

**MEETING MINUTES
MULTIDISCIPLINARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**University of California Davis
Veterinary Medicine Research Facility 3B, Room 1105
1089 Veterinary Medicine Drive
Davis, California 95616**

10:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 22, 2019

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

Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) Chair, Dr. Jeff Pollard, called the meeting to order at 10:00 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. Ms. Leah Shufelt, Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT), was absent at the time of roll call, but joined the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

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

Members Present

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

Staff Present

Jessica Sieferman, Executive Officer
Robert Stephanopoulos, Enforcement Manager
Amanda Drummond, Administrative Program Analyst
Tara Welch, Legal Counsel

Guests Present

Nancy Ehrlich, California Registered Veterinary Technician Association (CaRVTA)
Valerie Fenstermaker, California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)
Paul Hansbury, Lovingly and Legally Grown
Trina Hazzah, DVM
Grant Miller, DVM, CVMA
Jaymie Noland, DVM, Board President

Mark Nunez, DVM, Board Member
John Pascoe, DVM, University of California (UC) Davis
Ken Pawlowski, DVM, CVMA
Gary Richter, DVM
Cindy Savely, RVT, CVMA and Sacramento Valley Veterinary Technician Association
(SVVTA)
Richard Sullivan, DVM
Susan Tibbon, Lovingly and Legally Grown

3. Review and Approval of November 13, 2018 Committee Meeting Minutes

The MDC made no changes to the November 13, 2018 meeting minutes.

- Dr. Meg Warner moved and Mr. Stuart Eckmann seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion carried 8-0-1. Dr. Cheryl Waterhouse abstained.

4. Update from the Complaint Process Audit Subcommittee; Potential Recommendation to Full

The subcommittee consisting of Dr. Pollard and Dr. Kevin Lazarcheff provided their report from the December 2018 meeting. Fourteen cases were reviewed, with four cases consisting of expert witness testimony. The subcommittee found that some of the Board-certified expert witness testimony was appearing verbatim in the accusations prepared by the Deputy Attorneys General (DAG). The subcommittee indicated that if there was any bias, prejudice, or hyperbole in the expert report, that was also going directly into the accusation prepared by the DAG. The MDC stressed the need to provide feedback to the expert witnesses for continued training and compliance.

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

Dr. Allan Drusys provided an update on the minimum standards for shelter medicine and provided proposed changes following the November 2018 meeting. The MDC discussed defining the term “herd health” vs “population health setting” and provided a possible definition in CCR section 2034 and placing this new term in CCR section 2035(e). There was concern over using the term “herd health” as it does not include dogs and cats. Legal counsel advised that there is a difference in the term “population health” in a shelter setting and population health in a field, such as with range setting. Members of the public expressed concern with the proposed term and definitions as they did not think this properly defined the services and animals in an animal shelter. Some members of the MDC favored the term population health, while other members agreed with the public comment that this term and definition was vague and didn’t clarify the specific needs of animal shelters. The MDC decided to table the discussion for CCR section

2034 and 2035 for the time being and proceed with the remaining language in the interest of time.

The MDC made amendments to CCR section 2035.5 including:

- Adding “Animal” to the title, so it is clarified that it is an Animal Shelter Setting
- Replacing the term “medical” with “clinical”, as medical implies diagnosis
- Striking “or authorized to practice” from subsection (g) as it was redundant
- Minor grammatical changes

The MDC made amendments to CCR section 2030.6 including:

- Striking in the introductory paragraph “and where veterinary services are being provided to” as it was redundant
- Striking subsection (n)(3) as there are no clients at an animal shelter
- Modifying subsection (n)(4) to become subsection (n)(3) and adding the term “safely” because in some instances dangerous animals in an animal shelter are not able to be handled
- Striking subdivision (r) as there are no clients at the animal shelter
- Modifying subsection (s) to become subsection (r) and striking the last two sentences (starting with “The Board may exempt...”) and subparagraphs (A)-(C) as they are unnecessary because the requirements already exists in another section of premises regulations

The MDC struck CCR section 2030.7 as unnecessary since ambulatory services for animal shelters do not exist.

- Dr. Kevin Lazarcheff moved and Ms. Kristi Pawlowski seconded the motion to move the proposed language for CCR sections 2035.5 and 2030.6 regarding minimum standards for shelter forward to the Board as modified and retain CCR section 2034 and 2035 for further discussion. The motion carried 9-0.

The MDC agreed to report back to the Board their discussions and advise that they have approved some proposed language but retained CCR section 2034 and 2035 and will ask the Board for guidance on how to proceed with the retained language.

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

Mr. Eckmann addressed the Board and advised that the subcommittee developed proposed language for pet ambulances based on mobile practice but eliminated language that only applied to animal transport as this did not fall under the purview of the Board. Mr. Kristi Pawlowski advised that there is a wide array of services that pet ambulances claim to provide, and it is difficult to determine if these individuals are authorized to provide these services or are associated with an existing fixed premises. Legal counsel clarified that individuals operating pet ambulances would need a premises permit if they are providing veterinary services and are not associated with an existing premises permit.

The MDC made minor amendments to the proposed language, including:

- Adding “owned” to the introductory paragraph to clarify the regulation would apply to owned animals
- Adding “from one location to another” and striking “to and/or from the animal’s residence and a veterinary premises” to accommodate situations where the animal may be transported to or from locations other than the animal’s residence.

The MDC discussed directing Board staff to conduct research for existing pet ambulances and determining what services they provide, who is providing the services, and if they are associated with fixed premises to determine if there is a need for additional regulations. The MDC agreed to present their findings to the Board and ask for further guidance.

7. Discussion and Development of Guidelines for Discussion of Cannabis with Veterinary Clients; Potential Recommendation to Full Board

Dr. Pollard introduced the topic and advised that the Board delegated this topic to the MDC at the November 2018 meeting after the approval of Assembly Bill (AB) 2215, which mandates that the Board develop guidelines for veterinarians to discuss the use of cannabis on animal patients. The MDC reviewed the proposed guidelines developed by Dr. Warner and Dr. Pollard and discussed making amendments to the language, including clarifying in the preamble that the use of cannabis should be used only after a discussion with a veterinary professional, and not a bud tender. Members of the public requested clarification from the Board regarding the guidelines, and better defining the line between recommendation and discussion. Additional public comment encouraged the MDC to include in the guidelines the following: continuing education (CE) on cannabis; toxicity information; safety; and dosage. The MDC agreed to review the discussions and recommendations and revise the proposed language and bring the language to the next meeting.

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
- Update from the Subcommittee for Minimum Standards for Shelter Medicine
- Pet Ambulances and their relation to CCR section 2030.2
- Update from the Cannabis Guidelines Discussion Subcommittee

B. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

C. 2019 Meeting Dates

- April 16, 2019 - Riverside
- July 16, 2019 – Bay Area

- October 15, 2019 – Western University

10. Adjournment

The MDC adjourned at 3:32 p.m.