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South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners



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Minutes of the South Carolina Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Business Meeting, Disciplinary Hearings, and Application Hearing
November 1, 2012
Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Room 105
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina, 29211

Board members present were:

Vanessa B. Brooks, D.V.M., Chairperson
Oswald H. "Sonny" King, D.V.M., Vice Chairperson
Christine Hartman, L.V.T.
Cindy W. Nord, Ph.D.
David M. Oliver, D.V.M.
Albert W. Platt, III, D.V.M.
Walter C. Robinson, D.V.M.

Board members with excused absences were:

Bryan K. Cribb, D.V.M., Secretary
Rebecca Hughes, D.V.M.

Staff and others present were:

Erin G. Baldwin, LLR Litigation Attorney, Office of General Counsel (OGC)
Tina F. Behles, PPR Court Reporter
Myron E. Bratton, DVM
Kate K. Cox, LLR Administrator
Abraham Fields, DVM
Lori Graham, LLR Investigator
C. Bradley Hutto, Esquire
Sara McCartha, Esquire, LLR Advice Attorney
David Love, OIE
Steven T. Moon, Esquire
Mag Moton, LLR Administrative Assistant
P.C. Faglie, LLR Investigator
Marcia Rosenberg
Sarah T. Thompson, DVM

CALL TO ORDER:

The Regular Session of the South Carolina Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners was held at the Synergy Office Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Room 105, in Columbia, South Carolina. Whereas, proper notice of date, time, place and agenda information having been properly provided to THE STATE NEWSPAPER and ASSOCIATED PRESS and proper notice also having been posted at the LLR Office Building 24 hours prior to the time scheduled for the meeting and a quorum having been noted as present, Chairperson Dr. Brooks called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. All votes referenced herein were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Platt to approve the Agenda as presented. Ms. Hartman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Hartman to accept the August 2, 2012 Minutes of the last meeting as printed. Dr. Platt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

DISCIPLINARY ISSUES:

IRC Report:

The Investigative Review Committee Report (IRC) was provided. Discussion followed.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Platt to accept nine (9) Dismissals. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hartman. The motion passed.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Platt to issue two (2) Cease & Desist Orders. Dr. King seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Nord to authorize two (2) Formal Complaints. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hartman. The motion passed.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Platt three (3) Dismissals with Letters of Concern. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hartman. The motion passed.

OIE and OGC Management Reports:

The OIE and OGC Management Reports were given for OIE and OGC. Discussion followed on number of cases and status. The reports were accepted as information by the Board.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS:

Abraham Fields, D.V.M.

A hearing was held regarding Memorandums of Agreement with Stipulations for Dr. Fields. Ms. McCarthy advised the Board. Erin Baldwin represented the state. C. Bradley Hutto represented Dr. Fields. A court reporter was present. A quorum was noted as present. The hearing commenced.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. King to go into Executive Session for legal advisement. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hartman. The motion carried.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. King to come out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hartman. The motion carried.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Platt to accept the Memorandums of Agreement with Stipulations and to issue a Final Order for nine (9) month suspension starting today. Dr. Fields may be considered for reinstatement in the future by personal appearance before the Board. Dr. Fields was directed to consult with the Board administrator on points that he is to be focusing on before reinstatement. The motion was seconded by Dr. King. The motion carried.

Sarah T. Thompson, D.V.M.

A hearing was held regarding Memorandums of Agreement with Stipulations for Dr. Thompson. Ms. McCartha advised the Board. Erin Baldwin represented the state. Steven T. Moon represented Dr. Thompson. A court reporter was present. A quorum was noted as present. The hearing commenced.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. King to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Nord. The motion carried.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Robinson to come out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Dr. King. The motion carried.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Platt to dismiss the charges and to Issue a Letter of Caution regarding better documentation of all communication regarding the client and veterinarian for all treatments. The motion was seconded by Dr. King. The motion carried.

APPLICATION HEARING:

Myron E. Bratton, D.V.M.

An application hearing was held regarding licensure for Myron E. Bratton. Ms. McCartha advised the Board. Dr. Bratton was not represented by counsel. A court reporter was present. A quorum was noted as present. The hearing commenced.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. King to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Nord. The motion carried.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Nord to come out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hartman. The motion carried.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. King to grant a license to Dr. Bratton based on a waiver of the CCT examination and the NAVLE portion of the test due to the fact that he has a current license and due to the fact that the CCT was not offered at the time of his current license and it is not offered now. It was noted this decision will apply only to this applicant. The motion was seconded by Dr. Platt. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Administrative Report:

The Administrative Report was given with a staffing chart and included the statistical report on number of licensees and licensing actions; results of the elections for nomination for Board seats was reviewed for Districts 3, 5 and 7; vehicle tags for Board members were reviewed by Ms. Moton; and the 2013 -2015 renewal process and dates were announced. Reports were given on AAVSB meeting attended by Dr. King and Dr. Robinson. Dr. Robinson provided a handout.

The Disciplinary Monitor Log Report:

The Disciplinary Monitor Log report was given and accepted as information.

Financial Report:

Financial Report was given and accepted as information.
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LEGAL:

Ms. McCartha reviewed the Insurance Reserve Fund (IRF) training with the Board. It was noted that Dr. Brooks and Mrs. Cox had attended the training on September 14, 2012. All members were given copies of the information from the training. Taint of Board members was discussed and all calls regarding issues that could become discipline must be referred to the Administrator or Lesia Kudelka, LLR who handles media and other concerns from the public. It was discussed that no one Board member should speak for the Board and the Board functions as one body. Recusal was discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Best practice of noting patients' records of all communications with the client regarding treatment and care was discussed. Dr. Brooks stated she could write a best practice statement for record keeping for posting on the Board's web site under Board News. It was discussed that it would not be a policy statement, just best practice information. Inspections of mobile units was discussed and it was noted that they are subject to inspection too.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was none.

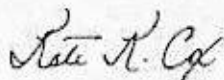
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

It was announced the next meeting of the South Carolina Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for 2013 will be February 14 and the following meetings will be May 9, August 8, and November 14, 2013. It was announced that the Board will hold election for officers at the first meeting of the year on February 14, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: There being no further business Dr. King made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Platt seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate K. Cox
Administrator