

**Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Division of Professional Regulation
Veterinary Licensing and Disciplinary Board**

Minutes of Open Session

Date: October 23, 2024

Locations: Room 5C3 Room 376 Webex
555 W Monroe 320 W Washington St Videoconference
Chicago, Illinois Springfield, Illinois

Call to Order: 11:03 am

Adjournment: 1:02 pm .

Chicago:

Springfield: Bill Armbruster, DVM; Ellen Helmers, DVM; Jason Kennell, DVM; Lauren Malmberg; Raymond Ramirez, DVM.

Not present: Elizabeth Clyde, DVM; Simuel Hampton, DVM

Division Staff Present: Gwendolyn Payton, Assistant General Counsel, Rochelle Hartman, Board Liaison, Health Services Section, Mary Meehan, Chief of Prosecutions

Guests: Deborah Lakamp, Executive Director Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association; Maureen Mulhall, Illinois State Veterinary Association; Matt Malone, ISVMA

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
CALL TO ORDER /INTRODUCTIONS	Meeting called to order at 11:05 am .	Present: Armbruster Helmers Kennell Malmberg Ramirez
PUBLIC COMMENT	None	
OPEN MINUTES	Webex for April meeting was not recorded, and July meeting was canceled. Minutes unavailable.	

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE	Virtual Attendance Ramirez spoke with state representative Koehler about possibility of remote attendance. Would require a change to the Open Meetings Act. All members present in support of the idea. Ramirez will pursue. Statistics Meehan provided current total numbers on investigations and prosecutions. She noted that prosecution case backlog has decreased about 50% thanks to board members assisting with review. Lakamp expressed concern about limited information and delays. Meehan said she is available to speak about prosecutions, but that investigations is a separate unit. Hartman provided current total numbers for licensing, applications, and wait times for vet, vet tech, CE sponsors and controlled substance. Regarding wait times, Lakamp pointed out that new applicants with pending licensure can practice before licensure is issued. This is not an option for endorsement applicants. It was clarified that the practice pending licensure is very limited but allows a new graduate to become acquainted with clinic processes and procedures. CORE: Hartman gave overview of new licensing system that will be rolled out over the next 2-3 years. VTNE Exam Procedure New process in which vet tech candidates will apply directly to VTNE and not apply for licensure until they have passed the exam.	
PROSECUTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT OVERVIEW	Meehan gave presentation on the process for prosecutions and enforcement, including complaints, discipline, and licensure restoration	

GRADUATES OF UNAPPROVED SCHOOLS	AGC brought concerns to the board about the licensing barriers for graduates of unaccredited/unapproved schools.	
CLOSED SESSION		Motion was made and seconded to go into closed session pursuant to 2(c)(15) of the Open Meetings Act at 1 pm
MOTION TO GO INTO OPEN SESSSION	Review of Closed Minutes Closed minutes were not available for review Application review The board reviewed an out-of-state CE application.	At 1:03 pm motion was made and seconded that the board return to open session. Casey Birkel Out-of-State CE Approved
ADJOURNMENT		Motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 1:05 pm. Motion carried.