

Assistant Executive Officer's Report

Budgets

Based on our most recent budget reports, the Board is within its range of projections for expenditures for the current fiscal year. Included in the meeting binders are the Board's Budget Report and the Board's Budget Summary by line item.

In the next few months, we will start working on compiling data to assist with budget change proposals for authority to add staff to handle the increase in enforcement workload.

Personnel

We recently filled the vacant Inspection Program Coordinator position in Enforcement. Jan Solone was hired in November and started working for the Board in December. Jan comes to us from the Department of Insurance and has experience working with license denials and the formal discipline process. The Board is currently recruiting for a part-time enforcement analyst to help with the backlog in enforcement cases. Interviews should be completed in January and we hope an additional enforcement staff member by February 2013.

Contracts

Board staff has been working with Cooperative Personnel Services (CPS) on secession planning and workforce development. The first phase in the study is almost complete and we expect to start working on the second phase dealing with workforce development in late January.

Office Move

The plans for the layout of our future location at the new office building on Market Street in Sacramento were completed and will be submitted to the building owner to begin leasing negotiations. We will continue to work with DCA and the Department of General Services Real Estate Division on the move throughout the phases of this project. The office move is tentatively planned for August or September of 2013.

Regulations

Disciplinary Guidelines – Proposed language amends CCR section 2006 to incorporate the Disciplinary Guidelines by reference. The Disciplinary Guidelines incorporated by reference were updated to clearly and concisely provide guidance to the Board, Administrative Law Judge, and the public in interpreting the various sections of the applicable Business and Professions Code when initiating discipline for violations to the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.

A 15-day Notice was issued on September 26, 2012 and the 15-day Notice period ended on October 10, 2012. There were no comments received in the 15-day comment period. Staff is working on finalizing the rulemaking file for submittal to the Department in mid-February. Once approved by the Department, State and Consumer Services Agency and the Department of Finance, staff will forward the complete file to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL).

Minimum Standards – Proposed language updates the minimum standards of veterinary practice to current practice standards as well as provides additional protection to consumers in areas that were not previously covered in the minimum standards of practice.

The rulemaking file was delivered to the OAL on October 26, 2012. OAL subsequently contacted staff with multiple questions and notice that the file would be disapproved by the OAL. Staff met with OAL staff in early-December to review OAL's comments and questions regarding

their disapproval of the file. OAL formally disapproved the file on December 20, 2012; the Board has 120 days from disapproval to resubmit the file back to OAL for their consideration.

Among the concerns, OAL recommended the Board issue a 15-day notice clarifying sections of law, adding additional explanation to the Boards Statement of Reasons, and include additional supporting documents to the file.

A 15-day notice was issued on January 11, 2013 with the comment period ending on January 25, 2013.

Retroactive Fingerprinting – The Board is scheduled to convert to the new DCA licensing/enforcement BrEZe database system in late-2013. The fact that the current database system is not set up to handle retroactive fingerprint requirements has delayed the implementation of the retroactive fingerprint program.

Examination/Licensing Report

Examinations

NORTH AMERICAN VETERINARY LICENSING EXAMINATION			
April 2012		November 2012/December 2012	
Candidates	Pass Pct.	Candidates	Pass Pct.
61	75%	327	TBD

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD EXAMINATION			
November 2011 – April 2012		May 2012 – October 2012	
Candidates	Pass Pct.	Candidates	Pass Pct.
280	96%	158	91%

REGISTERED VETERINARY TECHNICIAN EXAMINATION			
January 2012 - June 2012		July 2012 - December 2012	
Candidates	Pass Pct.	Candidates	Pass Pct.
157	77%	349	71%

Examination Workshops

February 19-20, 2013 – RVT Law Examination Item Writing

Office of Professional Examination Services examination workshops will continue in 2013 and will include RVT examination item review, examination construction, and pass score setting. The RVT Examination is on track to be completed for a January 2014 release.

Licensing

Licensees	
<i>as of December 2012</i>	
Veterinarian Licenses	15,479
Veterinarian Licenses - California	11,259
Registered Veterinary Technician Licenses	8,916
Registered Veterinary Technician Licenses California	5,915
Premise Permits	3,076
Premise Permits - Exempt	75

Licenses Issued	
<i>January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012</i>	
Veterinarian	562
Reciprocity	50
Intern	29
Registered Veterinary Technician	491
Premises	167

BreEZe

The Department of Consumer Affairs has begun transition to a new applicant and licensing tracking database. The BreEZe database and tracking system will replace the existing Applicant Tracking System and Consumer Affairs System. Three releases have been scheduled by the Department to fully implement the new database and tracking system.

The Veterinary Medical Board is in BreEZe Release 2. Prior Department implementation dates indicated Release 2 boards would rollout in the Spring 2012. More recently, the Department has indicated a postponement to the rollout of Release 2 boards to late-2013 due to database issues with Release 1 boards.

Release 2 kickoff events scheduled for January 10 and 11, 2013 were postponed. The BreEZe transition team has encouraged Release 2 Board subject matter experts to preemptively take scheduled training on BreEZe training classes that encompass training on basic functionality of the BreEZe interface; staff subject matter experts are scheduled to take the training in early-February. Staff is also researching details in order to identify whether the Board's transition to BreEZe will impact the transition to the Veterinary Technician National Examination.

Continuing Education Audits

In December 2012 staff began a six-month veterinary continuing education audit pilot program. Staff has seen some compliance issues with both licensees and continuing education providers. Once the initial six-month pilot period is complete staff will evaluate the continuing education audit program and provide a report to the Board at its July 2013 meeting.

Publications

Fall/Winter Newsletter – Staff is currently working on content for the Fall/Winter Newsletter. The outline of potential content has been sent to the Publications Committee and is listed below. Once content is fully developed staff will send it to the Publications Committee for review and then to legal counsel for approval. Staff is anticipating a publication date of late-February.

Standard Content

Disciplinary Actions, July 2011 - June 2012

Join the Board Email List

Upcoming Meetings

VMB and MDC Members

Proposed New Content

Welcome new Board members Dr. Sullivan and Dr. Waterhouse

Thank you to Past President Dr. Ferguson

DEC Program FAQs

CE for RVTs reminder

Premises Permit FAQ/Information

New Legislation for 2013
Requirements for CE Recordkeeping/CE requirements
Pet License Plate Update
New Hospital Self-Inspection Checklist
New Radiation Safety Guide

Website

Staff is working with the Department's Office of Information Services to update the Board's website to the new State template. The anticipated completion date is February 28, 2013.