

STATE OF NEVADA



BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

**Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 9:00AM
at the following conference number:
1-857-799-9907**

NOTE: Per Emergency Order 006 issued by Governor Sisolak on March 22, 2020, there will be no physical location for this meeting.

Board Members Present

Steve Damonte, DVM, President
Ronald Sandoval, DVM, Vice President
John Bullard, DVM
Jacqueline Peterson
James O’Dea, DVM
Deborah White, DVM
Michael Knehr, DVM
Melissa Schalles, LVT

Board Staff Present

Jennifer Pedigo, Executive Directors
Christina Johnson, LVT, Hospital Inspector
John Crumley, DVM, Board Investigator
Louis Ling, Esq., Board Counsel

The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person. (NRS 241.030)

Dr. Damonte, Board President called the meeting to order at 9:06am. He took roll call of Board members and staff; all members were present.

Public Comment: No public comment given.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Consent Agenda for Possible Action

A. 10-2020DVM-71

B. 11-2020DVM-77

2. Approval of Board Minutes for Possible Action

A. October 22, 2020 Board Meeting minutes

B. December 4, 2020 Board Meeting minutes

Discussion: Ms. Schalles moved to accept the Board minutes for October 22, 2020 and December 4, 2020, and dismiss items 1A. and 1B. on the consent agenda. Dr. Sandoval made one correction to the October 22 minutes, item 3C. indicating his abstention.

Motion: Ms. Schalles moved to dismiss the consent agenda items and accept the minutes for the October and December meetings.

Second: Ms. Peterson

Passed: Unanimous

Public comment was given.

REGULAR AGENDA

Review & Determination of Complaints/Disciplinary Action & Disciplinary Hearings for Possible Action: The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person. (NRS 241.030)

A. 02-2020DVM-09: Linda Steelman, DVM (0973): Settlement Agreement

Discussion: Mr. Ling reviewed the case and provided the Board with an overview of the proposed Settlement Agreement.

Motion: Dr. Sandoval moved to accept the Settlement Agreement.

Second: Dr. O'Dea

Passed: Unanimous; no abstentions.

No public comment given.

B. 06-2020DVM-34: John Jonas, DVM (0578): Settlement Agreement or Board decision for Administrative Hearing.

Discussion: Mr. Ling reviewed the case and provided the Board with an overview of the proposed Settlement Agreement.

Motion: Ms. Schalles moved to accept the Settlement Agreement.

Second: Dr. Sandoval

Passed: Unanimous; Dr. Damonte abstained.

No public comment given.

C. 06-2020DVM-35: Donald Long DVM (0216): Settlement Agreement or Board decision for Administrative Hearing.

Discussion: Mr. Ling reviewed the case and provided the Board with an overview of the proposed Settlement Agreement.

Motion: Dr. Sandoval moved to accept the Settlement Agreement.

Second: Ms. Schalles

Passed: Unanimous; Dr. O'Dea abstained.

Public comment was given.

D. 07-2020DVM-38: Michael Knehr, DVM (0972): Settlement Agreement or Board decision for Administrative Hearing.

Discussion: Mr. Ling reviewed the case and provided the Board with an overview of the proposed Settlement Agreement.

Motion: Dr. O'Dea move to accept the Settlement Agreement.

Second: Ms. Schalles

Passed: Aye- Dr. O'Dea, Dr. Damonte, Ms. Schalles, and Ms. Peterson; Dr. White recused herself for prior knowledge; Dr. Knehr, Dr. Bullard, and Dr. Sandoval abstained.

No public comment given.

E. 08-2020FAC-45: Centennial Hills Animal Hospital (H276): Settlement Agreement or Board decision for Administrative Hearing.

Discussion: Mr. Ling reviewed the case and provided the Board with an overview of the proposed Settlement Agreement.

Motion: Dr. Damonte moved to accept the Settlement agreement.

Second: Dr. White

Passed: Unanimous; no abstentions.

No public comment given.

F. 08-2020DVM-48; 08-2020DVM-49; 08-2020FAC-50

Discussion: After discussion of the complaint assessment with the review panel, the Board had dismissed the complaint against the licensee because there was not sufficient evidence to determine that the licensees committed an act which constitutes a cause for disciplinary action.

Motion: Dr. O’Dea moved to dismiss the complaint against Dr. A, Dr. B, and H1.

Second: Dr. Knehr

Passed: Unanimous; Dr. Sandoval abstained.

Public comment given.

G. 08-2020DVM-56; 08-2020DVM-57

Discussion: After discussion of the complaint assessment with the review panel, the Board dismissed the complaint with a Letter of Concern against the Dr. A & Dr. B.

Motion: Dr. Bullard moved to dismiss the complaints against Dr. A and Dr. B with a Letter of Concern.

Second: Dr. Knehr

Passed: Unanimous; Dr. White abstained.

No public comment given.

H. 09-2020DVM-63

Discussion: After presentation and discussion of the complaint assessment with the review panel, the Board move to initiated disciplinary action against the licensee.

Motion: Dr. Sandoval moved to have staff and Mr. Ling initiate disciplinary action the licensee.

Second: Dr. O’Dea

Passed: Unanimous; Dr. Damonte abstained.

Public comment given.

I. 10-2020DVM-68; 10-2020DVM-69

Discussion: After discussion of the complaint assessment with the review panel, the Board dismissed the complaint against the licensee because there was not sufficient evidence to determine that the licensees committed an act which constitutes cause for disciplinary action.

Motion: Dr. Sandoval moved to dismiss the complaints against Dr. A and Dr. B.

Second: Dr. White

Passed: Unanimous; Dr. Knehr abstained.

Public comment given.

J. 10-2020DVM-70

Discussion: After discussion of the complaint assessment with the review panel, the Board had dismissed the complaint against the licensee because there was not sufficient evidence to determine that the licensees committed an act which constitutes cause for disciplinary action.

Motion: Dr. Sandoval moved to dismiss the complaint.

Second: Ms. Schalles

Passed: Unanimous; Dr. Damonte abstained.

No public comment given.

K. 10-2020DVM-73*

Discussion: After discussion of the complaint assessment with the review panel, the Board dismissed the complaint with a Letter of Concern.

Motion: Dr. Bullard moved to dismiss the complaint with a Letter of Concern.

Second: Dr. Damonte

Passed: Unanimous; Dr. Sandoval abstained.

No public comment given.

L. 10-2020FAC-74; 10-2020DVM-75*

Discussion: After discussion of the complaint assessment with the review panel, the Board dismissed the complaint with a Letter of Concern.

Motion: Dr. Sandoval moved to dismiss the complaint with a Letter of Concern for Dr. A and the facility.

Second: Dr. O’Dea

Passed: Unanimous; Dr. Damonte abstained.

Public comment given.

***cases opened from October 22, 2020 Board meeting**

C. Requests for Review/Approval/Waiver of Licensure Requirement, Extensions, Education Approval, or Reinstatement (For Possible Action)

A. Vincent Alexis (DVM): Consideration for Reinstatement of License

Discussion: Mr. Ling requested that this item be tabled, so that newly submitted information could be vetted prior to presenting this item. Dr. Alexis was present.

Motion: Dr. Damonte moved to table this item for further investigation.

Second: Ms. Schalles

Passed: Unanimous

No public comment given.

- B. Terry Muratore (DVM): Consideration for Modification/Release from Probation/Consent Order**
Discussion: Mr. Ling and Ms. Pedigo reviewed the current order that Dr. Muratore is operating under and his progress current compliance/ outstanding items with the order.
- Motion:** Ms. Schalles moved to modify the consent order such that when Dr. Muratore complies with the consent order, he may be released from probation prior to April 2021.
Second: Dr. O’Dea
Passed: Unanimous; Dr. Sandoval abstained; Ms. Peterson recused herself.
- C. Jessica Oppenheimer (VTIT): Request for Extension of VTIT Registration**
Discussion: The Board reviewed all documentation presented. Ms. Oppenheimer was not present on the call.
- Motion:** Dr. White moved to grant Ms. Oppenheimer’s request for VTIT/LVT registration.
Second: Dr. O’Dea
Passed: Aye- Dr. White, Dr. O’Dea, Dr. Knehr, Dr. Bullard, Dr. Damonte, Ms. Peterson; Nay- Ms. Schalles; Dr. Sandoval.
- D. Jessica Hernandez (VTIT): Request for Extension of VTIT Registration**
Discussion: The Board reviewed all documentation presented. Ms. Hernandez was not present on the call.
- Motion:** Ms. Schalles moved to deny Ms. Hernandez request until she is ready to begin her externship.
Second: Dr. Sandoval
Passed: Unanimous.
- E. Kelli Palmer (LVT): Request for Approval of LVT Application**
Discussion: The Board reviewed all documentation presented. Ms. Palmer was present on the call.
- Motion:** Dr. Sandoval moved to deny Ms. Palmer’s request for licensure.
Second: Ms. Schalles
Passed: Unanimous
- 5. Discussion of Employee Complaints and Concerns Policy (For Possible Action)**
Ms. Pedigo reviewed a draft of the employee Complaint and Concerns Policy. Dr. White volunteered to aid with the second draft, addressing the concerns raised, and present the revised version at the April 22, 2021 meeting.
- 6. Review of Requirement for Obtaining In-Person Continuing Education for 2021(For Possible Action)**
Discussion: Ms. Pedigo led discussions with the Board regarding CE requirements for 2021.
- Motion:** Dr. Knehr moved to waive the in-person CE requirement for 2021.
Second: Dr. O’Dea
Passed: Unanimous

7. Review of Application Review Process for Licensure Requirement, Extensions, Education Approval or Reinstatement (For Possible Action)

Ms. Pedigo led a discussion on creating a criterion for reviewing licensing and extension request, as well as education review and approval. Ms. Schalles, Dr. O'Dea, and Dr. Knehr volunteered to help develop the criteria.

8. Staff Reports for Possible Action

A. Administrative Report- Christina Johnson, LVT

Ms. Johnson reviewed the administrative reports.

B. Annual Audit for FY20-Jennifer Pedigo, Executive Director

Ms. Pedigo presented the final financial audit for 2020.

Motion: Dr. Damonte moved to accept the 2020 audit.

Second: Dr. White

Passed: Unanimous.

C. Legal Report, Louis Ling, Esq

Mr. Ling presented an update on two pending matters.

D. Legislative Report

Ms. Neena Laxalt presented the legislative update.

9. Agenda items for next meeting

1. CPR and resuscitation standards
2. Meeting dates for 2022 and 2023

9. Public Comment: No public comment given.

10. Adjournment for Possible Action

Motion: Dr. Sandoval moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:03pm.

Second: Dr. O'Dea

Passed: Unanimous