *Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM and Mark Nunez, DVM*
 - **Eliminating Licensee Manager, Shifting Responsibilities to Premises Owner**
The Board tasked the MDC with crafting a legislative proposal to eliminate the licensee manager and shift the licensee manager responsibilities to the veterinary premises owner.

The Subcommittee met in June to review the concerns raised in the prior [memo](#), develop a list of necessary tasks, and set a timeline with the end goal to have a proposal to the MDC in September.

Tasks include meeting with representatives from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), and the shelter community. The Subcommittee also plans to hold a statewide stakeholder meeting – inviting all Board email subscribers.

The Subcommittee will also be researching how other Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Boards, such as the Board of Pharmacy and California State Board of Optometry, regulate business locations.

The Board's EO will also be seeking input from the North American Inspection Workgroup on the Subcommittee's proposal.

- Minimum Standards for MASH/Temporary Premises

The MDC presented its [updates and recommendations](#) to the Board during its April meeting. In response, the Board directed the MDC to draft a regulatory proposal based on feedback provided during that meeting.

The Subcommittee is monitoring [AB 2010](#), as it will likely impact the development of regulations. The Subcommittee will work with Board staff and counsel to develop the regulatory proposal. Once developed, the Subcommittee will solicit feedback from known stakeholders, the shelter community, and CVMA.

- RVT Subcommittee – *Kristi Pawlowski, RVT and Kristin Spring, RVT*

- CaRVTA's Legislative Proposal vs. Existing Statutes/Regulations

The Board directed the MDC to compare CaRVTA's legislative proposal with existing statutes and regulations. The MDC should identify areas in regulation that could be amended to better utilize RVTs while still maintaining consumer protection. The Board requested a presentation of the information at a future meeting.

The Subcommittee met in June to review the assignment and strategize necessary tasks and timelines. To ensure consumer protection is maintained with any potential regulatory amendment, the Subcommittee is researching the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America's (NAVTA) various certification processes, including the different educational requirements and scopes of practice. NAVTA will also be invited to present to the MDC in September.

The Board's EO has also surveyed AAVSB member boards to determine if any jurisdictions vary the scope of practice or supervision requirements for technicians with specialty certifications.

In addition, Subcommittee will meet with CaRVTA, CVMA, and NAVTA for input on how to better utilize RVTs in California.

- Concerns Related to Ultrasound Guided Anesthesia
During prior MDC/Board meetings, veterinary anesthesiologists raised concerns about RVTs performing ultrasound guided anesthesia procedures. As a result, the Board directed the MDC to receive presentations from varying perspectives on the topic and provide a breakdown of MDC member opinions to the Board.

The Subcommittee has invited veterinary anesthesiologists to the September MDC meeting and is researching potential presenters for alternative perspectives.

- Outreach Subcommittee - *Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM and Kathy Bowler*
In May, the Subcommittee met with the Board's EO and legal counsel to review concerns raised with the Board's recent publications for dog breeders. Based on the feedback provided, the brochure and flyer content has been updated and revised documents will be posted this month.

In June, the Subcommittee and Board EO presented an overview of the Board's complaint process during CVMA's PacVet.

- Enforcement Subcommittee – *Jeni Goedken, DVM and Colleen Tansey, DVM*
The Subcommittee continues to review subject matter expert reports from closed disciplinary cases to ensure the standard of care was appropriately applied. Feedback is then provided to the individual SMEs. The Subcommittee also provided general feedback and reminders to SMEs at the SME roundtable in June.

The Subcommittee is currently working on updating the SME guidelines and report examples.

- **Unlicensed Practice Subcommittee** - *Mark Nunez, DVM and Maria Preciosa S. Solacito, DVM*

The Subcommittee has identified various outreach opportunities with the equine community in Southern California to curb unlicensed practice in horse shows, polo clubs, and racetracks.

In addition, the Subcommittee and Board EO will have booths at various horse shows in the fall to educate consumers about the importance of having only licensed veterinary professionals perform veterinary care on their horses.

- **Executive Subcommittee** - *Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM and Kathy Bowler*

The Subcommittee meets monthly with the EO to receive updates on MDC assignments and Board activities.