

**BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

110 CENTERVIEW DRIVE, ROOM 111

COLUMBIA, S.C.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2006, 9:00 A.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** James T. Mullikin, D.V.M., Chairman, Glen B. Haynes, D.V.M., Vice Chairman, Stephen G. Colquhoun, D.V.M., Secretary, Valerie H. Alexander, D.V.M., Claude H. Schumpert, D.V.M., James M. Harris, D.V.M., Paul D. Patrick, D.V.M. and Cindy Nord, Ph.D.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Donald W. Hayden - Board Administrator, Neil Riley - litigation counsel, Shirley Robinson - Board hearing counsel, Marcia Rosenberg and Mag Moton - Administrative Assistant.

Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners offices, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, S.C. 29210 and provided to all requesting persons, organizations and news media in compliance with Section 40-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Dr. Mullikin called the meeting to order and noted that a quorum was present to conduct business.

A motion was made by Dr. Schumpert and seconded by Dr. Alexander, to accept the minutes of the October 6, 2005 meeting as printed.

The open session of the meeting began with Hearing.

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT AND STIPIATIONS**

**Case#: 2004-21** - Neil Riley, assistant general counsel summarized the Memorandum of Agreement and Stipulations in Case# 2004-21. The Memorandum of Agreement and Stipulations states the respondent stipulates and admits to the facts, and wishes to waive a formal hearing.

The open session of the meeting was closed to conduct a hearing. Upon return to open session the Board issued its decision in case #2004-21

Dr. Haynes moved with a second to dismiss case# 2004-21 with a Letter of Concern for lack of communication with client regarding disposition of the case.

**RECOVERING PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM**

Frank Sheheen, M.S., Program Director with the Recovering Professional Program, (RPP) presented to the Board quarterly reports and RPP Participant's Handbooks. RPP is

a confidential referral and monitoring program designed for physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, podiatrists and veterinarians in South Carolina who are experiencing problems with alcohol and/or other chemical dependence. RPP operates under contract with the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, as the monitoring program approved by the South Carolina Boards of Dentistry, Medical Examiners, Nursing and Pharmacy, and is managed by the Lexington Richland County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council (LRADAC).

Mr. Sheheen made a request to the Board to speak before the Board and interested parties to promote the Recovering Professional Program. It was suggested that Mr. Sheheen contact the South Carolina Association of Veterinarians and other state veterinarians associations for promotional information.

#### **IRC COMPLAINTS:**

2005-24	-	Formal Complaint
2005-31	-	Dismiss with Letter of Caution
2005-37	-	Dismiss
2005-41	-	Dismiss
2005-23	-	Dismiss
2005-20	-	Dismiss, referred to law enforcement
2004-10	-	Dismiss
2004-31	-	Dismiss
2005-12	-	Dismiss

Dr. Colquhoun moved, with a second, to accept the IRC's recommendations. The motion passed.

#### **FACILITY INSPECTIONS**

Don Hayden, Board Administrator, presented to the Board a statistical report of veterinary facility inspections for the past five years. The inspection process was discussed and it is the consciences of the Board to: Conduct random inspection of all facilities within a five (5) year period (selecting 75 facilities annually); inspections to be comprised of sixty-five (65) hospital facilities and ten (10) mobile facilities; Office of Investigations and Enforcement would continue to inspect the facilities at the time of the complaint investigation and a copy of the inspection form to be forwarded to the Board administrator for administrative purposes. Randomly inspected facilities that fail to correct deficiencies as required by statute, would be referred to OIE for investigation and the redesigned copy of the inspection form (one page triplicate) was deemed acceptable with no suggestion change.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS - ETHICS**

**Grooming:** The discussion of whether it is ethical for veterinarians who are groomers to request from the client, his/her pet's vaccination records; and is such a request a deliberate attempt to solicit clients? The Board's view of such a request is as follows: Recommended that it would be

proper for Board to establish guidelines for such procedures pertaining to signed requests along with recommendations for clients with no medical records; unless requested by client, non-medical services and documentation obtained from a providing veterinarian can not be used for client establishment. Upon establishment of Board's recommendations, such information is to be published in the Board's newsletter.

**Release of Prescriptions** – The Board recommends a practitioner should release a copy of a patient's records, including x-rays, to the patient or his/her personal representative or other practitioners, when requested in writing by the client or when authorized under another written agreement. A client/patient relationship is considered to be in place if the veterinarian has seen the animal at least once within one (1) year.

**Emergency Clinics** – The Board questioned should a veterinarian be on the premises of an emergency clinic twenty-four (24) hours a day and it is appropriate to refer a client to an emergency hospital with a forty-five (45) minute drive for medical emergency care? The Board concluded that referral to an emergency clinic within 45-60 minutes drive was appropriate.

## **BOARD ELECTIONS**

Don Hayden, Board administrator presented to the Board, a draft of the 2006 Advisory Election notice of open seats for districts three (3) and five (5). Board elections are being held for James T. Mullikin, D.V.M., district three and Valerie H. Alexander, D.V.M., district five. Both terms expire April 6, 2006. Election notices are to be mailed on January 20, 2006.

## **AGENCY BOARD MEMBER TRAINING**


Ruby McClain, POL-OHMRP administrator, informed Board members that LLR would sponsor a Board Member Training. Suggestions/input on topics for training should be submitted to Mrs. McClain by January 20, 2006.

## **BOARD MEMBERS**

James T. Mullikin, D.V.M, Valerie H. Alexander, D.V.M. and Cindy Nord, PhD expressed their appreciation in serving the Board. These terms expires April 6, 2006.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

  
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(Administrator)

  
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(Date)