

Executive Officer's Report

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The mission of the Veterinary Medical Board is to protect consumers and animals through development and maintenance of professional standards, licensing of veterinarians, registered veterinary technicians, and registered veterinary premises and diligent enforcement of the California Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.

We have an exciting board meeting coming up with the opportunity to finalize our Disciplinary Guidelines and update our Strategic Plan. The Board was approved for one hiring exemption and is restricted to hiring only persons who are currently state employees who have been laid off, but we are hopeful that we will be able to interview applicants soon.

Public Hearing – Minimum Standards, including Section 2037. The Board is holding a public hearing on proposed changes to the minimum standards, including Section 2037 which pertain to the definition of Dental Operation. The Board office has received a large number of comments on the change to Section 2037 and expects that there will be many people who attend the meeting to testify at the hearing. The majority of comments received in the office are form letters that appear to have been sent out by a single entity where people just sign the letter and send it back to the organization that in turn, faxes it to the Board. A large percentage of the comments do not have any contact information or return address, only a signature. We will include a representative sample of the comments for Board review in the public hearing section of the Board binders. It is the intent of the Board staff to organize all form comments into the various versions and reply to each version of the comment once in the final regulatory file and indicate the number of that form comment received.

License plate bill – Assembly Bill 610 (Solario). AB 610 decreases the number of license plate applications that is required before the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will initiate a specialty license plate. Currently the number is 7,500 applications. The bill decreases that number to 2,500 and allows private donations to achieve the total start up costs, currently at \$400,000. There will be an oral report on the status of this bill at the Board meeting.

Title Protection for Registered Veterinary Technicians. Dr. Tom Kendall and Kim Williams, RVT, met as the Board assigned Task Force on Wednesday, August 17, 2011, to discuss proposed regulations to define title protection for RVTs and also to discuss language for amendments to Section 4836.1 regarding supervision of RVTs and unregistered persons relative to controlled substances. They were joined by staff and representatives from the CVMA, CARVTA and the local Sacramento VMA. Dr. Kendall and Ms Williams will give their report at the meeting.

Multidisciplinary Committee. The MDC meeting for August was canceled due to the fact that developing the draft citation and fine guidelines is taking a bit longer than anticipated. Action was deferred on the citation and fine guidelines to its next meeting on November 16, 2011.

American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB). At the annual conference in September, Dr. Tom Kendall was elected to the AAVSB Board of Directors. Congratulations Tom!

The Board's request for a change in the bylaws to have designated public and RVT board members on the AAVSB Board of Governors was not supported by the Bylaws Committee or the Board of Directors, but the request was put before the Delegates for a vote at the annual conference on September 17, 2011. Of 39 delegates present, the vote was 3/36 not to support such a designation. Nevada and Arizona voted in support of California's proposal.

The California Board along with other board representatives attended the RACE meeting at the annual conference and voice concern about the RACE standards for provider and course approval of Complimentary and Alternative Veterinary Medicine (CAVM) courses. The AAVSB Board and the RACE Committee members agreed to take another look at the standards and get back to the Boards.

California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) Meeting. Due to the current restricted travel the Board has

not had representation at these meetings.