

**South Carolina Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners  
Board Meeting Minutes  
March 24, 2022 at 9:00 am**

Call to Order: Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Veterinary Board Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, Section 30-4-80.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Karl Wessinger, DVM, Chairman  
Elizabeth Fuller, DVM Vice Chair  
Christine White, DVM  
Tracie Quick, DVM  
LaDon Wallis, DVM  
George Bryant, DVM  
Bethany Tapp, DVM  
Mr. Marshall Liger  
Mrs. Deloris Mungo

**SCLLR STAFF PRESENT:**

Hardwick Stuart, Office of Advice Counsel  
Robert Elam, Office of Disciplinary Counsel  
Meredith Buttler, Board Administrator  
Mark Sanders, Office of Investigations and Enforcement  
Tracy Adams, Office of Investigations and Enforcement  
Jacquelyn White, Program Coordinator

**PRESENT:**

Robin Reibold, Court Reporter  
Shaianne Peedin, LVT  
Shane Himes NRP, TP-C  
Robert Pressley, DVM  
Marie Queen, SCAV

**CALL TO ORDER:** Dr. Wessinger, Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion:** To approve the agenda.  
Tapp/Wallis/Approved.

**INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND OTHEERS:**

Each board member introduced themselves.

**APPROVAL OF EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

**Motion:** To excuse Dr. Mitch Lowery.  
Tapp/White/Approved.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

**Motion:** To approve December 2, 2021 Board Meeting minutes.  
Bryant/White/Approved.

**Motion:** To approve December 3, 2021 Special Called Board Meeting minutes.  
Bryant/Tapp/Approved.

**Motion:** To approve February 7, 2022 Regulation Committee Meeting minutes.  
Bryant/Wallis/Approved.

**Motion:** To approve March 4, 2022 Regulation Committee Meeting minutes.  
Bryant/Quick/Approved.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE) Statistical Report

Mr. Sanders reported for the period from November 1, 2021 to March 4, 2022, there have been 54 active investigations, 26 closed cases and 37 complaints received.

Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE) IRC Report

Mr. Sanders, reported the IRC met on and recommended 10 cases for dismissals, 7 cases for formal complaints and 6 cases for Letter of Cautions.

**:** To accept the 10 cases for dismissals.  
Bryant/White/Approved.

**Motion:** To accept the 7 cases for formal complaints.  
Bryant/Quick/Approved.

**Motion:** To accept the 6 cases for letter of cautions with verbiage changes to case 2022-5.  
Tapp/Liger/Approved.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) Report

Mr. Elam reported as of March 7, 2022, there are 28 open cases of which 8 are pending hearings and agreements, 2 pending closures, 0 appeals, 8 closed since last report on November 17, 2021 and 4 closed since January 1, 2022.

**DISCIPLINARY PROCESS PRESENTATION:**

Mr. Elam, Mr. Stuart, and Tracy Adams conducted a presentation on the disciplinary process.

## DISCIPLINARY HEARING

### a. 2019-50 CA

The consent agreement was presented to the Board and the respondent did not appear before the Board. Disciplinary hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary. Dr. Bryant was recused from the hearing.

**Motion:** To enter an executive session for legal advice.  
Tapp/Fuller/Approved.

**Motion:** To return to public session.  
Wallis/White/Approved.

**Motion:** To accept Consent Agreement.  
Fuller/White/Approved.

### b. 2019-19 CA

The consent agreement was presented to the Board and the respondent did not appear before the Board. Disciplinary hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

**Motion:** To enter an executive session for legal advice.  
Tapp/White/Approved.

**Motion:** To return to public session.  
Bryant/White/Approved.

**Motion:** To accept Consent Agreement.  
Liger/Tapp/Approved.

### c. 2020-4 CA

The consent agreement was presented to the Board and the respondent did not appear before the Board. Disciplinary hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary. Dr. Fuller was recused from the hearing.

**Motion:** To enter an executive session for legal advice.  
Tapp/Quick/Approved.

**Motion:** To return to public session.  
Bryant/White/Approved.

**Motion:** To reject Consent Agreement.  
Quick/Tapp/Approved.  
Bryant/Opposed.

## **APPLICANT HEARINGS**

### a. Shaianne Peedin

Ms. Peedin appeared before the Board for an application hearing. She was not represented by counsel. Mr. Pressley served as a witness and all parties were sworn in. Application hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

**Motion:** To enter an executive session for legal advice.  
Liger/White/Approved.

**Motion:** To return to public session.  
Tapp/Bryant/Approved.

**Motion:** To approve Ms. Peedin's application.  
Quick/Bryant/Approved.

## **REPORTS**

### Administrator Report

Ms. Buttler reported to date, the Board has 2,359 active veterinary licenses, 725 active veterinary technician licenses, 123 active licensed mobile clinics, and 745 active facility registration. Since the December 2, 2021 board meeting, there have been 49 veterinary licenses and 23 veterinary technician licenses issued, and 3 veterinary licenses reinstated.

The Board's current cash balance as of February 28, 2022 is \$135,385.20.

Ms. Buttler reminded the board members to file their Statement of Economic Interest with the State Ethics Commission if they haven't done so. The filing is due by noon March 30, 2022.

Ms. Buttler presented the S.295 bill for the Board information. Originally introduced in 2020, the bill alters how the board can consider criminal background checks and it also makes pathway for boards to license persons who completes an apprenticeship program approved by the US Department of Labor and passing an exam.

Ms. Buttler reported that she attended the FARB conference held in January in Fort Worth, TX. Ms. Buttler provided a brief on what was discussed at the conference. Licensure portability, military spouses, universal licensing and better ways to deliver information to the public about licensing standards were topics that was discussed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### a. K9 Prehospital Medicine Update

Mr. Shane Himes, Paramedic with the Mount Pleasant Fire Department presented a presentation on special program "Tactical Emergency Medical Support – Police Working Dog Protocols". The goal of the program is to provide tactical emergency medical support (TEMS) to police working dogs (PWD) which encompasses clinical medical guidance for management of seriously ill or injured PWD, initial resuscitation, and stabilization of life-threatening and limb-threatening conditions. Mr. Himes requested Board guidance as per S.C. Code of Law 40-69-20(7), he is considered an unlicensed

veterinary aid and therefore subject to scope of practice restrictions. Following Board discussion, the matter will be presented to the current committee reviewing scope of practice for licensed vet techs and unlicensed aides.

- b. Clarification: Microchip Implantation Consideration as a Surgical Procedure  
Dr. Fuller requested Board clarification regarding categorization of microchip procedure. There has been confusion as to whether it should be recognized as a surgical procedure or an injection. Dr. Quick recommended committee reviewing scope of practice regulations look further into the matter to provide more clarification.
- c. AAVSB Topics for Discussion: Pave for Veterinary Technicians (PAVE).  
Ms. Buttler reported the AAVSB now is offering PAVE equivalency for veterinary technology education. The purpose of PAVE is to assess the education equivalence of international graduates. Due to statutory restrictions, the Board is unable to accept PAVE for veterinary technology applicants.
- d. Review: Heartworm Protocol Sheet  
Dr. Wessinger reported the Board office received a request for review of a protocol sheet for heartworms. The inquirer stated the Board had previously reviewed and approved similar sheet.

**Motion:** The Board does not approve or disapprove medical protocols.  
Quick/Bryant/Approved.

- e. CE Broker Implementation Plan  
Ms. Buttler presented the implementation plan to the Board to move to mandatory utilization of the system.
- f. Travel Approval: FARB 2022 Innovation in Regulation Conference, Washington, D.C. on July 21-22, 2022  
**Motion:** To approve travel for Ms. Buttler to attend the FARB conference.  
Bryant/Quick/Approved.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Ms. Buttler opened the floor for nomination of the Chairperson.

**Motion:** Nominated Dr. Christine White as Chairperson.  
Liger/Bryant/Approved.

Dr. Wessinger opened the floor for nomination of the Vice Chairperson.

**Motion:** Nominated Dr. George Bryant as Vice Chairperson.  
Tapp/Liger/Approved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

**NEXT MEETING**

June 16, 2022 at 9:00 am.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** To adjourn.

Bryant/Quick/Approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

