

Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine  
Wallace State Office Building, First Floor Conference Room  
Open Meeting Minutes  
February 29, 2024

Dr. Tom Burkgren, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. with the following Board Members present: Ms. Sterling Meyer, Dr. Yuko Sato (by telephone), and Mr. Will Yoder. Also, present were Mr. Jake Larson, Assistant Attorney General, Dr. Jeff Kaisand, Executive Secretary, Meghan Orr, Administrative Assistant, and Ginny Eason, staff.

Absent

Dr. Scott Shuey

Guest(s)

Laura Bahns, DVM, Kimberly Crest/Creekside Veterinary Hospital  
Lana Bishop, Blue Pearl  
Megan Carlson, Carney & Appleby (Iowa Veterinary Medical Association)  
Anne Duffy, RVT  
Cora Fox, Iowa Cattlemen's Association  
Chris Gruenhagen, Iowa Farm Bureau  
Ben Nuelle, Iowa Pork Producers  
Randy Wheeler, DVM, Iowa Veterinary Medical Association  
Beth Venit VMD, MPH, DACVPM, American Association of Veterinary State Boards (by telephone)

Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Yoder moved to approve the updated agenda adding item 8a for the February 29, 2024, Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Ms. Meyer. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Hearing Comments on Administrative Rules Chapters 1-14 and 16

Lana Bishop, Blue Pearl Pet Hospital.

Clarify loopholes to become a registered veterinary technician and with the new rules will those loopholes be closed?

Making sure the title is protected with loopholes closed, such as the jurisdiction and verification clauses, as well as veterinary students having indirect supervision for all tasks, and I believe should be direct supervision.

Definitions for repercussions for not citing the new codes, as well as reviewing the supervision requirements for veterinary technicians such as epidural placement, suturing incisions and superficial sutures should be direct supervision.

Veterinary Assistants should not be allowed to do general anesthesia.

Verification clauses – different ways for veterinary technician to become registered. Mr. Larson stated the Legislature created the pathway for Licensure by Verification - Other Jurisdiction. Individuals would need to address this issue with the Legislature as the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine did not create this pathway for licensing.

Regarding epidural, suturing, and anesthesia, are all Vet Tech Programs equal in their training. Regarding the suturing question this would be superficial sutures only.

Laura Bahns, DVM, Kimberly Crest/Creekside Veterinary Hospital

I do not approve of veterinary assistants monitoring anesthesia. This should be the veterinary technicians' job function. Need clarification of definition of radiography, ultrasonography, registered veterinary technicians, and diagnosis. The veterinary technician should not place thoracic or perform surgical techniques. There should be a distinction between veterinary assistants and veterinary technicians. The veterinary assistants should be credentialed.

Veterinary assistants would not be considered credentialed since the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine does not have any veterinary assistant credentialed programs in the state of Iowa.

Ben Nuelle, Iowa Pork Producer Association

Appreciate stakeholder engagement.

Echo the Iowa Cattlemen's and Iowa Farm Bureau comments especially on the pregnancy checking of livestock.

Cora Fox, Iowa Cattlemen's Association

Shortage of food animal veterinarians, especially in rural Iowa

Rectal palpation (pregnancy testing), vet techs/assts should be allowed to perform without immediate supervision from vet. Allow this job duty with indirect supervision. Training could help with the development of skills. Rectal palpation is diagnosing. The veterinary technician programs are not teaching rectal palpation in their curriculum.

Chris Gruenhagen, Farm Bureau

Agree with the Iowa Cattlemen's Association, the farmers are trained to perform this procedure and can do it on their own, low risk practice.

Vet techs could be trained as well.

Give supervising veterinarians the flexibility to allow rectal palpation if they choose.

Megan Carlson, Iowa Veterinary Medical Association

The Vet Techs could do rectal palpation under indirect supervision, but not Vet Assistants

Anne Duffy, Vet Tech Educator (Retired)

Would be helpful to have various levels of supervision in the rule. Defined in House File 670 Sedation and anesthesia should always have direct supervision.

Vet techs could be trained on rectal palpation.

Include collection of urine specimen in indirect supervision

Placing peg tubes and j tubes, needs direct supervision... many vet techs are currently doing under indirect supervision.

How to handle emergency services (12) and requiring people to do it... how is this enforced or disciplined if not being followed?

Mr. Larson stated that EO10 duplication in rule and statute is prohibited. The Public Hearing comment period is March 8, 2024. This is the last day for public comment. The hearing will be held at 10 a.m., Wallace State Office Building, Second Floor Conference Room. The rules will be published in the Administrative Bulletin and the changes will become effective July 1, 2024.

The question was asked about Iowa Code 351 that only allows dogs to be vaccinated for Rabies. The code is not under the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine purview.

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

The question was asked “what would a veterinarian be able to do when the valid veterinarian/client/patient relationship is established, and the client cannot pay.” The veterinarian should obtain information from the client regarding a credit card prior to treatment.

#### Approval of the Open Meeting Minutes

Ms. Meyer moved to approve the Open Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2024. Motion was seconded by Mr. Yoder. Motion approved unanimously.

#### Executive Secretary Report

Dr. Kaisand reported the Board’s financial status for the current FY24 balance as of January 30, 2024, is \$209,9866.25.

Dr. Kaisand reported the American Association of Veterinary State Boards sent the membership dues fee of \$500 to the Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine. Is the Board interested in continuing with the American Association of Veterinary State Boards? The response was yes. Ms. Meyer made the motion to pay the membership dues of \$500. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yoder. Motion approved unanimously.

#### Chairperson Report

Dr. Burkgren reported that Mr. Tadlock, Dr. Kaisand, and himself met with the Administrative Rules Committee and no questions were asked of them by the committee members.

#### Assistant Attorney General Report

No report.

#### Board Member Report

It has been reported that Missouri has four AI cases in flocks and New York has some backyard flocks that were infected.

#### Correspondence

None

#### Petition for Waiver

None submitted.

Veterinary License/Veterinary Technician Registration Application(s)

Dr. Kaisand reported the other Brazilian veterinarian that was approved last month was denied a visa, and therefore unable to work for Dr. Abraham.

Dr. Nilson Ribas made the application for an In-State Temporary Permit Application in hopes of working for Dr. Abraham. Dr. Ribas was permitted three times and received two waivers as well. Dr. Ribas did not petition for a waiver of the rules with this application.

Ms. Meyer moved to deny the In-State Temporary Permit Application made by Dr. Ribas. Motion was seconded by Mr. Yoder. Motion approved unanimously.

Miscellaneous

The Veterinary Technician National Examination scores received for the testing window December 1 – 18, 2023, were reviewed by the Board Members and no action was required.

Rulemaking/House/Senate Files

There will be another public hearing for final adoption of the rules.

Mr. Larson Reported the Boards and Commissions Bill regarding the final version of the reorganization has not been released.

Ms. Meyer 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 seconded by Mr. Yoder.

Roll call vote by Board Members: Dr. Burkgren, aye; Ms. Meyer, aye; Dr. Sato, aye; Mr. Yoder, aye nay – 0. Motion passed at 10:54 a.m.

Open Meeting Session

The Board reconvened into the Open Meeting Session at 12:13 p.m.

Action on Closed Meeting Session Sanctions

Mr. Yoder moved to close cases 23-032 and 24-002. Motion 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.
Meredith 't Hoen, DVM	ECC Updates: Point of care ultrasound (4.23.2024 Ames, IA)	1		1

Sinisa Grozdanic, DVM	Ocular and periocular conditions in small animals (2.17-23.2024 Dutch Caribbean)	10		10
Amy Tremain	Professional Development Conference (2.28.2024 Ames, IA)		4.5	4.5
Mona Hoerdemann, DVM Bactelius Turicea, DVM	From hot spots to blind spots: Insights into Veterinary Dermatology & Ophthalmology (4.13.2024 Ames, IA)	15		15
Amy Tremain	Sedation and Induction of the Equine Patient - Mitigating Risk and Making it look Easy (4.3.2024 Ames, IA)	1		1
Tim Smith, DVM	Fundamental Skills for Program Diseases (3.5-7.2024; 6.4-6.2024; 9.3-5.2024 Virtual Zoom Mtg)	6 (2 p/ea mtg)		6 (2 p/ea mtg)
Jeff Kaisand, DVM Steve Hulsizer	IowaRADefense - Veterinary Training for Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) Response (2.7.2024 Orange City, IA)	3		3
Michaela Richard	Practice Profit Builder (12.6-8.2023 Virtual Zoom Meeting)		7	7
Chelsea Thole	2024 ISU-IVS Partners in Progress CE Event (4.10.2024 Des Moines, IA)	21	1	22

#### Next Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting is Thursday, 28, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room, Wallace State Office Building.

#### Adjournment

Dr. Burkgren adjourned the Board Meeting at 12:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey J. Kaisand, DVM  
Executive Secretary  
Iowa Board of Veterinary Medicine