

1 **MINUTES**

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3 **Board of Veterinary Medicine**
4 **General Business Meeting**

5
6 **Friday, December 12, 2025, at 9 A.M.**
7 **World Golf Village Renaissance ST. Augustine Resort**
8 **500 S. Legacy Trail**
9 **St. Augustine, FL 32092**

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12 **CALL TO ORDER**

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14 Dr. Leonard, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

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16 **MEMBERS PRESENT**

17 Dr. Rudd Nelson, Vice Chair
18 Ms. Connie Johnson
19 Dr. Christopher Smith
20 Dr. Sharon Powell
21 Dr. Mario Cabrera

22
23 **MEMBERS ABSENT**

24 None

25
26 **OTHERS PRESENT**

27 Melanie Griffin, Secretary
28 Ruthanne Christie, Executive Director
29 Ed Tellechea, Board Counsel
30 Elizabeth Henderson, Prosecuting Attorney
31 Dina Oliveto, Government Analyst II
32 Lexitas Court Reporter – 888-811-3408

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34 **PROBATION ROLL CALL**

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36 Dr. Leonard asked Ms. Oliveto to call the roll.

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38 The following probationers were present:

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40 Amy Bosecker, DVM
41 Mohammad Hassan, DVM
42 Richard Rubenstein, DVM
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The following probationers were absent:

Valerie Biehl, DVM

Alfonso Paredes, DVM

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

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

SECOND: Dr. Cabrera.

Motion passed unanimously.

PETITION FOR DECLARATORY STATEMENT – DR. RENATA COUTO

Dr. Couto was not present.

After discussion by the board the following motion was made:

MOTION: Dr. Leonard made a motion to decline to answer the declaratory statement due to lack of information.

SECOND: Dr. Nelson.

Motion passed unanimously.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

Jerome Rusch – Endorsement with Laws & Rules Course

Dr. Rusch was present.

After discussion by the board, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Dr. Cabrera made a motion to approve the application.

SECOND: Ms. Johnson.

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88 Motion passed unanimously.
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91 **Pureza Integrative Veterinary Medicine – Premise Permit**
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93 There was no representative present for Pureza Integrative Medicine.
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95 After discussion by the board the following motion was made:
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97 **MOTION:** Dr. Leonard made a motion to deny the application for failure to comply with
98 the requirements for a veterinary premise permit per 61G18.002, F.A.C. and 474.215,
99 F.S..
100

101 **SECOND:** Dr. Powell.
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103 Motion passed unanimously.
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106 **Ehren Yablon – Endorsement with Laws & Rules Course**
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108 Dr. Yablon was present and sworn in by the court reporter.
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110 After discussion by the board, Dr. Yablon requested to withdraw his application on the
111 record. The following motion was made:
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113 **MOTION:** Dr. Nelson made a motion to allow Dr. Yablon to withdraw his application.
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115 **SECOND:** Ms. Johnson
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117 Motion passed unanimously.
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121 **DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS**
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124 **Settlement Stipulations**
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126 **Gregory Alan Ford, DVM**

127 **Case No. 2025-070351**

128 **PC: N/A**
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Dr. Ford was not present.

Dr. Ford was charged with violation of 474.214(1)(o) Fraud, deceit, negligence, incompetency, or misconduct, in or related to the practice of veterinary medicine.

After discussion by the board the following motion was made:

MOTION: Dr. Leonard made a motion to accept the voluntary relinquishment.

SECOND: Dr. Powell.

Motion passed unanimously.

Alberto J. Rullan, DVM

Case No. 2024-026787

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

Dr. Rullan was present with Attorney Ed Bayo. Dr. Rullan was sworn in by the court reporter.

Dr. Rullan was charged with violation of 474.214(1)(r), Being guilty of incompetence or negligence by failing to practice medicine with that level of care, skill, and treatment which is recognized by a reasonably prudent veterinarian as being acceptable under similar conditions and circumstances, and 474.214(1)(ee) Failing to keep contemporaneously written medical records as required by rule of the board.

After discussion by the board the following motions were made:

MOTION: Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept the settlement stipulation as presented dismissing count I and imposing costs of \$1338.49 and fines of \$2000 to be paid within 30 days of the filing of the final order, collection and review of 5 patient records within 90 days to be reviewed by Dr. Richardson at Dr. Rullan's expense and 1 year of non-reporting probation with appearances at first and last meeting of probation. This meeting counts as first appearance.

SECOND: Ms. Johnson.

Motion passed unanimously (Dr. Powell was recused).

Bruce R. Bierbaum, DVM

Case No. 2024-045690

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

Dr. Bierbaum was not present.

Dr. Bierbaum was charged with violation of 474.214(1)(r), Being guilty of incompetence or negligence by failing to practice medicine with that level of care, skill, and treatment which is recognized by a reasonably prudent veterinarian as being acceptable under similar conditions and circumstances, and 474.214(1)(ee) Failing to keep contemporaneously written medical records as required by rule of the board.

After discussion by the board the following motions were made:

MOTION: Dr. Nelson made a motion to adopt findings of fact.

SECOND: Ms. Johnson.

Motion passed unanimously (Dr. Powell was recused).

MOTION: Dr. Smith made a motion to adopt Conclusions of Law.

SECOND: Dr. Cabrera.

Motion passed unanimously (Dr. Powell was recused).

MOTION: Dr. Leonard made a motion to impose fines of \$4,000 and costs of \$467.83 in costs to be paid within 30 days of the filing of this order, 2 hours of medical records continuing education from last probation to be completed within 6 months of the filing of this order, and 2 years of probation to run concurrent with current probation with appearances at first and last meeting of probation. First appearance will be at the March meeting.

SECOND: Dr. Nelson.

Motion passed unanimously (Dr. Powell was recused).

Margo Ruth Roman, DVM

Case Nos. 2024-057110

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

Dr. Roman was not present.

Dr. Roman was charged with violation of 474.214(1)(b) Having a license or the authority to practice veterinary medicine revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of any jurisdiction, including any agency or subdivision thereof. The licensing authority's acceptance of a veterinarian's relinquishment of a license, stipulation, consent order, or other settlement, offered in response to or in anticipation of the filing of administrative charges against the veterinarian's license or authority to practice, shall be construed as action against the veterinarian's license or authority to practice, and of 474.214(1)(jj) Failing to report to the board within 30 days, in writing, any action set forth in paragraph (b) that has been taken against the practitioner's license to practice veterinary medicine by any jurisdiction, including any agency or subdivision thereof.

After discussion by the board the following motions were made:

MOTION: Dr. Leonard made a motion to adopt findings of fact.

SECOND: Dr. Nelson.

Motion passed unanimously (Dr. Powell was recused).

MOTION: Dr. Leonard made a motion to adopt Conclusions of Law.

SECOND: Ms. Johnson.

Motion passed unanimously (Dr. Powell was recused).

MOTION: Dr. Leonard made a motion to impose fines of \$5,200 and \$420.79 in costs to be paid within 30 days of the filing of this order and no probation.

SECOND: Ms. Johnson.

Motion passed unanimously (Dr. Powell was recused).

PROBATION

Valerie Biehl, DVM

2022-022219

Dr. Biehl was not present.

After discussion by the board, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Ms. Johnson made a motion to refer Dr. Biehl to Regulation for discipline for failing to comply with final order and do another surgical records pull before the end of probation.

SECOND: Dr. Nelson

Amy Bosecker, DVM

2022-056910

Dr. Bosecker was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

After discussion by the board, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Dr. Cabrera made a motion to accept appearance.

SECOND: Dr. Smith.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mohammad Hassan, DVM

2019-057849

Dr. Hassan was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

After discussion by the board, the following motions were made:

MOTION: Dr. Leonard made a motion to suspend record pulls and inspections for the remainder of probation unless a need arises.

SECOND: Dr. Powell.

MOTION: Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept appearance.

SECOND: Ms. Johnson

Motion passed unanimously.

Alfonso Parades, DVM

2023-001514

Dr. Paredes was not present and is in violation of his final order.

After discussion by the board, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Dr. Leonard made a motion for Dr. Paredes to provide medical documentation for non-appearance or open a case for non-compliance.

SECOND: Dr. Nelson.

Richard Rubenstein, DVM

2024-002926

Dr. Rubenstein was present and sworn in by the court reporter.

After discussion by the board, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Dr. Powell made a motion to accept appearance.

SECOND: Ms. Johnson

Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Executive Director – Ruthanne Christie

Executive Director Christie updated the board on financial and enforcement reports. She also discussed the NAVLE retake policy.

Board Counsel Report- Ed Tellechea

Attorney Tellechea had nothing new to report.

Prosecuting Attorney – Elizabeth Henderson

Attorney Henderson discussed the Public Case Report.

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

SECOND: Dr. Cabrera.

Motion passed unanimously.

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346 **Ratification of Applications**

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348 **Licenses**

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350 **MOTION:** Dr. Cabrera made a motion to approve the licenses.

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352 **SECOND:** Dr. Nelson.

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354 Motion passed unanimously.

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357 **Continuing Education**

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359 **MOTION:** Dr. Smith made a motion to approve the courses.

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361 **SECOND:** Dr. Cabrera.

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363 Motion passed unanimously.

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366 **OLD BUSINESS**

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368 None.

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371 **NEW BUSINESS**

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373 None.

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376 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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378 Dr. Kelly and Dr. Carney from Lincoln Memorial University addressed the Board and
379 answered questions about their new College of Veterinary Medicine in Orange Park.
380 Dr. Williams from FVMA spoke about Xylazine and upcoming bills in the Legislature.
381 The Board celebrated their 100th anniversary with recognition by Secretary Melanie
382 Griffin for a Century of Service.

383
384 **PROBATION ROLL CALL**

385
386 Ms. Oliveto called the probation roll.

388 The following probationers were present:

389

390 Amy Bosecker, DVM

391 Mohammad Hassan, DVM

392 Richard Rubenstein, DVM

393 Alberto Rullan, DVM

394

395 The following probationers were absent:

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397 Valerie Biehl, DVM

398 Alfonso Paredes, DVM

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401 **NEXT MEETING**

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403 March 13, 2026 – TBD – somewhere in Gainesville.

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406 **ADJOURN**

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408 The meeting adjourned at 12:26 P.M.

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