

# Executive Officer's Report

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July 2012

*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.*

## Sunset Review.

Patti Aguiar, Public Member, is coordinating Board member comments and Board staff is compiling statistics for workload over the last four years as requested in the report. Staff will have some numbers for the July meeting and the final numbers in September. Because the reports that we get from the automated system are not always accurate, many of the numbers have to be doubled checked manually to insure accuracy and that takes additional time. The Board has discussed Sunset Review at two previous meetings, April and June 2012. There are two more meetings scheduled for reviewing and finalizing this report, a one day meeting on September 5, 2012, and the regular Board meeting on October 16-17<sup>th</sup> in San Diego. The final report is due to the Legislature on November 1, 2012, so after the October meeting staff will be scrambling to get the report printed and down to the Legislature by the deadline. The Legislative hearings will most likely be held next year in March 2013.

## Legislation

1. SB 969 (Vargas) – Pet Groomers – This bill is still in progress. It was amended on June 20, 2012, and in the new proposed language, the connection to the Board was removed and the proposed regulation of pet groomers was put under authority of the Department of Health Services.
2. AB 610 (Solario). AB 610 – passed with an urgency clause – now in effect. Extends date for obtaining 7,500 sold license plates to June 8, 2013.
3. AB 1839 (Ma) – Section 4836.1 – Controlled Substances – this bill is going through the legislative process.
4. AB 2304 (Garrick) – Cosmetic Teeth Cleaning. Died in the first committee. No support votes.

## Regulations

**Proposed Changes to the Minimum Standards, including Section 2037.** The Board submitted the file to the DCA on June 8. It was returned to the Board on June 20 for some modifications. Since the 15-day notice for the Disciplinary Guidelines is the first priority, once that is done the Minimum Standards file will be updated and resubmitted to the DCA no later than July 13, 2012.

**RVT School Regulations.** The proposed regulations will be noticed for an October 2012 hearing. The notice deadline for holding a public hearing at the October Board meeting is Tuesday, August 14, 2012.

**Disciplinary Guidelines.** The 15-day notice voted on by the Board at its June 12 meeting is scheduled to be posted on Thursday, July 5, 2012. The language and any comments received will be made available at the July Board meeting for discussion and consideration of adoption.

**License Plate Regulations.** The regulations are up for discussion at the July Board meeting.

## Enforcement

The Board Member Enforcement Training day was moved to Monday, January 21, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 3 or 4 p.m. so that all Board members can participate. Diann Sokoloff, Deputy Attorney General, Liaison and Sandra Monterrubio are working together to develop the overall training programs and any questions that you have had or think about regarding enforcement cases or the process itself between now and June. Please send to Sandra so we can be sure that the information covers exactly what you need to know. We will also be doing a half day of training for the members of the Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) in November in the enforcement process from receipt of complaint through a citation and fine action.

## RVT Exam Issues.

Although the RVT Committee sunsetted last June, the Board still regulates RVTs and the issues related to RVTs still need to be addressed. One of the issues in which former committee members provided support to the staff was in providing expertise in reviewing alternate route applications. There are many times when lay staff find it difficult to determine whether an applicant is eligible or whether their education meets the requirements in California Code of Regulations, Section 2068.5 and the members of this committee will be very helpful in that respect. Kim Williams, RVT and Tom Kendall, DVM, are the new committee members and the committee met twice in Fiscal Year 2011/12 – the first meeting was held on March 7, 2012 and the second on May 9, 2012.

**American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB).**

Registry of Approved Continuing Education Committee (RACE). The Board is continuing to work with the AAVSB on the standards for continuing education approval for the alternative veterinary medicine options. The AAVSB's Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) committee is meeting at the annual conference in September in Seattle, WA to provide licensing jurisdictions with an update of some of the issues raised at the annual conference last September. One issue that has been resolved is the requirement for individual 50 and 25 minute continuing education courses, not a cumulative total of random hours. The RACE Committee and the AAVSB Board of Directors voted to actively enforce that standard. The other major issue to be discussed is the process for reviewing the CAVM courses.

Attendees at the Annual AAVSB Conference in Seattle WA. Dr. Tom Kendall is attending the conference as an AAVSB Board member; Dr. Richard Johnson is attending as a member of the RACE Committee; Kim Williams is attending as a member of the VTNE; Linda Starr is attending as the Board's voting delegate and I am attending as the Board's EO and as a member of the AAVSB Conference Committee.