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MINUTES

**Board of Veterinary Medicine
General Business Meeting**

**Friday, June 24, 2022 at 9 A.M.
The Shores Resort and Spa
2637 South Atlantic Ave.
Daytona Beach Shores, FL 32118**

11 **CALL TO ORDER**

12
13 Dr. Leonard, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

14
15 **MEMBERS PRESENT**

16 Dr. Robert B. Leonard, Jr., Chair
17 Dr. Rudd Nelson- Vice Chair
18 Ms. Connie Johnson
19 Dr. Christopher Smith
20 Dr. Sharon Powell
21

22
23 **MEMBERS ABSENT**

24 Ms. Suzanne Inzina (excused)
25

26 **OTHERS PRESENT**

27 Ruthanne Christie, Executive Director
28 Elizabeth Henderson, Prosecuting Attorney
29 Hunter McLendon, Government Analyst
30 Phipps Court Reporter, 888-811-3408
31

32 **PROBATION ROLL CALL**

33
34 Dr. Leonard asked Mr. McLendon to call the roll.

35
36 The following probationers were present;

37
38 Albert Charles Aten, DVM
39 Rachel Norris, DVM
40 Carlos Deulofeu, DVM
41 Mark Patrick South, DVM
42

43 The following probationers were absent:

44
45 David Green, DVM

46
47 **Approval of March 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes – moved to September meeting.**

48
49
50 **Applications for Review**

51
52 **Sophonria Febbo, DVM – Initial by Endorsement**

53
54 Dr. Febbo was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

55
56 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

57
58 **MOTION:** Dr. Powell made a motion to continue application until the discipline was
59 resolved in Texas; if disciplinary case is closed without action, staff can approve the
60 application.

61
62 **SECOND:** Ms. Johnson

63
64 Motion passed unanimously.

65
66 **Donald Ian Wright, DVM - Licensure by Endorsement**

67
68 Dr. Wright was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

69
70 Dr. Wright changed the answer for #4 of the application to “yes”.

71
72 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

73
74 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made a motion to approve the application.

75
76 **SECOND:** Dr. Cabrera.

77
78 Motion passed unanimously.

79
80 **Kelsey Nicole Joyner, DVM, - Licensure by Endorsement**

81
82 Dr. Joyner was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

83
84 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

85
86 **MOTION:** Ms. Johnson made a motion to approve the application.

87
88 **SECOND:** Dr. Cabrera
89
90 Motion passed unanimously.
91
92 **Tess Peavy, DVM – Initial by Endorsement**
93
94 Dr. Peavy was not present.
95
96 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.
97
98 **MOTION:** Dr. Powell made a motion to deny the application due to prior discipline.
99
100 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.
101
102 Motion passed unanimously.
103
104 **Gennadiy Chepelevich – Initial by Endorsement**
105
106 Dr. Chepelevich was present and sworn in by the court reporter.
107
108 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.
109
110 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to approve the application, with 5 years of
111 probation, with an appearance once a year, and record pulls once a year for the first two
112 years of probation.
113
114 **SECOND:** Dr. Powell.
115
116 Motion passed unanimously.
117
118 **Erika Sikina – Initial by Endorsement**
119
120 Dr. Sikina and Attorney Bayo were present and sworn in by the court reporter.
121
122 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.
123
124 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made a motion to approve the application.
125
126 **SECOND:** Ms. Johnson.
127
128 Motion passed unanimously.
129

130 **Alfred Lichoa – Initial for Foreign Graduate – Addendum.**

131

132 Dr. Lichoa and Attorney Bayo were present and sworn in by the court reporter.

133

134 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

135

136 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to deny the application.

137

138 Motion failed.

139

140 **MOTION:** Dr. Smith makes a motion to approve the application with 5 years of
141 probation with a practice monitor for the first two years of probation, medical records
142 pulls for the first two years, probation appearances twice per year for the first two years
143 and then once per year for the last three years of probation.

144

145 **DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS**

146

147

148 **Kuria Ephantus Muchemi, DVM**

149 **Case No. 2021-027509**

150 **PC: Dr. Jones and Dr. Powell**

151

152 Dr. Muchemi was present with his attorney.

153

154 Dr. Muchemi was charged with violation of 474.214(1)(r), Being guilty of incompetence
155 or negligence by failing to practice medicine with that level of care, skill, and treatment
156 which is recognized by a reasonably prudent veterinarian as being acceptable under
157 similar conditions and circumstances.

158

159 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

160

161 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to reject the settlement stipulation as presented.

162

163 **SECOND:** Dr. Smith.

164

165 Motion passed unanimously.

166

167 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to offer a counter stipulation, with 1 year of
168 probation, an administrative fine of \$3000.00 and 4 hours of Continuing Education in
169 cortico Steroids and alternate medications.

170

171 **SECOND:** Dr. Cabrera.

172

173 Motion passed unanimously.

174

175 **Raghavan Sampathkumaran, DVM**

176 **Case number: 2021-051227**

177 **PC: Dr. Jones and Dr. Powell**

178

179 Dr. Sampathkumaran was not present nor represented by counsel.

180

181 Dr. Sampathkumaran was charged with violation of 474.214 (1)(b) F.S., "Having a
182 license or the authority to practice veterinary medicine revoked, suspended, or
183 otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of
184 any jurisdiction, including any agency or subdivision thereof. The licensing authority's
185 acceptance of a veterinarian's relinquishment of a license, stipulation, consent order, or
186 other settlement, offered in response to or in anticipation of the filing of administrative
187 charges against the veterinarian's license or authority to practice, shall be construed as
188 action against the veterinarian's license or authority to practice."

189

190 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to accept the settlement stipulation as
191 presented.

192

193 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

194

195 Motion passed unanimously.

196

197 **Raul Loreto Perez, DVM -- Addendum**

198 **Case number: 2020-057424**

199 **PC: Dr. Jones and Dr. Powell**

200

201 Dr. Perez was present with his attorney Ed Bayo, and sworn in by the court reporter.

202

203 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

204

205 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept the settlement stipulation with four hours
206 of continuing education with toxicology due in one year. This counts as first appearance,
207 must appear at meeting prior to the end of probation.

208

209 **SECOND:** Dr. Smith.

210

211 Motion passed unanimously.

212

213 **Saraschandra Bose Anne, DVM**

214 **Case No. 2021-031928**

215 **PC: Dr. K. Jones and Dr. S. Powell**

216
217 Dr. Anne was present and sworn in by the court reporter.
218

219 Dr. Anne was charged with violation of 474.214 (1)(b) F.S., “Having a license or the
220 authority to practice veterinary medicine revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted
221 against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of any jurisdiction,
222 including any agency or subdivision thereof. The licensing authority’s acceptance of a
223 veterinarian’s relinquishment of a license, stipulation, consent order, or other settlement,
224 offered in response to or in anticipation of the filing of administrative charges against the
225 veterinarian’s license or authority to practice, shall be construed as action against the
226 veterinarian’s license or authority to practice.”

227
228 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.
229

230 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made a motion to reject the settlement stipulation.

231
232 **Second:** Dr. Smith.

233
234 Motion passed unanimously.

235
236 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to offer a counter stipulation with voluntary
237 relinquishment of license on 12/31/22, with costs of \$459.28, and the condition of no
238 surgery from date of order until relinquishment.

239
240 **Second:** Dr. Nelson.

241
242 Motion passed unanimously.

243
244
245 **Michael Steven Lifesey, DVM**
246 **Case number: 2021-045221**
247 **PC: Dr. K. Jones and Dr. S. Powell**

248
249 Dr. Lifesey was not present.

250
251 Dr. Lifesey was charged with violation of 474.214 (1)(b) F.S., “Having a license or the
252 authority to practice veterinary medicine revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted
253 against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of any jurisdiction,
254 including any agency or subdivision thereof. The licensing authority’s acceptance of a
255 veterinarian’s relinquishment of a license, stipulation, consent order, or other settlement,
256 offered in response to or in anticipation of the filing of administrative charges against the
257 veterinarian’s license or authority to practice, shall be construed as action against the
258 veterinarian’s license or authority to practice.”

259
260 And 474.214 (1)(jj) F.S., “Failing to report to the board within 30 days, in writing, any
261 action set forth in paragraph (b) that has been taken against the practitioner’s license to
262 practice veterinary medicine by any jurisdiction, including any agency or subdivision
263 thereof.”

264
265
266 **Motion:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to accept the settlement stipulation for Voluntary
267 Relinquishment.

268
269 **Second:** Dr. Cabrera.

270
271 Motion passed unanimously.

272
273 **Kirt Yant, DVM**

274 **Case No. 2020-051652**

275 **PC: Dr. K Jones and Dr. S. Powell**

276
277 Dr. Yant was charged with violation of section 474.214(1)(b), Florida Statutes (2021),
278 provides in part: “having a license or the authority to practice veterinary medicine
279 revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure, by
280 the licensing authority of any jurisdiction, including any agency or subdivision thereof.
281 The licensing authority’s acceptance of the veterinarian’s relinquishment of a license,
282 stipulation, consent order, or other settlement, offered in response to or in anticipation of
283 the filing of administrative charges against the veterinarian’s license or authority to
284 practice, shall be construed as action against the veterinarian’s license or authority to
285 practice” is grounds for discipline.

286
287 Dr. Yant was not present, nor represented by counsel.

288
289 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

290
291 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to accept the allegations of fact as set forth in the
292 Administrative Complaint as the findings of fact.

293
294 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

295
296 Motion passed unanimously.

297
298 **MOTION:** Dr. Smith made a motion to adopt the Conclusions of Law and find that the
299 conclusions of law constitute a violation of the practice act as alleged in the
300 Administrative Complaint.

301
302 **SECOND:** Ms. Johnson.

303
304 Motion passed unanimously.

305
306 **MOTION:** Dr. Smith motions to charge fines of \$1,250.00 with costs of \$148.33.

307
308 **SECOND:** Ms. Johnson.

309
310 Motion passed unanimously.

311
312 **Evan Mitchell Blair, DVM**
313 **Case No. 2020-051652**
314 **PC: Dr. Jones and Dr. Powell**

315
316 Dr. Blair and attorney Wes Reynolds were present and sworn in by the court reporter.

317
318 Dr. Blair was in violation of section 474.214(1)(r), Florida Statutes (2019), provides that
319 a licensee may be subject to discipline for “being guilty of incompetence or negligence
320 by failing to practice medicine with that level of care, skill, and treatment which is
321 recognized by a reasonably prudent veterinarian as being acceptable under similar
322 conditions and circumstances.”

323
324 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to reject the settlement stipulation as presented.

325
326 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

327
328 Motion passed unanimously.

329
330 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to offer a counter stipulation with the addition of a
331 \$3,000.00 fine and two probation appearances. This meeting counts as first
332 appearance.

333
334 **Second:** Dr. Nelson

335
336 Motion passed unanimously.

337
338 **PROBATION**

339
340
341 **Albert Charles Aten, DVM**

2020-004424

342
343 Dr. Aten was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

344
345 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept the appearance.

346
347 **SECOND:** Dr. Cabrera

348
349 Motion passed unanimously.

350
351 **Rachel Norris, DVM** **2020-027402**

352
353 Dr. Norris was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

354
355 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

356
357 **MOTION:** Dr. Powell made a motion to accept this appearance.

358
359 **SECOND:** Ms. Johnson.

360
361 **Alexander Freyman, DVM** **2019-047530**

362
363 Dr. Freyman was absent.

364
365 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

366
367 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to grant an extension for this appearance.

368
369 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

370
371 Motion passed unanimously.

372
373 **Carlos Deulofeu, DVM** **2020-027402**

374
375 Dr. Deulofeu was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

376
377 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

378
379 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept this appearance.

380
381 **SECOND:** Dr. Smith.

382
383 Motion passed unanimously.

384
385 **Michelle MacDougall, DVM** **2020-026922**

387
388 Dr. MacDougall's probation has been tolled.

389
390
391 **David Green, DVM**

2018-044652

392
393 Dr. Green was not present.

394
395 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

396
397
398 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to grant an extension for this appearance.

399
400 **SECOND:** Dr. Powell.

401
402 **Mark Patrick South, DVM**

2020-007422

403
404 Dr. South was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

405
406 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

407
408 **MOTION:** Dr. Cabrera made a motion to accept this appearance.

409
410 **SECOND:** Dr. Powell.

411
412 **RULES- Report**

413
414 Attorney Tellechea updated the board on the rules currently in development.

415
416 **REPORTS**

417
418 **Board Counsel Report- Ed Tellechea**

419
420 None

421
422 Draft Language 61G18-12.002(2), Examination and Re-Examination Fees – 2) For those
423 applicants taking the Laws and Rules examination, when the examination is not
424 conducted by a professional testing service pursuant to Section 455.2171, F.S., the
425 examination fee shall be \$165.00 payable to the department. When the examination is
426 conducted by a professional testing service pursuant to Section 455.2171, F.S., the
427 examination fee shall be \$1409.25 payable to the department plus \$2415.75 payable to
428 the testing service. When conducted by a professional testing service, applicants retaking
429 the Laws and Rules examination shall only pay the fee payable to the testing service.

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MOTION: Dr. Smith made a motion to accept the language.

SECOND: Dr. Cabrera.

Executive Director – Ruthanne Christie

Executive Director Christie updated the board on future meeting dates and locations.

MOTION: Dr. Leonard made a motion to reaudit all failed audits for this year.

SECOND: Dr. Powell.

Motion passed unanimously.

Prosecuting Attorney – Elizabeth Henderson

Ms. Henderson reviewed her report with the board.

MOTION: Dr. Powell made a motion to continue prosecution of year old cases.

SECOND: Ms. Johnson.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ratification of Applications

Licenses

Will revise and continue to September,

Continuing Education

Motion: Dr. Nelson made a motion to approve the courses.

Second: Dr. Cabrera.

Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

473 **PUBLIC COMMENT**
474 Florida Veterinary Technicians provided a report of their recent activities.

475
476
477 **NEW BUSINESS**

478
479 Dr. Cabrera let the Board know that he would be attending the AAVSB conference as a
480 committee member.

481
482 Mr. Ed Bayo provided draft language for a possible change to rule to 61G15.0065, FAC.

483
484
485 **PROBATION ROLL CALL**

486
487 Mr. McLendon called the probation roll.

488
489 The following were present:

490
491 Albert Charles Aten, DVM
492 Rachel Norris, DVM
493 Carlos Deulofeu, DVM
494 Mark Patrick South, DVM
495 Dr. Perez, DVM
496 Dr. Blair, DVM

497
498 The following were absent:

499
500 Alexander Freyman, DVM
501 David Green, DVM

502
503 **Election of Officers**

504
505 **Motion:** Ms. Johnson made a motion to appoint Dr. Leonard as Chair.

506
507 **Second:** Dr. Cabrera.

508
509 Motion passed unanimously.

510
511 **Motion:** Ms. Johnson made a motion to appoint Dr. Nelson as Vice Chair.

512
513 **Second:** Dr. Cabrera.

514
515 Motion passed unanimously.

516

517 **Next Meeting- September 23, 2022 – Hampton Inn & Suites, St. Petersburg**

518 **ADJOURN**

519

520 The meeting adjourned at 1:43 A.M.

521