



MEETING MINUTES MULTIDISCIPLINARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 13, 2018
1747 N. Market Blvd.
1st Floor Hearing Room
Sacramento, California

10:00 a.m. Tuesday, November 13, 2018

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

Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) Chair, Dr. Jeff Pollard called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Veterinary Medical Board (Board) Executive Officer, Ms. Jessica Sieferman, called roll; eight members of the MDC were present, and a quorum was established.

2. Committee Chair's Remarks, Committee Member Comments, and Introductions

Members Present

Jeff Pollard, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM), Chair
Allan C. Drusys, DVM
Kevin Lazarcheff, DVM
Meg Warner, DVM
Kristi Pawlowski, Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT)
Leah Shufelt, RVT
Stuart Eckmann, Public Member
Jennifer Loreda, RVT, Board Liaison

Staff Present

Jessica Sieferman, Executive Officer
Ethan Mathes, Administrative Programs Manager
Amanda Drummond, Administrative Program Analyst
Tara Welch, Legal Counsel

Guests Present

Kathy Bowler, Veterinary Medical Board (VMB)
Nancy Ehrlich, California Registered Veterinary Technician Association (CaRVTA)
Valerie Fenstermaker, California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)
Cindy Gonzalez, RVT
Erica Hughes, California Animal Welfare Association
Anita Levy, CaRVTA

Mark Nunez, DVM, VMB
Ken Pawlowski, DVM, CVMA
Cindy Savely, RVT, CVMA and Sacramento Valley Veterinary Technician Association
(SVVTA)
Cheryl Waterhouse, DVM, VMB

3. Review and Approval of August 28, 2018 Committee Meeting Minutes

The MDC made minor changes to the August 28, 2018 meeting minutes.

- Dr. Allan Drusys moved and Ms. Jennifer Loreda, RVT, seconded to approve the minutes as amended. The motion carried 6-0-2. Ms. Kristi Pawlowski and Ms. Jennifer Loreda, RVT, abstained.

4. Executive Officer Report

A. BreEZe Updates and Improvements

Ms. Jessica Sieferman updated the MDC about staff streamlining processes in BreEZe, including updating the renewal process to make it more efficient for both Board staff and licensees. Additionally, Board staff is looking into providing real-time updates on applicant status online and developing interfaces with the national examination vendor to directly transmit examination scores directly into BreEZe.

B. Outreach Efforts

Ms. Jessica Sieferman updated that the Board is looking to work with the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Public Affairs Office more regularly to better communicate to stakeholders important or relevant information. Additionally, the staff is researching ways to improve the LISTSERV email list to make it more user friendly, developing a newsletter, and organizing Board meetings at veterinary and RVT schools.

C. Licensing Program

Mr. Ethan Mathes provided an update on the licensing program, including application and examination statistics. Veterinary Assistant applications continue to come in at a high rate and there is generally an increase in applications received compared to prior years.

D. Enforcement Program

Ms. Jessica Sieferman provided updates on the enforcement program, including the enforcement program is fully staffed, and a new enforcement manager has been hired. The Board has seen a

significant increase in the number of complaints received and is currently receiving over 1,000 complaints per fiscal year. Board staff is looking at pulling existing data to identify any trends and determine what is causing the significant increase in complaints. Additionally, the Board is looking to train existing staff and reorganize the enforcement program to provide a better flow of processes and program management.

5. Update from the Public and Private Shelters and Minimum Standards and Protocols for Shelter Medicine Subcommittee; Potential Recommendation to Full Board

Ms. Jennifer Loreda, RVT, updated the MDC on the status of the Shelter Minimum Standards language and reviewed proposed modifications to the language since the last meeting. The MDC reviewed each section of the language and made modifications as discussed.

California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 2035

Changes to this section include revisions from the August meeting where the term “permit holder” was changed to “VACSP holder” for clarity purposes and subsection (b) was added to the language. At the August meeting, the MDC discussed whether subsection (d) meant to give veterinarians the ability to delegate tasks before the animal had been examined; legal counsel, Ms. Tara Welch, researched the history of section 2035 and determined that subsection (d) is consistent with the current interpretation of the law. The MDC also discussed the term “herd health” and defining that under CCR section 2034; the MDC determined that a subcommittee would develop a definition for review at the January MDC meeting.

CCR section 2035.5

Changes to this section include revisions from the August meeting. The MDC made minor revisions to subsection (e) for grammatical and clarity purposes.

CCR section 2030.6

The MDC discussed the requirements of a shelter to obtain a premises registration so the Board may inspect the premises, and whether the Board has the authority to regulate the sanitary conditions of shelters where veterinary medicine is not occurring. The MDC discussed that, in many instances, veterinary medicine is occurring where the animal is being housed and not just in the medical building. Public members had concerns regarding some of the language, including requiring the supervision of a veterinarian or RVT, and the MDC recommended developing a subcommittee to address those concerns and also research the local laws that govern the sanitary conditions of shelters. The MDC also made minor amendments to this section including updating the term “practice” to “premises”.

CCR section 2030.7

Changes to this section include revisions from the August meeting. The MDC made minor revisions to subsection (e) for grammatical and clarity purposes. Additionally, the subcommittee will review the necessity of 2030.7 to determine if it is needed and return their findings to the January meeting.

Public comment requested that the subcommittee request input from veterinarians working at animal shelters and obtain their feedback to see if further amendments are needed. The MDC agreed to bring this discussion back in January following further review and research by the subcommittee.

6. Discussion and Consideration of Intra-Oral Dental Radiographic Equipment Requirements – Section 2030, Article 4, Division 20, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations; Potential Recommendation to Full Board

Dr. Jeff Pollard presented on intra-oral dental radiographs and advised that this issue was sent back to the MDC following a Board request that the MDC research if veterinarians should be required to have intra-oral dental radiographic equipment or the ability to refer out for those services if the equipment is not available. The MDC reviewed item attachments that included a poll that showed the ability of veterinarians to provide intra-oral dental radiographs has increased steadily over the last few years. Additionally, a discussion generated regarding informed client consent and if it is a requirement for a veterinarian to disclose if intra-oral dental radiographs will be provided to a patient, prior to dental services being rendered.

- Dr. Kevin Lazarcheff moved and Ms. Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, seconded the motion to not require intra-oral dental radiographic equipment at a fixed veterinary premise.

Following further discussion, Dr. Kevin Lazarcheff withdrew his motion.

- Ms. Jennifer Loreda, RVT, moved and Dr. Allan Drusys seconded the motion to report back to the Board that, after discussion, the MDC would like to maintain current regulations regarding veterinary dental radiography. The motion carried 6-2. Dr. Jeff Pollard and Dr. Meg Warner voted no.

7. Update from the Minimum Standards and Protocols for Pet Ambulances Subcommittee; Potential Recommendation to Full Board

Mr. Stuart Eckmann and Ms. Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, presented list itemizing the requirements for a pet ambulance and citing pet ambulance regulations. The MDC and members of the public discussed whether further regulations should be developed to govern pet ambulances, or if current regulatory language is sufficient. The MDC discussed, since pet ambulances is an industry that is still developing, it would be difficult to craft regulations while the industry is still evolving and agreed that the information provided in the Agenda item can be used to distribute to the public for outreach on the Board's website.

- Mr. Stuart Eckmann moved and Dr. Meg Warner seconded the motion to forward the language developed by the subcommittee to the Board for their approval to post to the website. The motion carried 8-0.

8. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

9. Future Agenda Items and 2019 Meeting Dates

A. Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee Assignment Priorities

- Update from the Complaint Process Audit Subcommittee
- Shelter Medicine Subcommittee Report

B. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

C. 2019 Meeting Dates

- January 22, 2019 – University of California, Davis
- April 16, 2019 – Riverside
- July 16, 2019 – Bay Area
- October 15, 2019 – Western University

10. Adjournment

Dr. Kevin Lazarcheff moved to adjourn, and Ms. Kristi Pawlowski, RVT, seconded the motion.

The MDC adjourned at 1:48pm.