



## MEETING MINUTES

Registered Veterinary Technician Committee  
March 15, 2011  
Sacramento, California

### 1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Registered Veterinary Technician Committee (RVTC) Chair Carol Schumacher called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Veterinary Medical Board (Board) Executive Officer Susan Geranen called roll; three members of the RVTC were present and thus a quorum was established.

#### Members Present

Carol Schumacher, RVT, Chair  
Craig Cornell, RVT, Vice Chair  
Virginia Curtis  
Tom Kendall, DVM, Veterinary Medical Board Liaison

#### Staff Present

Susan Geranen, Executive Officer, Veterinary Medical Board  
Shela Barker, Legal Counsel  
Ethan Mathes, Administrative Programs Coordinator  
Elizabeth Parker-Smith, Administrative Analyst

#### Guests Present

Albert Aldrete, DVM  
Alex Henderson, RVT  
Nancy Ehrlich, RVT, California Registered Veterinary Technicians Association  
Pamela Maurer, RVT, California Registered Veterinary Technicians Association  
David Johnson, RVT, Multidisciplinary Committee  
Richard Johnson, DVM, Veterinary Medical Board

### 2. Approve January 25, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Schumacher and Craig Cornell, RVT requested minor changes to the Meeting Minutes on pages one and three respectively

- **Virginia Curtis motioned and Craig Cornell, RVT seconded the motion to approve the January 25, 2011 Meeting Minutes as amended.**
- **The motion carried 3-0.**

### 3. Examination/Licensing Program Report

#### A. Examination/Licensing Report

#### B. Update on Transition of RVT Exam to Veterinary Technician National Exam

Ethan Mathes reported that there are six Limited Term Eligibility Window candidates pending licensure. Staff met with the Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) to discuss transitioning to the national registered veterinary technician examination and develop a California specific jurisprudence examination; OPES is developing an interagency contract for the transition.

#### **4. Legislation/Regulations Report**

##### **A. Update on Radiation Safety Examination Subcommittee**

The RVTC reviewed and discussed the revised radiation safety examination. They proposed amending language in the examination including highlighting radiation exposure issues, noting the importance of the cumulative effect of radiation, distance and radiation theory, using software to enhance radiographic images, and the importance of keeping body parts out of radiographic images.

The RVTC requested staff make the changes discussed and forward the complete radiation safety guide to the Department of Public Health representative.

##### **B. Update on Proposed RVT Continuing Education Regulations**

Mr. Mathes updated that the proposed continuing education regulations have gone through the various approvals and are now at the Office of Administrative Law for review. Registered veterinary continuing education requirements, if approved, would take effect on July 1, 2011.

#### **5. Discuss Physical Therapy as it Relates to RVTs**

Ms. Schumacher updated on the February 17, 2011 California Veterinary Medical Association's Animal Rehabilitation Task Force meeting. The Task Force is working on defining animal rehabilitation definitions for submittal of suggested regulatory language to the Board. Ms. Geranen added the Board's intent is to write regulations to define the practice of animal rehabilitation as under direct supervision of veterinarians and using current statute as authority for the proposed regulations.

Ms. Schumacher reported the future of animal rehabilitation is uncertain and that it may include more direct training of veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians as part of their education. The RVTC discussed who has authority under current law to practice animal rehabilitation and whether there is a need to change that authority under current law.

Ms. Schumacher deferred the chair to Mr. Cornell in order to make a motion.

- **Carol Schumacher, RVT motioned and Virginia Curtis seconded the motion to request Dr. Tom Kendall notify the Multidisciplinary Committee that the Registered Veterinary Technician Committee recommends no change in the level of supervision of registered veterinary technicians for purposes of animal rehabilitation.**
- **The motion carried 3-0.**

#### **6. Discuss RVTC Sunset Issues**

Ms. Geranen noted that there are no major sunset issues but current members may be asked to assist with any outstanding matters. RVTC members Ms. Schumacher, Mr. Cornell and Virginia Curtis volunteered to help as necessary.

#### **7. Develop Title Protection Regulations for BPC sections 4839 and 4839.5**

The RVTC discussed provisions of title protection and how the term "technician" should be used in a hospital setting. They debated whether the term is confusing for consumers and what other terms are appropriate for registered veterinary technicians and unregistered assistants.

The RVTC felt protection of the term "technician" in a hospital setting is important and should be protected in regulation. Shela Barker added that she would draft proposed regulatory language for review at the June meeting.

## **8. Develop Regulations to Define Student Exemption**

The RVTC discussed parameters for registered veterinary technician student exemptions including requirements for training and supervision, disclosure to consumers of exempt students, supervisor responsibilities and liability, time limit for exemption to the final year of study, and the use of a contract or agreement for exempt students. Ms. Schumacher noted she would meet in subcommittee to discuss these issues and present draft language at the June meeting.

## **9. Agenda Items and Dates for Next Meetings**

### **A. June 14, 2011 - Sacramento**

Proposed agenda items for the June 8, 2010 Meeting:

Radiation safety guide  
Title protection language  
Student exemption language  
Animal rehabilitation task force update

## **10. Comments from Public/Outside Agencies/Associations**

*There were no comments from public/outside agencies/associations.*

### **Adjourn**

- **Virginia Curtis motioned and Craig Cornell, RVT seconded the motion to adjourn.**
- **The motion carried 3-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.