

# TENNESSEE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

## MINUTES

**Date:** April 12, 2023

**Time:** 9:00 a.m., CST

**Location:** Office of Health Related Boards  
Iris Room  
665 Mainstream Dr  
Nashville, TN 37243

**Board Members Present:** Montgomery McInturff, DVM  
Leslie Wereszczak, LVMT, Board Vice Chair  
Mark Garrett, DVM  
Samantha Beaty, DVM, State Veterinarian, ex officio member  
Stephen Galloway, DVM Board Chair

**Board Members Absent:** Scott Loxley, DVM, Board Secretary  
Elizabeth Thompson, DVM

**Staff Present:** Kimberly Wallace, Regulatory Board Administrative Director II  
Lyndsey Boone, Regulatory Board Administrative Director I  
Tim Peters, Senior Associate Counsel

### Call to Order

Dr. Galloway called the meeting to order at 9:14 AM CST. A roll call of the Board Members and Board staff present was initiated by Ms. Wallace, Unit 3 Director.

### Discuss and consider approval of Meeting Minutes, December 14, 2022, Board Meeting

Ms. Wereszczak made a motion to approve the Board meeting Minutes from December 14, 2022, with a second by Dr. Garrett. There was a brief discussion to review the chart of proposed fee changes report in the minutes, as discussed in the previous meeting. No changes were made.

The motion passed unanimously.

### Receive Reports and/or Requests from the Office of Investigations

Barbara Granum, Intake Coordinator from the Office of Investigations gave the investigative reports to the Board.

**PERIOD: 2023 Calendar Year To-Date**

**COMPLAINTS**

<b>New Complaints</b>	<b>Veterinarian</b>	<b>Vet Tech</b>	<b>Euthanasia Tech</b>	<b>Facility</b>	<b>CACA</b>
Substance Abuse	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Misconduct	0	0	0	0	0
Malpractice/Negligence	6	0	0	0	0
Unlicensed Practice	1	0	0	0	0
Unprofessional Conduct	13	0	0	2	1
Outside of INV scope	0	0	0	0	1
Medical Records Request	1	0	0	0	0
Lapsed License	0	2	1	2	0
Drug Diversion	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Conviction	0	0	0		
<b>Total # New Complaints</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Closed Complaints</b>					
Closed - Insufficient	3	0	0	1	2
Complaint Closed BIV	3	1	1	1	0
Complaint Closed	9	0	1	4	0
Closed – Letter of Concern	1	0	0	0	0
Closed – Warning Letter	1	0	0	1	0
<b>Total # Closed Complaints</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total # Currently Open Complaints</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

Discussion on the report is as follows: Dr. Garret inquired about letters of warning and concern, and who originates them. Mr. Peters, General Counsel, confirmed they are sent out by the Office of General Counsel. Dr. Garret followed up and inquired what happens if the recipient of a letter

doesn't understand or doesn't agree with a letter, what is their recourse in extending communication with the State on the content of the letter. Mr. Peters stated the OGC cannot provide legal advice to the recipient, they would need to follow-up with their own legal counsel for guidance, and further communication with the OGC may result, should the licensee reach out to the OGC for follow-up; It is handled on a case-by-case scenario. Mr. Peters went on to say that a Declaratory Order can be issued in certain circumstances, on an individual basis, and would require additional steps to be taken to determine if that would be an appropriate consideration. First steps would be the licensee or their representation reaching out to the OGC. Board Members cannot get involved in any issue experienced by a licensee on an individual basis.

Dr. McInturff asked if a licensee is notified of the findings of a review. Mr. Peters noted that investigations are confidential, and if there is no violation or merit for moving forward, that is the end of the process for the OGC. The Office of Investigations has their own process for closing out cases. Dr. McInturff stated that it feels like many instances are due to miscommunication and would like to see a public notification if an investigation is closed with no action. Dr. Galloway noted that investigations are held within the Office of Investigations and OGC, not directly through the Board. Mr. Peters stated that he will review the policies for handling no action items by the Office of Investigations. Ms. Granum also noted that a licensee who has been interviewed should receive a disposition letter at the end of the investigation, and they are always welcome to contact the Disciplinary Coordinator for follow-up as well.

#### **Receive Reports and/or Requests from the Division of Health Licensure and Regulation**

Fiscal Manager, Keeyona Love was present to give the FY 23 Mid-Year Report (July 1, 2023-December 1, 2023)

Total Expenditures	\$223,881.07
Board Fee Revenue	\$356,128.32
Current Year Net	\$132,247.25
Cumulative Carryover	\$1,524,105.06

There was no discussion on the report.

#### **Discuss and take action as necessary regarding Legislation**

No action to be taken.

#### **Receive Reports and/or Requests from the Board Administrative Office**

Ms. Boone presented the Administrator's report, as follows:

**PERIOD: Active Licensees as of April 5, 2023;**

<b>Total # Veterinarians</b>	2,983
<b>Total # Veterinary Technicians</b>	1,145
<b>Total # Veterinary Facilities</b>	826
<b>Certified Animal Euthanasia Technician</b>	295
<b>Certified Animal Control Agencies</b>	68
<b>Certified Animal Chemical Capture Technicians</b>	1
<b>Animal Chemical Capture Certification</b>	1

## LICENSE STATUS

**PERIOD: December 6, 2022 – April 5, 2023**

	DVM	LVMT	Vet Facility	CAET	CACA	CCT
New Licenses/Certificated Issued	52	43	53	16	1	0
Renewals - Total	425	154	84	27	7	0
<i>Number of Paper Renewals</i>	123	26	84	5	7	0
<i>Number of Online Electronic Renewals</i>	302	128	0	22	0	0
Retired Licenses	6	7	0	0	0	0
Expired	34	24	29	22	0	0
Closed Files	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revoked	0	0	0	0	0	0
Facilities Closed	N/A	N/A	28	N/A	1	N/A

Ms. Boone also presented the remaining dates for the 2022 Board Meetings, as follows:

- August 2, 2023
- December 13, 2023

There was no discussion on the report.

### **Receive Reports and/or Requests from the Office of General Counsel**

Mr. Timothy Peters presented the OGC report as follows:

#### **Conflict of Interest Statement**

If you have a personal or financial interest in the outcome of any issue or matter before this board which may suggest a bias on your part, you are asked to state that interest on the record so that a determination can be made as to whether there exists a need for recusal. You are reminded that it is the duty of this board to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Tennessee and that the administration of this solemn responsibility is dependent upon avoiding even the appearance of impropriety.

#### **Litigation:**

There are fifteen (15) open cases with the OGC. There are no cases set for contested hearings and there are five (5) consent orders for Board approval.

Rules:

These rules are pending review:

1730-01 – Biennial Renewal Fee and Application Fee Reductions

1730-02 -- Veterinary Facility Inspections to Obtain a Premises Permit; Premises Permit Fee Reductions

1730-03 – Biennial License Renewal Fees; Composition and Method of Attainment of CE Hours

1730-04 – Certified Animal Control Agency Fee Reductions

1730-05 – Certificate of Completion from Euthanasia Course; Euthanasia Methods; CAET Fee Reductions

1730-06 – Chemical Capture Fee Reductions

Summary: This report provides the total number of licensees currently being monitored for discipline.

The total number of Veterinarians being monitored for discipline is 16.

The total number of Veterinarians on reprimand is 1 with terms.

The total number on probation is 8 with terms.

The total number on suspension is 0.

The total number revoked/surrendered is 5

The total number of Vet. Techs being monitored for discipline is 0.

The total number of CAET's being monitored for discipline is 0.

The total number of Veterinarian Facilities being monitored for discipline is 7 (6 reprimanded and one on probation with terms.

## **Presentation of Orders, Agreed Citations, and Other Disciplinary Items**

### **Consent Orders**

#### **Anthony Ashe, DVM #4296**

Respondent has been at all times pertinent hereto licensed by the Board as a veterinarian in the state of Tennessee, having been granted license number 4296 on May 16, 2003, with a current expiration date of April 20, 2024.

At all times pertinent hereto Respondent was working as a veterinarian in Chattanooga, TN.

On or about April 17, 2019, W.D. transported his dog Nikki, to an animal clinic in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where the Respondent performed a caesarean section on Nikki. Following the surgery, according to W.D., Nikki was bleeding excessively on the way home. W.D. phoned Respondent to voice his concern and was told by Respondent, "a lot of blood to him was not the same as a lot of blood to a veterinarian". W.D. felt as if the Respondent was dismissing the owner's concerns. The Respondent offered to examine the dog.

The next day when Respondent phoned to check on Nikki, W.D. said she was still bleeding, panting heavily, and refused to feed her puppies. Respondent stated some dogs are not good mothers and had no explanation for the heavy panting. The Respondent offered to examine the dog.

As Nikki became increasingly worse over the weekend, she was taken to a different animal clinic on the following Monday, April 22, 2019. An ultrasound was performed by a different veterinarian which revealed that Nikki still had a puppy inside her womb. The new veterinarian performed another caesarean section to remove the dead puppy and Nikki was placed on heavy sedation. Respondent stated he had taken x-rays on April 16, 2019, but not an ultrasound, and it showed three (3) possibly four (4) puppies. Respondent delivered five (5) puppies, and stated he thought he had delivered all the puppies. The Respondent did not.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative actions with respect to the cause, Respondent agrees to the following:

Respondent's license to practice as a veterinarian (license number 4296) is hereby Reprimanded. Respondent agrees to pay a Type B Civil Penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500).

Respondent must pay, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann §63-1-144, the actual and reasonable costs of prosecuting this case to the extent allowed by law, including all costs assessed against the Board

by the State in connection with the prosecution of this matter. These costs will be established by an Assessment of Costs prepared and filed by counsel for the State. The maximum amount for the assessment of costs shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

Respondent understands the ratification of the Consent Order is a formal disciplinary action and will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank and/or similar agency, as a Reprimand and Civil Penalty. Respondent further understands that a failure to comply with the terms of this order shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

Dr. Garrett made a motion to accept the Consent order, with a second from Dr. McInturff. Discussion is as follows: Ms. Wereszczak asked if there was any requirement for CE included in the penalty listed in the Order, Mr. Peters confirmed there was not. The motion passed with an Aye from Dr. Garrett, Ms. Wereszczak, Dr. McInturff and a Nay from Dr. Galloway.

### **Day and Night Animal Hospital, LLC #1856**

Respondent has been at all times pertinent hereto licensed by the Board as a veterinary facility in the State of Tennessee, having been granted license/permit number 1856 on or about December 20, 2016, which expired on December 31, 2020

At all times pertinent hereto Respondent facility was located in Memphis, Tennessee.

On or about December 31, 2020, Respondent's premises permit expired. On May 11, 2022, the Respondent applied for a new license with a new business name, which was approved on September 20, 2022.

For the purposes of avoiding further administrative actions with respect to this cause, Respondent agrees to the following:

Respondent agrees to pay a Civil Penalty in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), which represents \$100 for each of the ten (10) months that the facility engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, beyond the six (6) month grace period, on an expired license/permit.

Respondent understands the ratification of the Consent Order is a formal disciplinary action and will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank and/or similar agency, as Civil Penalty. Respondent further understands that a failure to comply with the terms of this order shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

Dr. McInturff made a motion made to accept the Consent order, with a second from Dr. Garrett. Discussion is as follows: Dr. Garrett inquired about the disciplinary action is against the old or the new premises permit. Mr. Peters stated that the discipline is against the old permit, and it is issued in alignment with the Board's policy. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Jennifer Lucas, DVM #4009**

Respondent has been at all times pertinent hereto licensed by the Board as a veterinarian in the State of Tennessee, having been granted license number 4009 on August 23, 2000, which currently has an expiration date of January 31, 2024

At all times pertinent hereto Respondent was working as a veterinarian in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee.

On or about July 19, 2022, an investigator for the Office of Investigations for the State of Tennessee ("Investigators") went to a pet hospital owned by Respondent. Investigators found out that Respondent had an invoice for 500 tablets of Tramadol from December 31, 2021. However, the dispensing log did not have the Tramadol documented. Respondent was unable to explain why the Tramadol was not recorded on the dispensing log and admitted to investigators that Respondent ordered the Tramadol. On or about September 9, 2022, through Respondent's attorneys she contacted Investigators and explained that she was not trying to deceive anyone concerning the Tramadol, and that Respondent bought the entire bottle of 500 pills of Tramadol to give to her grandmother. Respondent gave her grandmother the pills because she had run out of her prescription medication for Tramadol, while she was here in Tennessee for the holidays. On or about September 12, 2022, through Respondent's attorneys, she provided Investigators documentation which corroborated what had occurred.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative actions with respect to this cause, Respondent agrees to the following:

Respondent's license to practice as a veterinarian (license number 4009) is hereby Reprimanded.

Respondent shall immediately placed on probation for two (2) years with the following terms and conditions:

1. The two year probation term shall commence on the date this Order is signed by the Board.
2. Respondent shall complete five (5) hours of continuing education in the areas of narcotics and controlled substances in each of the two (2) years she is on probation for a total of ten (10) hours. The continuing education in the areas of narcotics and controlled substances is in addition to the regular required continuing education for veterinarians to be completed each calendar year.
3. Respondent shall appear each year before the Board at the August board meeting to provide information and documentation showing compliance with the terms and conditions of probation.

Respondent agrees to pay a Civil Penalty in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

Respondent understands the ratification of the Consent Order is a formal disciplinary action and will be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank and/or similar agency, as a Reprimand with Probation. Respondent further understands that a failure to comply with the terms of this order shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

Dr. Garrett made a motion to accept the Consent Order, with a second by Dr. McInturff. Discussion is as follows: Dr. Galloway inquired if he could ask Dr. Baron (Tennessee Medical Foundation Medical Director) a question as to how this would be handled on the human side. Mr.



Peters stated that his opinion is that the Board should not ask for outside advisement in this situation and not be influenced by an outside party. Dr. Galloway did not ask his question of Dr. Baron.

Ms. Wereszczak inquired if it was definitively determined that the licensee gave the pills to her grandmother. Mr. Peters informed the Board that a Consent Order being presented is what has gone back and forth between the OGC and the licensee and is presented as what has been signed/agreed upon the Respondent and the State.

Dr. Beaty inquired if this was a sufficient penalty, and should the licensee be required to have supervision going forward. Dr. Galloway is concerned that this is diversion of a controlled drug and probation is as far as the Order can go without revoking the license. Dr. Galloway noted the OGC is recommending probation, Mr. Peters stated that OGC is following the parameters that has been given to them and it is up to the Board on how they'd like to proceed.

The motion passed with an Aye from Dr. Garrett, Dr. Galloway, Dr. McInturff and a Nay from Ms. Wereszczak. The motion passed.

### **Thomas Holt, DVM #4558**

Respondent has been at all times pertinent hereto licensed by the Board as a veterinarian in the state of Tennessee, having been granted license number 4558 on June 20, 2005, with a current expiration date of November 30, 2024.

On or about May 7, 2021, Respondent diagnosed Ryder, a miniature schnauzer, with a rear hip dislocation and a fracture on his front leg. Surgery was performed that day.

Respondent did not immobilize Ryder's hip after surgery or clean the incision site. In addition, the rear leg was not in a sling or in any way immobilized. Respondent instructed Ryder's owner that Ryder was to return in four (4) weeks.

Ryder's owner called the Respondent's office expressing concerns due to the splint on Ryder's forepaw. Respondent's wife, who is not licensed as a veterinarian, offered pain meds to Ryder's owner to help alleviation Ryder's pain.

On or about May 19, 2021, another veterinarian made a home visit to vaccinate other dogs in the household. This veterinarian checked Ryder and was concerned regarding the splint on Ryder's front leg developing sores and advised Ryder's owner to clean the incision site. On or about May 20, 2021, Ryder's owner called to set up an appointment with the Respondent for a splint and dressing change the next day. When the owner and Ryder arrived, Respondent was not in the office. Respondent's wife took out the staples and stiches from the incision site. Under the splint on the front leg a pressure sore was festering with pus oozing from the pressure sore.

On or about May 25, 2021, Ryder was brought back to Respondent's office, and Respondent refused to change the splint, calling the pressure sores "par for the course". Respondent did not take x-rays of the front and back legs.

On or about May 27, 2021, Ryder's owner removed the splint off the foreleg, concerned about the

festering pressure sore. There was no padding under the splint., and adhesive tape was used in excess around the splint.

On or about May 31, 2021, Ryder's owner called Respondent's office to request a copy of his x-rays. There was no reply from the Respondent.

On June 4, 2021, Ryder's owner took him to see the veterinarian who saw Ryder on May 19, 2021. That veterinarian took x-rays and determined that the hip was not in the socket, and she could not see a fracture in the foreleg, however, it appears that the elbow joint had been out of socket. The recommendation was for Ryder to see a specialist, who would either perform surgery or an amputation. The splint was changed to a soft splint and the owner was instructed to change the bandages every week.

On or about June 18, 2021, Ryder went back to the second veterinarian, and x-rays were once again taken. There had been no fracture on the foreleg, but the elbow joint was, swollen and unable to bend due to the displacement. The veterinarian tried multiple times to obtain Ryder's medical records from the Respondent but was unable to do so.

On or about June 29, 2021, Ryder saw a veterinarian at Veterinary Care and Specialty Group, who estimated the surgery to correct the issues with Ryder would cost between \$9,800 and \$12,700, and it there was a good chance that it would not be successful. Ryder did not have the surgery and is on pain medications.

Now Therefore, for the purpose of avoiding further administrative action with respect to this cause and pursuant to T.C.A §63-12-106 and Tenn. Comp. R & Regs. 1730-02-.15, Respondent, Thomas Alexander Holt, DVM, license number 4558, agrees to:

Respondent must enroll in and submit proof of completion of six (6) hours of continuing education (CEs) in ethics.

Respondent must enroll in and submit proof of completion of ten (10) hours of CEs in a combination of orthopedic surgery and wound management.

Proof of completion of the CEs must be submitted within one (1) year of ratification of this Order. These CEs are to be in addition to the required hours as set forth in Tenn. Rules and Regs. 1730-01-.12.

Respondent must pay, pursuant to Tenn. Comp. R & Regs. 1730-01-.15 and Board policy, one (1) Type A Civil Penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1,000). Said Civil Penalties must be paid in full within one (1) year of the ratification of this Consent Order.

In addition, Respondent must pay, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §63-1-144, §63-12-143 and Tenn. Comp. R & Regs. Rule 1730-01-.15, the actual and reasonable costs of prosecuting this case to the extent allowed by law, including but not limited to all costs assessed against the Board by the Department's Office of Investigations for this matter. These costs shall be established by an Assessment of Costs prepared and filed by counsel for the Department. The maximum amount for

the assessment of costs shall be two thousand dollars (\$2,000). All costs must be paid in full within sixty (60) days from the issuance of the Assessment of Costs.

Dr. McInturff made a motion to accept the Consent order, with a second from Dr. Garrett. Discussion is as follows: Dr. Galloway inquired if this was an order from the previous meeting that was denied and sent back with recommendation to the attorney's office. Ms. Boone stated that it was an Order from the previous meeting and then gave the previous recommendations that the Board gave to the attorney's office. Mr. Peters stated that they implanted the recommendations to the updated Consent Order.

Dr. Garrett asked about the stipulations of fact as presented in the Consent Order, asking how the break was observed by the medical staff treating the patient.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **North Madison Animal Hospital, #825**

Respondent has been at all times pertinent hereto licensed by the Board as a veterinary facility in the State of Tennessee, having been granted license/permit number 825 on May 3, 2000, which currently has an expiration date of May 31, 2024.

At all times pertinent hereto Respondent facility was located in Jackson, Tennessee.

On or about May 31, 2020, Respondent's premises permit expired. Respondent's premises permit was renewed on or about September 9, 2022. Between May 31, 2020, and September 9, 2022, the practice of veterinary medicine occurred at Respondent's facility and/or a licensed veterinarian was practicing veterinary medicine when Respondent's permit was expired.

For the purpose of avoiding further administrative actions with respect to this cause, Respondent agrees to the following:

Respondent agrees to pay a Civil Penalty in the amount of two thousand one hundred dollars (\$2,100), which represents \$100 for each of twenty-one (21) months that the facility engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, beyond the six (6) month grace period, on an expired license/permit.

Respondent understands the ratification of the Consent Order is a formal disciplinary action and will be report to the National Practitioner Data Bank and/or similar agency, as a Civil Penalty. Respondent further understands that a failure to comply with the terms of this order shall constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

Dr. Garrett made a motion to accept the Consent Order, with a second from Dr. McInturff. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Galloway did make a comment that the fees for penalties have been going down The Board's job is not to be punitive, but the goal is that discipline is to change behavior. Dr. McInturff feels

like a punitive measure on a licensee's record is more painful than any amount of money and doesn't necessarily agree with Dr. Galloway's comment.

### **Agreed Citation**

#### **Olivia Thornton, DVM #6903**

Dr. Thornton was found to be in violation of TCA 63-12-120, by failing to maintain sufficient continuing education credits, and was short twenty (20) hours during CE audit for calendar year 2020. This deficiency resulted in a civil penalty in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and the requirement to complete all deficiency hours within 90 days.

A motion was made by Ms. Wereszczak, to approve the Agreed Citation for Olivia Thornton #6903, as written, with a second by Dr. Garrett. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Amanda Hutton, LVMT #1788**

Ms. Hutton was found to be in violation of TCA 63-12-120 and Tenn R & Regs 1730-03-.09, by failing to timely renew license. Ms. Hutton practiced on a lapsed license for eight (8) months. This resulted in a civil penalty One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), and payment must be made within thirty (30) days.

A motion was made by Dr. McInturff, to approve the Agreed Citation for Amanda Hutton #1788, as written, with a second by Ms. Wereszczak. There was no discussion on this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Frances Brokering, LVMT #1587**

Ms. Brokering was found to be in violation of TCA 63-12-120 and Tenn R & Regs 1730-03-.09, by failing to timely renew license. Ms. Hutton practiced on a lapsed license for twelve (12) months. This resulted in a civil penalty Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00), and payment must be made within thirty (30) days.

A motion was made by Ms. Wereszczak, to approve the Agreed Citation for Frances Brokering #1587, as written, with a second by Dr. McInturff. There was no discussion on this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Applicant Interviews/File Reviews/Waivers & Other Requests**

#### **Teresa Priest, DVM**

Dr. Priest applied via Reciprocity but had been disciplined by the North Carolina Board of Veterinary Medicine and was issued a letter of Caution in 2010 and a Letter of Reprimand in 2019

that included fines and warranted an interview by the Board and could not be reviewed administratively.

Dr. Priest was present at the meeting to answer questions. Ms. Wereszczak asked Dr. Priest if the practice took any corrective measures to fix the mistake that resulted in the letter of reprimand. Dr. Priest noted the protocol was already in place, but it amplified the level of detail, adding color coded syringe labels in addition to the name labels to help prevent future occurrences.

Dr. McInturff made a motion to approve Dr. Priest for licensure, with a second from Dr. Garrett. There was no discussion on this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Donna Johnson, DVM**

Dr. Johnson applied via Reciprocity but had been disciplined by the Colorado Board of Veterinary Medicine and was issued a Letter of Admonition, CE requirements and fines in 2019, and warranted an interview by the Board and could not be reviewed administratively.

Dr. Johnson was present at the meeting to answer questions. There was no discussion on this matter. Dr. McInturff made a motion to approve licensure, with a second from Ms. Wereszczak. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Knox Edwards**

Mr. Edwards applied for an Animal Euthanasia Technician Certification and answered Yes on his application to taking illicit/illegal drugs within the last two years and this warranted an interview by the Board and could not be reviewed administratively.

Mr. Edwards was present at the meeting to answer questions. Mr. Edwards also produced a letter of support from his employer. The Board expressed their appreciation for Mr. Edwards honesty and inquired if he feels like there is any risk to the animals and citizens of Tennessee by his previous use. Mr. Edwards stated there is no risk.

Ms. Wereszczak made a motion to approve certification, with a second from Dr. Garrett. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Renee Pitts, LVMT**

Ms. Pitts submitted a CE waiver request to be able to take all twelve (12) continuing education hours in an online format due to being out of country.

Ms. Wereszczak made a motion to approve the waiver, with a second from Dr. Garrett. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Lucy Thomason, DVM**

Dr. Thomason submitted a CE waiver to be able to complete her 2022 CE in 2023.

Dr. McInturff made a motion to accept the waiver and allow all CE hours to be obtained in an online format for 2022 in 2023, with a second made by Ms. Wereszczak. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **BVME Army Clinics Request**

An IRT, Military Training Mission, submitted information to the Veterinary Board letting them know that they will be completing a veterinary training that will have them assisting the public in Rural Tennessee with Veterinary Services that are going to be provided at a sheriff's office and a local fairground. Mr. Peter's stated to the Board that the inquiry is, does this training fall under the exemption for needing a premises permit.

Dr. Beaty went on to inquire who was liable if there was an issue with any of the animal after the training process because the IRT that the military provided has a section about harmless agreement, meaning they are not liable.

Dr. Galloway stated that he's unsure if the BVME has any jurisdiction over this since it's a training directive from the Federal Government. Mr. Peters stated that they are required to reach out and notify local licensing boards of the training but went back to the original questions on if this IRT makes them exempt from needing a premises permit.

Dr. McInturff's only issue with stating they were exempt from needing a premises permit was, after the training was done, who was there if any follow care was needed. The Board placed a call to LTC Brian Collins, DVM, DACVPM, LTC, VC to inquire who would be in charge of follow up care in case of complications. Dr. Collins stated that the local practitioners and Emergency clinics would be made aware of follow up care and would be the ones to issue any if necessary. Dr. Beaty then followed up with whom would be liable if any problematic or grievances are issued. Dr. Collins noted that all the veterinarians participating in this training do hold individual state license's elsewhere if not in TN and they would be individually responsible. Ms. Wereszczak inquired if this training has occurred in other states, which Dr. Collins stated is has been conducted in other states.

Dr. McInturff made a motion to give them the exemption for needing a premises permit, with a second by Dr. Garrett. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Ratification of Licensure Files**

Ms. Wallace informed the Board that the files presented on the Ratification List have been reviewed and found complete and in good order according to the rules for new licensure, reinstatement of license, facility premises permits and the closure of incomplete files.

Ms. Wereszczak made a motion to approve the Ratification List for new licenses, reinstated licenses, and closed/withdrawn files, as written, with a second made by Dr. McInturff. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Licensed

Cert. Animal Control Agencies	120	Tullahoma Animal Control
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Licensed

Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1136	Amonett Landon Tyler
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1100	Fricke Inga Luise
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1104	Griffin Samantha Jean
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1140	Grolemund Alison Ruth
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1108	Gutierrez-Gonzalez Julio Antonio
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1135	Hughes John Tyler
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1106	Jefferson Janie
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1132	Malmstrom Carly
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1126	Newton Kelly Erin
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1144	Payne Kaylee
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1118	Ramirez Kimberly Lass
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1150	Sellers Vanessa Michelle
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1137	Skey Charlotte Louise
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1148	Stone Katherine
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1133	Taylor Bryan
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1134	White Amanda

Reinstated

Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	887	Allen Latrisha M
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	944	Bowen Jacob Anthony
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	758	Holder Jennifer Lynn
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	280	Johnson David B.
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	755	Lafevers Jr. Ronald Edward

Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	1006	Peach David Randall
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech	856	Shepard Evan Paul

Closed Application

Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech		Darnell Caroline Elizabeth
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech		Kearns Lori Ann
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech		Mccalester Elizabeth Anne
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech		Perdue Samantha Megan Michelle
Cert. Animal Euthanasia Tech		Van Etten Gabrielle Skye

Closed Application

Veterinarian		Durick Hannah Elizabeth
Veterinarian		Kmiecik Jessica Miller

Licensed

Veterinarian	7792	Acciaccia Rachel
Veterinarian	7759	Armendariz Peavy Aria Dr.
Veterinarian	7812	Armstrong Karyn Lauri
Veterinarian	7811	Bain Fairfield
Veterinarian	7796	Bales Hamilton Mckenzie
Veterinarian	7786	Barott Ashley Anne Dr.
Veterinarian	7639	Baskette Madison Leigh
Veterinarian	7828	Beckner Sarah Elizabeth
Veterinarian	7738	Bello Carl DVM
Veterinarian	7840	Canary Lauren Elizabeth
Veterinarian	7823	Clauder Rebecca
Veterinarian	7842	Crews Holly
Veterinarian	7772	Demshar Megan Ashley
Veterinarian	7830	Dobies James Christopher
Veterinarian	7801	Duh Kara L
Veterinarian	7731	Elder Margaret
Veterinarian	7678	Havighorst Katherine
Veterinarian	7814	Heinz Laurissa Jean
Veterinarian	7810	Hess Theresa Anne
Veterinarian	6976	Holt Erin Elwood
Veterinarian	7822	Howard Zachary



Veterinarian	7805	Jones Russell Barton
Veterinarian	7809	Knafo Sophie Emmanuelle
Veterinarian	7817	Lancaster Allison

Veterinarian	7808	Lipscomb Taylor Sheley
Veterinarian	7789	Lloyd Felicia Katherine
Veterinarian	6654	Mallard Margaret Allison
Veterinarian	7793	Mcclure Susan Foster
Veterinarian	7803	Moore Madelyn Dr.
Veterinarian	7800	Nieves Mary Ann
Veterinarian	7788	Patchen Cady
Veterinarian	7820	Pickens Matthew
Veterinarian	7821	Picking Amanda
Veterinarian	7826	Ramirez Jose
Veterinarian	7807	Rao Kristina Marea
Veterinarian	7816	Reinke Hannah
Veterinarian	7348	Richards Jessie Erin
Veterinarian	7802	Roberts Sarah Jennifer
Veterinarian	7834	Schrader Jessica Nicole
Veterinarian	7838	Scott Jamie Nolan
Veterinarian	7794	Smith Amanda Renee Dr.
Veterinarian	7798	Soliman Meena Mn
Veterinarian	7818	Soltis Stephanie Jean
Veterinarian	7787	Stewart Lauri Dispennette Dr.
Veterinarian	7829	Stokes Jennifer Lynne
Veterinarian	7831	Sun Mengyuan
Veterinarian	7815	Viere Alexander Robert
Veterinarian	7797	White Danielle Dr
Veterinarian	7837	Williams Madeline Grace
Veterinarian	7827	Willis Olivia
Veterinarian	6074	Wright Thomas Louden
Veterinarian	7799	Yeager Aidan Stewart

Reinstated

Veterinarian	7244	Leahey Emily Morgan
Veterinarian	4875	Riggs Kellie Renee
Veterinarian	7016	Rodriguez Kayley
Veterinarian	6761	Rusilowicz Andrea
Veterinarian	6676	Templeton Sarah Frances Marie
Veterinarian	5920	Weldon Nicholas Loyal
Veterinarian	4937	Woolsey Justin
Veterinarian	1680	Blackburn Gerald D

Veterinarian	4614	Blair Wells Janet Lynne
Veterinarian	2202	Blue George K
Veterinarian	6709	Langley Casey Janelle
Veterinarian	6415	Stanfill Emily Brown

Licensed

Veterinary Facility	2297	Bellshire Family Veterinary
Veterinary Facility	2406	Copeland Veterinary Hospital Llc
Veterinary Facility	2405	Hvp Of Tennessee Llc
Veterinary Facility	2301	Jackson Animal Clinic
Veterinary Facility	2400	Judy And Doug Lowerie Spay & Neuter Clinic
Veterinary Facility	2305	Karns Animal Clinic
Veterinary Facility	2302	North Madison Animal Hospital
Veterinary Facility	2288	Pathway Vet Alliance Llc Dba Thrive Pet Healthcare Wedgewood
Veterinary Facility	2314	Pet Community Center
Veterinary Facility	2303	Rowland Veterinary Services
Veterinary Facility	2320	Vip Petcare Clinic At Petsense#7102
Veterinary Facility	2346	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #1266
Veterinary Facility	2326	Vip Petcare Clinic At Pet Supplies Plus #8033
Veterinary Facility	2328	Vip Petcare Clinic At Pet Supplies Plus#8006
Veterinary Facility	2324	Vip Petcare Clinic At Pet Supplies Plus#8045
Veterinary Facility	2327	Vip Petcare Clinic At Pet Supplies Plus#8049
Veterinary Facility	2355	Vip Petcare Clinic At Petsense #7073
Veterinary Facility	2342	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #1228
Veterinary Facility	2347	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #1243
Veterinary Facility	2340	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #1514
Veterinary Facility	2343	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #1557
Veterinary Facility	2316	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #1569
Veterinary Facility	2348	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #176
Veterinary Facility	2325	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #1827
Veterinary Facility	2323	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #1843
Veterinary Facility	2344	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #359
Veterinary Facility	2349	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #360
Veterinary Facility	2332	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #388
Veterinary Facility	2350	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #425
Veterinary Facility	2354	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #520
Veterinary Facility	2338	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #523

Veterinary Facility	2352	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #529
Veterinary Facility	2353	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co #551
Veterinary Facility	2341	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co#1368
Veterinary Facility	2335	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co#1371
Veterinary Facility	2336	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co#1613
Veterinary Facility	2333	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co#380
Veterinary Facility	2334	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co#386
Veterinary Facility	2372	Vip Petcare Clinic At Tractor Supply Co#478
Veterinary Facility	2299	All Tails Veterinary Jonesborough
Veterinary Facility	2295	Animal Ark Animal Hospital Llc
Veterinary Facility	2291	Bluff City Veterinary Specalists
Veterinary Facility	2256	Clarksville Animal Clinic
Veterinary Facility	2364	E&J Veterinary Partners
Veterinary Facility	2312	Five Rivers Pet Emergency Hospital Llc
Veterinary Facility	2306	Gordonsonsville Veterinary Clinic
Veterinary Facility	2337	Henderson County Animal Clinic
Veterinary Facility	2298	Morristown Animal Hospital Pc
Veterinary Facility	2311	Nashville Veterinary Dentistry (Dba Your Pet Dentist)
Veterinary Facility	2255	Nashville Veterinary Dermatology
Veterinary Facility	2368	Oakwell Animal Hospital
Veterinary Facility	2300	Wildthings Animal Hospital

Closed Application

Veterinary Medical Technician		Janssen Adam Christopher
Veterinary Medical Technician		Shell Amanda Lauren
Veterinary Medical Technician		Willis Katlin

Licensed

Veterinary Medical Technician	2375	Aponte Alexis
Veterinary Medical Technician	2368	Bagby Bethany
Veterinary Medical Technician	2385	Brown Brennan
Veterinary Medical Technician	2362	Callahan Kristina Nichole
Veterinary Medical Technician	2380	Clemmons Brittany Vontoraneize
Veterinary Medical Technician	2343	Cline Shaye
Veterinary Medical Technician	2386	Cooley Monica H
Veterinary Medical Technician	2381	Cooper Shauna

Veterinary Medical Technician	2377	Crocker Madison
Veterinary Medical Technician	2355	D'Angelo Kaitlyn
Veterinary Medical Technician	2309	Easterday Christina Kathlee
Veterinary Medical Technician	2369	Finn Madison
Veterinary Medical Technician	2374	Fisher Grace Anne
Veterinary Medical Technician	2341	Gable Christiana
Veterinary Medical Technician	2365	Gaither Christian
Veterinary Medical Technician	2373	Galla Amber
Veterinary Medical Technician	2384	Giles Haleigh
Veterinary Medical Technician	2392	Halliday Shelby
Veterinary Medical Technician	2342	Harston Katie
Veterinary Medical Technician	2361	Jamerson Kaitlyn Deann
Veterinary Medical Technician	2364	Kelb Patricia
Veterinary Medical Technician	2363	Kelham Kara Dee
Veterinary Medical Technician	2356	Kelly Madison Elizabeth Mae
Veterinary Medical Technician	2388	Kirk Amelia
Veterinary Medical Technician	2383	Koon Kelsey
Veterinary Medical Technician	2340	Ledgerwood Isabelle Kylah
Veterinary Medical Technician	2358	Manns Anna
Veterinary Medical Technician	2394	Mcgue Jasmine
Veterinary Medical Technician	2359	Meghreblian Eva Beathard
Veterinary Medical Technician	2378	Mitchell Emily Taylor
Veterinary Medical Technician	2382	Morales Fontanez Anais Mary
Veterinary Medical Technician	2376	Price Kelly Kay
Veterinary Medical Technician	2393	Reynolds Kirby Renee
Veterinary Medical Technician	2300	Ringgenberg Sara Denise
Veterinary Medical Technician	2333	Sanders Jessica Lynn
Veterinary Medical Technician	2370	Shrout Hannah Shea
Veterinary Medical Technician	2351	Smith Sydney
Veterinary Medical Technician	2367	Souder Kayla
Veterinary Medical Technician	2366	Spears Alexis
Veterinary Medical Technician	2354	Stirman Jeanette
Veterinary Medical Technician	2371	Turner Makayla Daryan-Rose
Veterinary Medical Technician	2357	Vazquez Ricardo
Veterinary Medical Technician	2360	Wallace Alexis Michelle

Reinstated

Veterinary Medical Technician	1688	Baumgartner Beverly Jo
Veterinary Medical Technician	1587	Brokering Frances Nicole
Veterinary Medical Technician	1711	Daniel Tiffany Rae
Veterinary Medical Technician	1850	Henry Bethany Leann
Veterinary Medical Technician	1788	Hutton Amanda Marie
Veterinary Medical Technician	1891	Jensen Katherine K
Veterinary Medical Technician	45	Jones Jodi H
Veterinary Medical Technician	848	Koppelberger Katie Jayne
Veterinary Medical Technician	1247	O'Neal Amber Leigh
Veterinary Medical Technician	779	Spain Jessica Lynn
Veterinary Medical Technician	984	Williams Ashley Lynn

**Receive Reports and take action as needed regarding Taskforce/Committee Reports**

CSMD Report

Dr. McInturff informed the Board that the xylazine drug may be rescheduled. There was no presentation to present.

**Review and consider Continuing Education and Other Course Requests, and Continuing**

The following requests for approval of continuing education hours were reviewed:

A request from BluePearl for approval of one (1) continuing education hours for discussion topic “CPR” that will be given by Katelyn Morris, LVMT in **2023 in person.**

A request from BluePearl for approval of one (1) continuing education hour apiece on the following presentations “**Stabilizing the Emergent Patient for Transfer**” “**Anaphylaxis**” “**Basic ECG’s**” by Dr. Sarah Decker in **2023**

A request from BluePearl for approval of one (1) continuing education hour for a presentation on “**Guide to Emergency Triage**” by Bethany Clark, LVMT in **2023.**

A request from BluePearl for approval of one (1) continuing education hour for a presentation on “**Feline Hyperthyroidism**” by Dr. Margaret Fortney in **2023.**

A request from Zoetis for approval of one (1) continuing education hour for a presentation on **“The science behind compassion fatigue and resiliency”** by Dr. Carrie Everett **in person in 2023**.

A request from Zoetis for approval of two (2) continuing education hours for a presentation on **“Feline OA therapy, Solensia”** by Dr. Jerrod Johnson **in person in 2023**.

A request from Zoetis for approval of one (1) continuing education hour for a presentation on **“How to Create Standards of Care and Prove Process for your Hospital”** by Dr. James Swanson **in person in 2023**.

Dr. Galloway submitted a recommendation for the Board to approve the above CE course requests.

A motion was made by Dr. Galloway to approve the CE course requests as presented, with a second made by Dr. McInturff. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Discuss and take action as necessary regarding Rulemaking, Rulemaking Hearings, Rule Amendments, and Policies**

No action to be taken.

### **Review of Correspondence and Notices**

#### **Notice – FDA via AAVSB: GFI #269**

The AAVSB submitted a notice from the FDA about the withdrawal of the guidance document entitled “Enforcement Policy Regarding Federal VCPR Requirements to Facilitate Veterinary Telemedicine During the COVID-19 Outbreak,” which was issued in March 2020. FDA is withdrawing this guidance document in recognition that the conditions that created the need for the enforcement policy have evolved, such that the policy is no longer needed.

#### **Notice – FDA via AAVSB: GFI #152**

The AAVSB submitted a notice from the FDA about a draft update to guidance for industry (GFI) #152, “Evaluating the Safety of Antimicrobial New Animal Drugs with Regard to Their Microbiological Effects on Bacteria of Human Health Concern.” The guidance is a tool for assessing the risk of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in people, which could result from the use of a medically important antimicrobial drug in food-producing animals. The scope and purpose of updated GFI #152 remains the same as the initial version of the guidance issued in 2003. Updates to the guidance include revisions to the risk assessment framework, updated ranking criteria for determining the degree of medical importance of antimicrobial drug classes, and a revised ranking of antimicrobial drug classes as critically important, highly important, or important based on the newly updated ranking criteria (Appendix A).

### **Conference/Event Reports and Upcoming Events**

Dr. Galloway made a motion to sponsor 1 Board Member, 1 Administrative Staff and 1 Attorney to attend the AAVSB Annual Meeting and Conference on September 28, 2023 – September 30, 2023, with a second by Dr. McInturff. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Discuss Old & New Board Business**

A request for the Board Inspector's to have ID Badges from the Department of Health so they can present them at inspections at a facility.

Dr. Baron asked to educate the Board on drug diversion. Went over the addictiveness of Tramadol and that it's important to look for addiction when large amounts of drugs are missing. Dr. Baron noted for someone being referred to them, they are sent for an extensive evaluation to determine if there is a drug related issue or not. If they are determined to have a substance abuse disorder, they are sent for treatment and Board Orders may include monitoring with a minimum of five (5) years in most cases. TMF has a high rate of success.

### **Election of Board Officers**

No action to be taken.

### **Call for Public Comment**

Ms. Boone provided notice of one additional opportunity for the submission of public comments, noting the requirement of signing in on the in-room registry prior to addressing the Board. She reminded the public that while they may present any question or comment they wish to bring to the Board's attention; the Board may only take action on items that were published on the agenda for this meeting. The Board has the option request to add an item to a future meeting agenda regarding any new topic introduced by way of a public comment, if they believe action may need to be taken on that particular subject. As always, public comments may also be submitted in writing and sent by mail to The TN Veterinary Board, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243 or sent via email to [Veterinary.Health@tn.gov](mailto:Veterinary.Health@tn.gov).



**Adjournment**

There being no further business to be heard, Ms. Wereszczak made a motion for adjournment with a second made by Dr. Galloway. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Veterinary board meeting adjourned at 11:39AM CST.

**These Minutes were ratified by the Board on August 8, 2023.**

<u>Leslie R. Wereszczak</u>	<u>8/15/23</u>
<b>Board Chair</b>	<b>Date</b>

