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**MINUTES**

**Board of Veterinary Medicine  
General Business Meeting  
Teleconference  
December 18, 2020**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

13  
14

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

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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Dr. Robert B. Leonard, Jr., Chair  
Dr. Rudd Nelson- Vice Chair  
Ms. Connie Johnson  
Dr. Christopher Smith  
Dr. Mario Cabrera  
Dr. Sharon Powell  
Ms. Suzanne Inzina

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**MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Ruthanne Christie, Executive Director  
Ed Tellechea, Board Counsel  
Elizabeth Henderson, Prosecuting Attorney  
Amanda Senn, Government Analyst  
Dr. Jacobs, PRN  
Dr. Smart, FVMA  
For The Record Reporting- 850-222-5491

**PROBATION ROLL CALL**

Dr. Leonard asked Ms. Senn to call the roll.

The following probationers were present;

Mario Arrellano, DVM  
Albert Aten, DVM  
Alan Krause, DVM  
Kathleen Prunier, DVM  
James Segota, DVM

43 Larry Britt, DVM  
44 Richard Jaffe, DVM  
45 Joanne McCallum, DVM  
46

47 **Approval of September 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes**  
48

49 **MOTION:** Dr. Powell made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections.  
50

51 **SECOND:** Dr. Smith.  
52

53 Motion passed unanimously.  
54

55 **Review/Approval of Applications**  
56

57 **Thomas Lurito- Licensure by Endorsement**  
58

59 Dr. Lurito was present and sworn in by the court reporter.  
60

61 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.  
62

63 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made the motion to approve the application.  
64

65 **SECOND:** Dr. Cabrera.  
66

67 Motion passed unanimously.  
68

69 **John Sangiorio, DVM, - Licensure by Endorsement**  
70

71 Dr. Sangiorio was present and sworn in by the court reporter.  
72

73 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.  
74

75 **MOTION:** Dr. Cabrera made a motion to approve this application with one year of  
76 probation. During the one year of probation, there will be 2 medical records pulls  
77 performed containing 5 patient records each time. Dr. Sangiorio is not currently  
78 practicing in Florida and will need to notify the board office once he begins to physically  
79 practice in Florida so that his probation may begin.  
80

81 **SECOND:** Dr. Smith.  
82

83 The board chairman called a vote.  
84

85 Dr. Leonard- yes, Dr. Nelson- no, Dr. Smith-yes, Dr. Cabrera- yes, Ms. Inzina-yes, Ms.  
86 Johnson- no

87  
88 Motion passed.

89  
90 **Pet Med Animal Clinic- Premise Permit Application**

91  
92 Alena Alfonso was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

93  
94 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

95  
96 **MOTION:** Ms. Johnson made a motion to table the review of the application until the  
97 March 2021 board meeting..

98  
99 **SECOND:** Dr. Powell.

100  
101 Motion passed unanimously.

102  
103 **DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS**

104  
105 **Larry Britt, DVM**  
106 **Case number(s) 2019-063229**

107  
108 Dr. Britt was present with Attorney Bryan Reynolds and sworn in by the court reporter.

109  
110 Dr. Powell was recused from this case due to her participation on the Probable Cause  
111 Panel.

112 Dr. Britt was charged with violation of 474.214 (1)(ee)F.S., "Failing to keep  
113 contemporaneously written medical records as required by rule of the board."

114  
115 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

116  
117 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to reject the settlement stipulation as  
118 presented.

119  
120 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

121  
122 Motion passed unanimously.

123  
124 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

125  
126 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard proposed a counter stipulation with \$5000.00 in fines and  
127 \$227.00 in costs to be paid within 30 days of filing of the final order. The counter

128 stipulation eliminates the stay of suspension. Dr. Britt's license will be placed on a 5  
129 year probation. During that time, Dr. Britt will have 2 medical records inspections per  
130 year consisting of 5 patient records per inspection. Dr. Britt will be required to attend the  
131 March 2021 board meeting.

132  
133 **SECOND:** Ms. Inzina.

134  
135 Motion passed unanimously.

136  
137 **Michael Elpert, DVM**  
138 **Case number(s) 2019-060893, 2019-057994, 2019-045951, 2019-017135, 2019-**  
139 **009511, and 2018-040702**  
140 **VM 4077**

141  
142 Dr. Elpert and Attorney Ed Bayo were present and sworn in by the court reporter.

143  
144 Dr. Powell was recused from this case due to her participation on the Probable Cause  
145 Panel.

146  
147 Dr. Elpert was charged with violation of 474.214 (1)(r)F.S., "Being guilty of  
148 incompetence or negligence by failing to practice medicine with that level of care, skill,  
149 and treatment which is recognized by a reasonably prudent veterinarian as being  
150 acceptable under similar conditions and circumstances."

151 And 474.214 (1)(ee) F.S., "Failing to keep contemporaneously written medical records  
152 as required by rule of the board."

153 And 474.214(1)(l) F.S., "Performing or prescribing unnecessary or unauthorized  
154 treatment."

155  
156 After discussion by the board the following motions were made.

157  
158 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to reject the settlement stipulation as  
159 presented.

160  
161 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

162  
163 The board chairman called a vote.

164  
165 Dr. Leonard- yes, Dr. Nelson- yes, Dr. Smith-yes, Dr. Cabrera- yes, Ms. Inzina-yes, Ms.  
166 Johnson- yes

167  
168 Motion passed unanimously.

169

170 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion for \$30,000.00 in fines and \$2,515.85 to be  
171 paid by the end of probation. Dr. Elpert's license will be placed on a 5 year probation.  
172 As part of Dr. Elpert's probation requirements, he will be required to only work under the  
173 direct supervision of a licensed monitoring veterinarian for the first year of probation.  
174 The monitoring veterinarian will be responsible for submitting monthly reports to the  
175 board office.  
176 Dr. Elpert will be required to attend 2 board meetings a year, starting with the March  
177 2021 board meeting. Dr. Elpert will be required to submit to 2 medical records reviews 2  
178 times a year consisting of 5 patient records to be reviewed by a board member.  
179 Dr. Elpert will be required to complete the following continuing education courses in  
180 addition to the 30 hours required for the renewal of his license: 10 hours emergency  
181 medicine, 2 hours of abdominal surgery to include bloat, 2 hours of emergency  
182 toxicology, 2 hours of diabetes, 2 hours of business/ practice management to include  
183 the setting of fee structures, and 2 hours of feline otitis. In addition, Dr. Elpert will be  
184 required to complete 2 hours in medical records keeping each year of probation for a  
185 total of 10 hours and 1 hour in ethics each year of probation for a total of 5 hours.  
186 All Continuing education should be completed by the end of the second year of  
187 probation.

188  
189 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

190  
191 The board chairman called a vote.

192  
193 Dr. Leonard- yes, Dr. Nelson- yes, Dr. Smith-yes, Dr. Cabrera- yes, Ms. Inzina-yes, Ms.  
194 Johnson- yes

195  
196 The motion passed unanimously.

197  
198  
199 **PROBATION**

200  
201 **Mario Arellano, DVM** **2018-015374**

202  
203 Dr. Arellano was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

204  
205 **MOTION:** Dr. Powell made a motion to accept this probation appearance.

206  
207 **SECOND:** Ms. Johnson.

208  
209 Motion passed unanimously.

210  
211 **Albert Aten, DVM** **2018-015972**

212

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

214

215 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept this probation appearance.

216

217 **SECOND:** Dr. Powell.

218

219 Motion passed unanimously.

220

221 **Alan Krause, DVM**

**2017-058367**

222

223 Dr. Krause was present and was sworn in by the court reporter.

224

225 **MOTION:** Ms. Inzina made a motion to accept this probation appearance.

226

227 **SECOND:** Ms. Johnson.

228

229 Motion passed unanimously.

230

231 **Kathleen Prunier, DVM**

232

233 Dr. Prunier was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

234

235 **MOTION:** Dr. Powell made a motion to accept this probation appearance.

236

237 **SECOND:** Dr. Smith.

238

239 Motion passed unanimously.

240

241 **James Segota, DVM**

**2019-007595**

242

243 Dr. Segota was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

244

245 **MOTION:** Ms. Johnson made a motion to accept this probation appearance.

246

247 **SECOND:** Dr. Powell.

248

249 Motion passed unanimously.

250

251 **Larry Britt, DVM**

**2017-061573**

252

253 Dr. Britt was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

254

255 **MOTION:** Dr. Powell made a motion to accept this probation appearance.

256  
257 **SECOND:** Dr. Cabrera.  
258  
259 Motion passed unanimously.

260 **Richard Jaffe, DVM** **2013-017284**

261  
262 Dr. Jaffe was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

263  
264 **MOTION:** Ms. Johnson made a motion to accept this probation appearance.

265  
266 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

267  
268 Motion passed unanimously.

269  
270 **Joanne McCallum, DVM** **2017-056206**

271  
272 Dr. McCallum was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

273  
274 **MOTION:** Dr. Cabrera made a motion to accept this probation appearance.

275  
276 **SECOND:** Dr. Powell.

277  
278 Motion passed unanimously.

279  
280  
281 **REPORTS**

282 **Executive Director – Ruthanne Christie**

283  
284 Executive Director Christie gave a verbal report on potential meeting dates and  
285 locations.  
286

287  
288 **Board Counsel Report- Ed Tellechea**

289  
290 Anti-Trust Update

291  
292 **Prosecuting Attorney – Elizabeth Henderson**

293  
294 Ms. Henderson reviewed her report with the board.

295  
296 **MOTION:** Dr. Powell made a motion to continue prosecution of year old cases.

297  
298 **SECOND:** Ms. Johnson.

299  
300 Motion passed unanimously.

301  
302 **Ratification of Applications**

303  
304 **Licenses**

305  
306 Dr. Smith is recused from voting on license applications.

307  
308 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made a motion to approve the list of applications.

309  
310 **SECOND:** Dr. Cabrera.

311  
312 Motion passed unanimously.

313  
314 **Continuing Education**

315  
316 **MOTION:** Dr. Powell made a motion to approve the list of continuing education  
317 courses.

318  
319 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

320  
321 Motion passed unanimously.

322  
323 **OLD BUSINESS**

324 **None**

325  
326 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

327 Florida Veterinary Technicians provided a report of their recent activities.

328  
329 **NEW BUSINESS**

330 **None**

331  
332 **PROBATION ROLL CALL**

333  
334 Ms. Senn called the probation roll and all were present.

335  
336 Mario Arrellano, DVM

337 Albert Aten, DVM

338 Alan Krause, DVM

339 Kathleen Prunier, DVM

340 James Segota, DVM

341 Larry Britt, DVM



342 Richard Jaffe, DVM  
343 Joanne McCallum, DVM  
344  
345 **Next Meeting- March 2021**  
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347 **ADJOURN**  
348  
349 The meeting adjourned at 1:51 P.M.

DRAFT