

Registered Veterinary Technician Committee Meeting
April 21, 2009
Sacramento, California

The Registered Veterinary Technician Committee (RVTC) held its second meeting of the 2009 calendar year on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, in the Lake Tahoe Room, 2005 Evergreen Street, Sacramento, CA.

1. Call to Order

Virginia Curtis called the public meeting to order on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, at 10:10 a.m.

Roll Call

Members: Kim Williams, RVT, Chair (Absent)
Virginia Curtis, Public Member, Vice-Chair
Richard Johnson, DVM
Carol Schumacher, RVT
Craig Cornell, RVT

Staff: Susan Geranen, Executive Officer; Chris Novak, Examinations Analyst;
Amy Edelen, Administration and Licensing Manager

Legal Counsel: Shela Barker

Members of the Audience: Tom Kendall, DVM, Board Member; Nancy Ehrlich, RVT, CARVTA

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion, Seconded, Passed (MSP)

A motion was made by Ms. Schumacher and seconded by Mr. Cornell to approve the minutes as written from the RVTC meeting held January 27, 2009. The motion passed.

3. Election of Officers/Swear in Chairman

Swearing in of the Chairman was deferred to next meeting's agenda.

4. Examination Report

Ms. Novak noted that both the RVT item bank with illustrations and the Veterinary item bank have been transitioned to the Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES). The Veterinary interagency agreement with OPES was finalized but the RVTC interagency agreement is pending until after the April RVTC and VMB meeting discussions regarding future use of the VTNE. The May and June Veterinary test preparation and Angoff passing score workshops and subject matter expert attendance for both workshops have been confirmed. The May – October 2009 Veterinary exam demo was completed and set to launch on May 1. Ms. Novak explained that accurate school reports are still not available through PSI or ATS after many hours of attempting to locate the problem, and candidate reports are not available in alpha order.

5. Legislation/Regulatory Subcommittee Update

A. RVT School Approval Process and Reporting Requirements

Mr. Cornell reported the comparison between AVMA and California school approval requirements was not completed. Dr. Johnson offered to work with the subcommittee and continue working on the proposal to allow RVT students to perform RVT tasks during their last year in school similar to UCD and Western University veterinary students. Ms. Barker explained

that the Board can set the minimum standards for approval and these standards can be AVMA standards plus additional California standards. Discussion followed with Legal Counsel regarding why schools are currently in violation and how the Board could be challenged as the regulations currently stand.

MSP

The motion was made by Dr. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Curtis that it be recommended to the Board that a letter be sent to RVT schools notifying the schools they need to be approved by the Board by a specified implementation date while the Board moves forward with regulations to revise the school approval process. The motion passed.

B. Language for Requiring VTNE with California Supplement Exam

Ms. Geranen explained that the VTNE will implement computer based testing (CBT) in June 2010 and that the AAVSB could do a supplemental exam for California. OPES has offered to review the California item bank, the VTNE, and the VTNE occupational analysis in order to prepare for a California supplement to the VTNE. Ms. Barker stated a change to the VTNE requires VMB approval and a legislative change. She noted that it would be safer to go with an effective date of January 2011 to implement a supplemental exam if VTNE implements CBT in June 2010, because of technology interruptions.

MSP

The motion was made by Mr. Cornell and seconded by Ms. Schumacher to recommend to the Board to consider pursuing transition to the VTNE and California supplemental exam and allow the RVTC to have input on the parameters of transition; the RVT should work with OPES and Board staff on what this transition would look like and insert transition language to go into effect January 2011; and the Board should consider adding language that would not mandate the exam, but would allow the exam. The motion passed.

Adjourned for lunch 12:30 – 2:10 p.m.

Dr. Johnson & Ms. Geranen not present – attending VMB Reinstatement Hearing

Dr. Johnson returned at 3:15pm

Ms. Geranen returned at 3:45pm.

6. Discussion Items

A. Disaster Planning for Animals Update

Ms. Schumacher noted that she spoke with Mark Bassett, OES, in March and that he is nowhere near instituting anything. Ms. Geranen stated that it is up to the VMB. Ms. Schumacher is proposing a list of emergency services on the VMB website to links. After discussion the RVTC agreed to keep proposed disaster subcommittee with Ms. Schumacher as Chairman and an ad hoc subcommittee and have a VMB and RVTC member work with OES on disaster planning.

B. Subcommittee Assignments

The RVTC agreed to defer discussion on subcommittee assignments until Ms. Williams returns since she may be interested in participating on some.

7. Update on Review of Proposed Language for Mandatory CE for RVTs

The RVTC reviewed the proposed CE regulations until Dr. Johnson and Ms. Geranen returned from the reinstatement hearing. Ms. Geranen recommended that an RVTC member meet with

Ms. Barker to go over questions on the CE regulations and Mr. Cornell volunteered to do. Ms. Geranen also recommended that the RVTC submit their comments in writing.

8. 2009 Strategic Plan/Retreat Update

Ms. Geranen provided the RVTC that Strategic Plan revisions made at the March 2009 retreat.

9. Agenda Items for July 2009 Meeting

- Swear in Chairman
- Radiation Safety Training
- School Approval Process Regulations
- VTNE Update
- Disaster Planning Update
- CE Proposed Regulations – need to be prepared to discuss Ms. Barker’s comments
- RVT Title Protection/Proposed National Name Change to LVT
- Subcommittee Assignments

10. Comments from Public/Outside Agencies/Associations

Radiation Safety Training

Ms. Ehrlich brought up the topic of Radiation Safety Training and presented a document for discussion. Ms. Geranen recommended requiring training in statutes and defining training in regulations.

MSP

The motion was made by Ms. Schumacher and seconded by Dr. Johnson to recommend to the Board to pursue legislation to amend Section 4840(b) to reflect that any person other than an RVT or DVM may operate radiographic equipment under direct supervision, provide the person has received proper training in accordance with the applicable regulation. The motion passed.

Title Protection

Dr. Johnson stated that animal “nurse” better defines what an RVT does rather than the word “technician” and would like to pursue use of the term. Ms. Geranen recommended that Dr. Johnson and Ms. Schumacher set up a meeting with Ruth Ann Terry, Executive Officer of the Nursing Board to inquire about using the term “nurse”.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business before the RVTC, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.