

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

I. General Information

Meeting Dates: March 14, 2006
Meeting Type: General Business Meeting
Embassy Suites Hotel
1100 SE 17th Street
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316
954.527.2700

Members Present: Dr. Robert O'Neil, Dr. Sergio Vega, Dr. Joann Helm, Dr. Katherine Horky, Dr. Kandra Jones and Ms. Susan Love

Members Absent: Ms. Cynthia Lewis

Other Attendees: Juanita Chastain, Executive Director
Linda Tinsley, Government Analyst
Drew Winters, Prosecuting Attorney
Jeffrey Jones, Assistant Attorney General
Donald Schaefer, Executive Director, Florida Veterinary Medical Association
Other interested parties

II. Major Issues/Actions

- Dr. O'Neil excused Ms. Lewis' absence.
- The board reviewed and approved minutes of the December 6, 2005 board meeting.
- The board heard twelve informal hearings. Ten were handled, and two were tabled.
- The board heard two motions for waiver of rights and final order. Both were handled.
- The board heard and accepted one settlement stipulation.
- The board heard one hearing not involving a dispute of material facts and dismissed the Emergency Suspension Order on Dr. Scott Reed with the provision that he enter the Physician Resource Network (PRN) program.
- The board ratified examination candidates, premise permits and continuing education providers.
- The board discussed the December 31, 2005 financial report prepared by the department.
- The board reviewed and approved a letter written by Dr. O'Neil to be sent to the American Association of Veterinary State Board (AAVSB). The board feels that the views of a former board member who sits on the AAVSB should not be viewed as the opinions of the board.
- The board discussed a letter being sent to veterinarians from WTF Wholesale Suppliers Corporation regarding the sale of nonprescription items. Mr. Winters asked that the letter be discussed to ascertain if the board felt it was a problem with the WTF Wholesale Suppliers Corporation soliciting veterinarians to assist in their business endeavors. After discussion the board indicated they did not have a problem with the activity.
- The board discussed a letter of appreciation sent from the Kentucky Horse Racing Authority concerning Dr. O'Neil.

- Mr. Schaefer discussed the various bills proposed for the 2006 session that the Florida Veterinary Medical Association (FVMA) is opposing:
 - SB1554(Baker)/HB 641(Russell) Animal Health Care Services – exempts independent contractors from the veterinary practice act
 - SB1848 (Haridopolos) Pharmacy Technicians - allows technicians to initiate or receive requests for prescriptions for nonhuman use under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist and allows pharmacists to supervise more technicians when handling prescriptions for non-human use
 - HB685 (Coley) SB 1540 (Baker) Veterinary Drug Distribution – introduces a limited wholesale permit
- Mr. Schaefer presented the various bills proposed for the 2006 session that the FMVA is monitoring:
 - HB1181 (Roberson) SB 1934 (Geller) Racing Greyhounds – establishes recordkeeping for greyhounds while racing and when they no longer race and are sold the form must be signed by a track veterinarian
 - SB484 (Rich) Cruelty to animals – increases fines and jail time
 - SB674 Licensing of Pet Dealers (Bullard) – introduces standards for pet dealers
 - SB1484 (Rich) HB 545 (Detert/Bucher) – Emergency Public Shelters – requires one shelter in each county to accommodate evacuees with pets
 - SB 1388 (Smith) HB 7075 (Popell) – General Agriculture Bill – amends Chapter 828.30, F.S., vaccination for rabies
- Mr. Schaefer informed the board the FVMA is moving forward with the following proposed legislation to amend Chapter 474, FS, to clarify exemptions:
 - Chapter 474.203 Exemptions (5) (b) “A person hired on a part-time or temporary basis, or as an independent contractor by an owner to assist with herd management and animal husbandry tasks for herd and flock animals, including castration, dehorning, parasite control and debeaking, or a person hired on a part time or temporary basis or as an independent contractor by the owner to provide farriery and manual hand floating of teeth on equines.”
- The board voted to open rule 61G18-17.001, FAC, exemptions and exceptions, for development to address concerns by the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC) with the definition of the term “regular employee” as used in the rule.
- The board discussed SB 1848, concerning pharmacy technicians and voted to oppose the bill. The board asked Ms. Chastain to write a letter for the Chair’s signature to the Chair of the Board of Pharmacy and the Deputy Director, Office of Drug Control Policy stating their opposition to the bill. The board feels by allowing technicians to initiate or receive requests for prescriptions for nonhuman use it undermines the health and safety of the animal patients of veterinarians.
- The board voted to oppose HB 641 and SB 1644 regarding independent contractors.
- The board voted to reaffirm their position that micro-chipping is the practice of veterinary medicine.
- Dr. O’Neil was re-elected Chair, and Dr. Vega was re-elected Vice-Chair.

III. Legislation/Rule Promulgation

- Mr. Jones to notice rule 61G18-7.001, FAC, for development.

IV. Action Required

- Final orders to be prepared by Mr. Winters and Mr. Jones.

- Ms. Chastain to write letter to the Board of Pharmacy and the Office of Drug Control Policy.
- The following board meetings have been scheduled:
 - June 14, 2006, Marriott, Orlando
 - September 12, 2006, Casa Monica, St. Augustine

Juanita Chastain
Executive Director