

The Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board

Annual Report FY 2011

The Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board's mission is to insure that the citizens of Ohio are served by professional, trustworthy and competent veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

Overview

The Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board (Board) met the second Wednesday of the month and held 11 meetings for FY11.

Board Members:

Lisa Mach, DVM, President

Tim Kolb, DVM, Vice President

Paul Stull, DVM

Renee Jessen, RVT

Gurdas Dass, DVM

Kurandi Morris, consumer member

Roger Redman, DVM

James Hearst, DVM

Cleveland- term ends 12/31/2011

Delaware - term ends 12/31/2012

Dayton - term ends 12/31/2012

Berkey – term ends 12/31/2012

Beachwood – term ends 12/31/2013

Westerville – term ends 12/31/2012

Wooster-term ended 12/31/2010

Cincinnati-term ended 12/31/2010

Board Staff:

Theresa Stir, Esq.

Joseph McClain

(Vacant)

Executive Director

Licensure Coordinator

Clerk

Fiscal

The Board is self-sustaining fiscally through licensure fees, late fines and miscellaneous sources. The Board was allotted \$319,407 for FY 2011. The Board had \$84,637 in operating expenses and \$198,177 in payroll expenses for FY11. The Board generated \$213,007 in Revenue for FY11. Of the total revenue, \$260 has been transferred to the Veterinary Student Loan Repayment Program in accordance with ORC 4741.17(A)(7).

Policies, Law & Rules

All Board policies were reviewed, updated, and implemented in consideration of Executive Order 2011-01K entitled "Establishing the Common Sense Initiative." The Board modified a previously held position regarding Provisional Licenses, thus permitting an applicant who has failed the NAVLE once to obtain a Provisional License until the next national examination.

In compliance with HB 648 of the 127th General Assembly, the Board implemented rules to address the maintenance and accessing of confidential personal information.

Veterinary Student Loan Repayment Program

HB 458 of the 126th General Assembly created a veterinary loan program to address current and future shortages of veterinarians in large animal and regulatory public health situations in Ohio.

Loan repayment grants can be up to \$20,000 for a two year commitment of service. Pursuant to Section 4741.17(A)(7) ORC, the Board transferred \$260 to the Veterinary Student Loan Repayment fund (ALI 888-602) in FY 11 to reflect \$10.00 from each veterinary license renewal from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

In accordance with Section 4741.47 ORC, an annual progress report regarding the implementation and progress of the Veterinary Student Loan Repayment Program was provided to the Governor, Speaker of the House, and Senate President prior to March 1, 2011.

Two applicants submitted applications for consideration by the Board at their June 2011 meeting for the Veterinary Student Loan. The Board considered the applications based on their willingness to provide large animal veterinary services in a resource shortage area. The Board awarded each a \$10,000 grant for a service commitment of one year with progress reports to be submitted biannually.

Licensure

The Board continued on-line renewal through the state E-licensing system for the registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) biennial renewal in 2011. Approximately 50% of the RVTs utilized the on-line renewal. As predicted, the on-line renewal process was time efficient for the Board staff and eliminated the need for the Board staff to handle over \$48,920 in individual checks within the office. The Board staff developed the renewal documents on the E-licensing test site prior to implementation which reduced costs paid to DAS.

The Board is currently responsible for the licensure requirements of 4022 veterinarians, 2476 registered veterinary technicians, 52 limited licensed veterinarians (whose practice is limited to an academic institution, governmental laboratory, or performing a residency in veterinary medicine), and 42 business facility licenses. The number of licensees varies slightly from year to year as indicated here:

<u>RVTs:</u>			<u>Veterinarians:</u>		
FY07 New:	258	Total: 1825	FY07 New:	194	Total: 3775
FY08 New:	206	Total: 2017	FY08 New:	144	Total: 3492
FY09 New:	243	Total: 2168	FY09 New:	158	Total: 3861
FY10 New:	297	Total: 2492	FY10 New:	186	Total: 3790
FY11 New:	234	Total: 2476	FY11 New:	209	Total: 4022

Additionally, 26 initial limited licenses and 4 business facility licenses were issued for FY11.

Complaint & Disciplinary Process

During FY 11, the Board received 135 complaints. In an effort to evaluate performance measures regarding disciplinary cases, the Board tracked the case from the time the complaint was received by the Board office to the day of disposition by the Board. The Average number of months to resolve a case was 2 months (43% of all cases). 32% of the Board complaints had disposition within one month and 13% within 3 months.

The Board contracts with the Ohio Department of Agriculture for investigations of complaints. Once the Board reviews a complaint and medical records, they will determine if the complaint

warrants an investigation which is then sent to ODA with the case file. The Board has found this arrangement very satisfactory.

Upon receipt of a complaint, the complainant is notified in writing of the Board complaint process and the file number issued to the complaint so they can follow the disciplinary process in the Board minutes which are posted on the web site. Once a discipline is issued by the Board, it is entered into a national databank for other state regulatory agencies of veterinary medicine, flagged in the state e-licensing system, and entered onto the Board's web site.

Communication

The Board staff consists of two full time members and one part time clerk, which is currently vacant. The Board works diligently to return calls and address all correspondence within one business day. In an effort to keep veterinarians and RVTs current on regulatory issues impacting their practice, the Board issued an informative newsletter in the Fall and posted the newsletter on the website. Additionally, the Board has updated the website to include recent Board decisions regarding veterinary issues, approved continuing education, and Board disciplines of licensees. Board minutes are also posted on the website. The Board has approved and posted the Public Records Policy in the Board office and on the website.

Renee Jessen, RVT Board member, and Dr. Timothy Kolb, DVM presented on Board rule changes and compliance issues to attendees at the Ohio Association of Veterinary Technicians in October, 2010. Dr. Lisa Mach, DVM, Board President, Dr. Timothy Kolb, DVM, Board Vice President, and Renee Jessen, RVT Board member presented a panel discussion of current board issues at the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association's 2011 Midwest Veterinary Conference.

IT

The Board contracts with DAS IT for computer services. There has not been a need for replacement of computers or printers at this time.

Continuing Education

The veterinarian must have 30 hours of approved continuing education (CE) to renew. The registered veterinary technician must have 10 hours of approved CE to renew.

National Membership

The Board maintains membership with the American Association of State Veterinary Boards (AAVSB). The membership is not only necessary for staying current on regulatory issues nationwide, it permits access to the national system to report disciplinary actions against veterinarians and RVTs licensed in the State of Ohio. Dr. Roger Redman, DVM served on the Finance Committee in 2010 for AAVSB.

Respectfully prepared and submitted by: Theresa Stir, Executive Director