

STATE OF NEVADA



BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Friday, December 4, 2020 at 8:00AM

Minutes from Regulation Hearing on R092-20
and Board Meeting

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
Michael Knehr, DVM
Deborah White, DVM
Melissa Schalles, LVT

Board Staff Present

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

Dr. Damonte called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. He took roll call of Board members and staff; all members were present.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Public comment: None

2. Public Hearing to Adopt Regulations (RO92-20) (For Possible Action)

Amendment to NAC 638: The proposed amendment will:

- Makes changes to the definition for intern and establish the definition for 'veterinary graduate awaiting licensure' (VGAL) and 'intern'.
- Require that an extern and VGAL identify themselves prior to providing services.
- Require that a VGAL register with the Board prior to providing services and work under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.
- Establishes and sets for the requirements for temporary licensure.
- Makes changes to the requirements for licensing applications for applicants who have not been disciplined in another state in preceding 5 years.

Jennifer Pedigo: Discussed the status of where in the regulatory process the current language that is being presented is and the process going forward if they are passed today.

Section 2:

Ms. Pedigo described that section 2 is the definition of the term 'veterinary extern' and the intent of the change is to clarify for the public the role of an extern and how it is being used in education and practice settings.

There were no comments from the Board on section 2.

Section 3:

Ms. Pedigo then described section 3 which defines the term 'veterinary graduate awaiting licensure (VGAL)'.

There were no comments from the Board on section 3.

Section 4:

Ms. Pedigo explained section 4 which states what the responsibilities of a veterinary extern are in the practice and the responsibilities of the supervisor.

Steve Damonte, DVM: What type of identification should the extern be making, and do they need to identify themselves if it in the presence of a client or just if they are acting autonomously. Do they need to do so if they are just observing?

Ms. Pedigo discussed that the requirement would be for both circumstances to ensure informed consent of the client.

Louis Ling: The intent is, and this is similar to the human world, that the identification could be as simple as a name tag or badge that states they are a veterinary extern or clarify who they are and for the owner to know that this person is an extern, and the owner knows who may be performing services.

Section 5:

Ms. Pedigo explained section 5 which describes what a 'VGAL' is and that they must register with the Board by applying with proof of examination date and proof of education.

There were no comments from the Board on section 5.

Section 6:

Ms. Pedigo explained section 6 which states what the responsibilities for identification from the VGAL are and what the responsibilities of the supervisor are.

There were no comments from the Board on section 6.

Section 7:

Ms. Pedigo explained section 7 which establishes a 'temporary licensure' for those that don't want a full license and only intend to practice for a short time and the requirements for submitting an application for temporary license.

James O'Dea, DVM: On the 10 consecutive days, can the 10 days be 'renewed' so they have 20 days total, or is there a waiting period between the registration?

Ms. Pedigo: No, there is no waiting period, they would need to submit two applications for the dates, but they can, in theory, have 20 days consecutively, if needed.

Deborah White, DVM: Does that apply to education opportunities, do they need a temporary license or do is there an exemption?

Ms. Pedigo: There is an exemption to educational opportunities, but if they are working on the public's animals, then they would need to obtain a license.

Mr. Ling: Allows vets to teach or so they aren't required to get an application or get the license. This would be more for visiting veterinarians that travel with dog show, rodeo, etc. or if they are working as cover veterinarian. It gives staff a quick way to turn around the registration.

Ms. Pedigo: Then they are also held accountable to Nevada laws.

Dr. Damonte: If they don't do it consecutively, if they were working two periods that were further apart than the 10 days?

Ms. Pedigo: The total number of days is 10 days, so if there was a bigger gap, they would need to get the second registration for that period.

Dr. Damonte: Do they need to post this anywhere?

Ms. Pedigo: They would just need to have it with them, for instance, if they were asked at a rodeo, they could just present the document. We will also let the State veterinarian know that they can ask for this document as well.

Section 8 and 9:

Ms. Pedigo: Conforming changes are being made in these sections.

There were no comments from the Board on sections 8 and 9.

Section 10:

Ms. Pedigo explained that section 10 is a definition for a 'veterinary intern'.

There were no comments from the Board on section 10.

Section 11:

Ms. Pedigo explained that section 11 includes the changes regarding the temporary license application fee.

There were no comments from the Board on section 11.

Section 12:

Ms. Pedigo explained that there was a name change of the International Council of Veterinary Assessment (ICVA) which was formerly the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. Additionally, the section waives the requirement for the Species-Specific Examination if an applicant that is previously licensed in other states and does not have discipline.

Dr. Damonte: Is this established reciprocity?

Ms. Pedigo: There is a difference between reciprocity and endorsement. Currently, through the process we have the requirements we have fall under the requirements that would still be considered endorsement, but this process falls more in line with that definition of endorsement if we can remove this requirement.

Mr. Ling: What this does is create the ability to do endorsement for the licensees that have taken the

national exam more than 5 years. The legislature has been interested in lowering barriers and allowing qualified individuals to come in through endorsement and this will give us a method to do so with this small group of individuals.

Ms. Pedigo: To clarify we still will obtain the educational documents and verification of the national exam it is just this portion regarding the time of when they took that exam.

Section 13:

Ms. Pedigo explained that this section requires a veterinary intern to identify themselves prior to providing services. That is the final section, are there any other questions or comments?

Christina Johnson: So veterinary interns do need to identify themselves as well even though they are licensed?

Ms. Pedigo: Yes, only in that specialty section.

Mr. Ling: The next step is open for public comment and they would identify themselves and the section to discuss. Then we will have the Board discuss among themselves with the end goal of pass, not pass, or to pass with changes.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

Deborah White, DVM: I wanted to say that I am happy to see the clarification with the definitions because it was quite murky and pleased with where this is at.

Dr. Damonte: If there is no further discussion, we can take a motion.

Motion: Melissa Schalles, LVT to approve the regulations

2nd: James O’Dea, DVM

Vote: All aye, motion passes.

3. Request for Review and Comment on BDR 54-168 from the Nevada Veterinary Medical Association (NVMA) (For Possible Action).

Ms. Pedigo guided a discussion of each section of the bill draft request BDR 54-168 and requested comments from the Board. Michelle Wagner, Director for the NVMA was present for discussions. All concerns will be submitted to the NVMA for review and consideration.

4. Report of Board Counsel on Pending or Potential Legal Actions (Closed Session per NRS 241.015(3)(b)(2))

Motion: Ms. Schalles moved to go into closed session for discussion of Item 4.

Second: Dr. O’Dea

Passed: Unanimous

Motion: Ms. Schalles moved to come out of closed session.

Second: Dr. O’Dea

Passed: Unanimous

5. Discussion and determination whether to authorize Louis Ling to pursue a petition for judicial review in unemployment compensation matter (Docket No. V-20-B-011104) involving former employee Dr. Patricia Handal (For Possible Action).

Motion: Dr. O’Dea moved to allow Louis Ling to represent the Board in unemployment compensation matter regarding Dr. Patricia Handal.

Second: Ms. Schalles

Passed: Unanimous

6. Public Comment: none

7. Adjournment for Possible Action

Motion: Ms. Schalles moved to adjourn at 10:48 A.M.

Second: Dr. White

Passed: Unanimous