

Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine
Wallace State Office Building, First Floor Conference Room
Open Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2024

Dr. Tom Burkgren, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with the following Board Members present: Ms. Sierra Hagedon, Ms. Sterling Meyers (by phone), Dr. Yuko Sato, and Dr. Scott Shuey (by phone). Also, present were Mr. Jake Larson, Assistant Attorney General, Dr. Jeff Kaisand, Executive Secretary, Meghan Orr, Administrative Assistant, and Ginny Eason, staff.

Guest(s)

Chris Gruenhagen, Iowa Farm Bureau
Liz Linder, Abraham Equine Clinic
Ben Nuelle, Iowa Pork Producers
Dr. Sierra Philipp, Abraham Equine Clinic
Dr. Katherine Tsiakkirou
Dr. Randy Wheeler, Iowa Veterinary Medical Association
Clara Wulfsen, Carney & Appleby Law

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Sato moved to approve the updated agenda for the December 19, 2024, Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Ms. Hagedon. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Comment (Public comment period is open and limited to two minutes)

Dr. Katherine Tsiakkirou spoke to the Board Members regarding her expired veterinary license. Dr. Tsiakkirou submitted human medicine continuing education that addressed Ear, Nose, and Throat presentations at the AAO-HNSF 2024 Annual Meeting and OTO Expo that she thought could be used in animal medicine. Dr. Burkgren, Chair of the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine stated the Board must operate within the Administrative Rules and Veterinary Practice Act that requires licensed veterinarians to submit 60 continuing education hours within the scope of veterinary medicine. The Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine did increase the distance education hours from 20 to 30 hours per triennium and that live webinars do fall within the distance education limit. The Iowa Veterinary Medical Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association do have on-line continuing education courses that would qualify for renewing the veterinary license.

Dr. Sierra Phillip spoke to the Board Members regarding the Temporary Permit application submitted by Dr. Nilson Ribas. Dr. Ribas is from Brazil and is specialized in Equine Theriogenology. Dr. Phillip stated if Dr. Ribas is not granted the temporary permit then Abraham Equine Clinic will have to send clients to Missouri for embryo transfer. The clinic is having a difficult time trying to find qualified candidates for this position.

Dr. Ribas has been issued three temporary permits per Administrative Rule and has been issued three waivers to the Administrative Rule to practice at the Abraham Equine Clinic in Cedar Rapids. Dr. Ribas has not been successful in passing the NAVLE examination to obtain a regular veterinary license in Iowa.

Ms. Linder thanked the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine for working with Dr. Abraham and Dr. Ribas, which made Abraham Equine Clinic's business grow.

Mr. Nuelle and Ms. Gruenhagen thanked the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine for working with the stakeholders this past year in changes made to the Administrative Rules.

Dr. Wheeler stated the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association is promoting the Permissive Reporting of Companion Animal Abuse and Veterinary Immunity bill, the Rural Veterinary Practice Innovation Grant Program legislation and continued support of the Rural Veterinary Loan Repayment Program. The last two mentioned would help reduce the rural veterinary shortage issue in Iowa.

Mr. Nuelle reported the Iowa Pork Producers Association will be supporting Secretary Mike Naig's request for Foreign Animal Disease appropriations at this legislative session.

Approval of the Open Meeting Minutes

Dr. Sato moved to approve the Open Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2024, as amended. Motion was seconded by Ms. Hagedon. Motion approved unanimously.

Executive Secretary Report

Dr. Kaisand reported the Board's financial status for the current FY25 balance is \$222,778.43.

Dr. Kaisand reported on the outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). There was one backyard flock, four commercial layers, and three commercial turkey flocks infected with all the sites depopulated.

Chairperson Report

No report.

Assistant Attorney General Report

No report.

Board Member Report

No report.

Correspondence

Veterinary Technician National Examination score report for November 15 – 30, 2024, was reviewed and accepted by the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine.

American Association of Veterinary State Boards made some cosmetic changes to the 2025 Veterinary Technician State Examination Agreement. The word agreement was struck and changed to 2025 Memorandum of Understanding Veterinary Technician State Examination. Dr. Sato moved to approve the 2025 Veterinary Technician State Examination Memorandum of Understanding. Motion was seconded by Ms. Hagedon. Motion approved unanimously.

Petition for Waiver

Dr. Nilson Ribas submitted a Petition for Waiver for a seventh temporary permit. Mr. Larson stated with so many waivers the legislature starts to question why so many waivers are issued. Mr. Larson stated there is a Specialized Limited License Application, but Dr. Ribas would have to pass the national exam or pass the Equine Species-Specific Exam and if successful in passing the examination there are other requirements that would have to be met as well before a license could be issued. Dr. Ribas would have to show proof of obtaining 60 continuing education hours as required for licensing. Dr. Ribas would have to make an application for a Specialized Limited License as a licensing pathway.

The Board Members were asked if there are any objections to Mr. Larson preparing an Order for the Petition of Waiver. Mr. Larson was directed to include in the Order that this will be the last waiver Dr. Ribas will be granted and that he must provide proof of the 60 continuing education hours required for the Temporary Permit. Dr. Kaisand was asked to contact the International Council of Veterinary Assessment regarding the Species-Specific Examination.

Veterinary License/Veterinary Technician Registration Application(s)

None

Miscellaneous

None

Rulemaking/House/Senate Files

None

Dr. Sato moved to go into the Closed Meeting Session pursuant to Iowa code section 21.5(1)(a) to review complaint files where investigative information required by section 272C.6(4) to be kept confidential and 21.5(1)(d) to discuss whether to initiate licensee disciplinary investigation or proceedings. Motion was seconded by Ms. Meyer. Motion approved unanimously.

Roll call vote by Board Members: Dr. Burkgren, aye; Ms. Hagedon, aye; Ms. Meyer, aye (by phone); Dr. Sato, aye, and Dr. Shuey, aye (by phone). nay – 0. Motion passed at 11:06 a.m.

Open Meeting Session

The Board reconvened the Open Meeting Session at 12:34 p.m.

Action on Closed Meeting Session Sanctions

Dr. Sato moved to close case 24-012, 24-021, and 24-025. Motion was seconded by Ms. Meyer. Motion approved unanimously.

Continuing Education

The continuing education applications were reviewed by the Board Members for approval. Item 12 on the application is a requirement that must be completed for each application.

Requester	Meeting	Scientific	Mgmt.	Total Hrs.
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Amelia Dohlman - request to increase hours	Anesthesia Book Club - BSAVA Manual of Canine & Feline Anesthesia (Mtg. 1 2.13.2024 Ames, IA)	3		3
Amelia Dohlman - request to increase hours	Anesthesia Book Club - BSAVA Manual of Canine & Feline Anesthesia (Mtg. 2 4.16.2024 Ames, IA)	3		3
Amelia Dohlman - request to increase hours	Anesthesia Book Club - BSAVA Manual of Canine & Feline Anesthesia (Mtg. 3 6.18.2024 Ames, IA)	3		3
Amelia Dohlman - request to increase hours	Anesthesia Book Club - BSAVA Manual of Canine & Feline Anesthesia (Mtg. 4 7.30.2024 Ames, IA)	3		3

The presenter is not requesting the additional continuing education hours for preparation time. The Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine is denying the request to increase the continuing education hours for the participants for study and discussion time.

Next Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting is Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the First Floor Conference Room, Wallace State Office Building.

Adjournment

Dr. Burkgren adjourned the Board Meeting at 12:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey J. Kaisand, DVM
Executive Secretary