

**KENTUCKY BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS**

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kbve.ky.gov • vet@ky.gov**Special Meeting Minutes**

January 16, 2025

Meeting Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

- John C. Park, DVM – Chairman
- Dianne J. Dawes, DVM
- Tom M. Dorman, Citizen-at-Large
- Tim R. Gardner, DVM
- Stephanie M. Kennedy, DVM
- Philip E. Prater, DVM
- Jennifer K. Quammen, DVM
- Amy J. Staton, EdD, LVT (arrived 1:47 pm)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

- Gene Smith, DVM – Vice Chair
- Steve Velasco, DVM, Kentucky State Veterinarian -- Proxy for the Commissioner of Agriculture
- Vacant seat (AAHP permittee)

KBVE STAFF AND CONTRACTORS PRESENT

- Michelle Shane, KBVE Executive Director
- Amanda Briggs, KBVE Administrative Assistant
- Mr. Carmine Iaccarino, Esq., KBVE Legal Counsel

OTHERS PRESENT

- Alyson Adams Hryszko, DVM
- Michelle Arnold, DVM, University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Lab (UKVDL)
- John Baird Foree, DVM
- Erica Brakefield, Environmental Management Branch Manager, Kentucky Department for Public Health, Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) – Departed 2:06 PM
- Julie Brooks, Policy Specialist, Kentucky Department for Public Health, CHFS
- Mark Chick, DVM
- Emily Gallup, DVM
- Debra Hamelback, Executive Director, Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association (KVMA)
- Wade King, DVM – Departed ~ 2:15 PM
- Cheryl Nelson, DVM
- Rachel Wendt, DC, Executive Director, Kentucky Chiropractors Association

- Allen Wachter, DVM – Departed ~ 2:30 PM
- Amanda Williams, DVM (1:51PM)
- Steven Wills, DVM
- Other, unidentified Zoom participants:
 - Pam Burkett
 - A. Hamilton – Departed ~ 2:30 PM
 - Katherine Hinton
 - Libbye
 - “Rebecca”
 - Sandy iPhone – Arrived at 3:10 PM
 - 859-322-4299

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Board Chair John C. Park, DVM, called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM EST. Chairman Dr. Park welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Director Shane read the roll call. Per [KRS 321.240\(3\)](#), a quorum of the Board was achieved.

CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE

Ms. Shane confirmed the public notice for this special meeting was sent on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, via Constant Contact to all subscribed KBVE active and inactive credential holders, and also posted on the KBVE website meetings page on the same day.

READING OF MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Briggs read aloud the KBVE mission statement.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Meeting Agenda for January 16, 2025
- Board Meeting Minutes from November 21, 2024
- Approval of Board Per Diem

Chair Dr. Park pulled the Board Meeting Minutes from November 21, 2024, to provide more time for review. These will be brought back January 30, 2025, for ratification. Corrections or requests for changes should be sent to Ms. Shane.

A MOTION was made by Dr. Dawes to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion, seconded by Dr. Gardner, passed unanimously.

BUSINESS AGENDA**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE****• LRC Meetings**

KBVE testified before the General Assembly Administrative Regulations Review Subcommittee (ARRS) on the following dates:

- Dec 9 – Regarding on regulations 201 KAR 16:562, 16:612, and 16:614
- Jan 13 – Regarding regulations 201 KAR 16:520, 16:530, 16:590

Ms. Shane indicated that KBVE will need to testify again on the 15 regulations filed in October, tentatively scheduled for Mar 10, but the date may be deferred until April, depending on the request of LRC staff due to workload.

• Discussion on Public Comments Received and Statement of Consideration (SOC) Drafts for Administrative Regulations filed in October 2024

Members of the Board discussed responses to comments received on the below filed regulations. Comments from several counties and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services were received late, but the Board agreed to include these comments in the SOCs.

Amended:

- 201 KAR 16:510 – Fees for veterinarians

New:

Veterinary Facility Registration:

- 201 KAR 16:515 – Fees for veterinary facility registrations.
- 201 KAR 16:762 – Application requirements for veterinary facility registration; Veterinary managers; Registered responsible parties.
- 201 KAR 16:765 – Veterinary facilities -- Renewal notice -- Requirements for renewal and reinstatement.
- 201 KAR 16:767 – Registered Veterinary Facilities – Duties of Registered Responsible Parties and Veterinarian Managers.

Allied Animal Health Professional (AAHP) Permits:

- 201 KAR 16:513 – Fees for Allied Animal Health Professional (AAHP) Permits.
- 201 KAR 16:730 – Approved allied animal health professional (AAHP) programs; education requirements.
- 201 KAR 16:731 – Examination requirements for AAHP providers.
- 201 KAR 16:732 – Application requirements for AAHP permits – reinstatement.
- 201 KAR 16:735 – Renewal requirements for AAHP permits -- renewal notice – expiration.
- 201 KAR 16:737 – Responsibilities for allied animal health professionals (AAHPs); limitations on practice.

AAHP Facility Registration:

- 201 KAR 16:517 – Fees for AAHP facility registrations.
- 201 KAR 16:772 – Application requirements for AAHP Facility Registration; AAHP Managers; Registered Responsible Parties.
- 201 KAR 16:775 – AAHP facilities -- Renewal notice -- Requirements for renewal and reinstatement.
- 201 KAR 16:777 – Registered AAHP Facilities – Duties of Registered Responsible Parties and AAHP Managers.

Regarding 201 KAR 16:762, Ms. Brooks from CHFS spoke about concerns from the Cabinet related to the mass rabies vaccine clinic registration form and the 30-day notice requirement, especially if there is a need to hold an emergency rabies vaccine clinic for the public. This would be a detriment to public health.

The Board proposed striking Section 3(3)(a) and (b) but leaving Section 3(3) in place to exempt rabies-only vaccine clinics and not put undue burdens upon Local Health Departments (LHDs) for holding these clinics.

Given the intention of the draft requirements was to develop an avenue for education of KBVE licensees about the new requirements in [KRS 321.203](#), [321.205](#), and [321.236](#), CHFS representatives indicated that the Cabinet would support KBVE regarding the Board's educational efforts in this area where appropriate to the LHDs.

Chair Dr. Park directed Ms. Shane and Mr. Iaccarino work on language to send to the LHDs.

Members of the Board discussed the statutes. They reiterated that rabies vaccine-only clinics were the sole exception to the requirement for veterinary services offered to the public to be held at a KBVE-registered veterinary facility. Members discussed the merits of keeping the registration form for high volume wellness clinics.

During discussion about CE requirements for AAHP animal chiropractic providers (ACPs), the Board inquired about the CE requirements for the approved programs AVCA and IVCA. Ms. Shane indicated outreach emails had been sent to both organizations and she would follow up regarding this requirement.

Ms. Shane relayed additional details from a recent presentation by the AVCA to another jurisdictional board. This organization underscored that while their curriculums may touch on a variety of modalities, they teach that practice on animals is the practice of veterinary medicine. Animal chiropractors are taught that they should only manipulate and should not venture into other modalities of veterinary medicine, including lasers, shockwave therapies, rehabilitation, etc., and prescribing of supplements and nutraceuticals.

Dr. Wendt indicated that the ask from the KAC is focused on lasers and that other modalities would be optional according to the Board. She pointed out that KBVE allows veterinary assistants to provide laser under indirect supervision of a veterinarian (201 KAR 16:750, Section 5(5)). Dr. Prater asked for the Board to revisit this regulation and move the laser therapy and similar modalities under direct supervision of a veterinarian.

Dr. Wendt also restated the request to remove the requirements for communication with a veterinarian for each clinical encounter, as proposed in 201 KAR 16:737, Section 2.

Particularly burdensome is the requirement to wait three days for return outreach from the veterinarian before providing necessary treatments, as well as doing so for each appointment they have with the client.

Dr. Prater relayed that he knows well a Doctor of Physical Therapy, and they indicate that they cannot treat a human patient without a referral from a doctor. Members of the Board discussed that hygienists must be supervised by dentists, and even paralegals must be supervised by lawyers. Although chiropractors may be able to treat a human patient without a referral, in animal medicine communication with the veterinarian is critical to a patient's overall health and care.

Members of the Board moved into discussions regarding public comments on the proposed fees. KBVE only received a total of 12 on-time comments, and only six (6) of those comments were regarding fees. A summary of each comment topic was reviewed by the Board.

Members discussed the administration of the Board when it was under the merged-board configuration with PPC and the lack of response and support provided to constituents. They indicated how much better service from the Board is in the current administration in an independent operational setting.

Dr. Gardner discussed two comments that claimed all states are lower in fees than Kentucky, noting they provided different fees for some of the same states. He pointed out that some states like Tennessee have hidden charges not directly stated in the license fee on the website; he pays a \$400 professional tax on top of his license fee for TN.

Mr. Dorman stated that Kentucky agencies that run out of funds can petition the Finance Cabinet for a bailout, but this is not looked upon favorably, and certainly not something that can be done year over year.

Ms. Shane reviewed the KBVE budget projections spreadsheet again, detailing the expenses and revenue streams, as well as assumptions which feed into the calculations.

Chair Dr. Park directed Ms. Shane to finalize the draft comments from the Board based on this and prior Board discussions, and to provide those drafts to the Board as soon as practicable for review. He thanked everyone for being present to discuss the comments, as well as the Board and staff for all their hard work on various related projects, including the Education and Outreach Committee for the inaugural KBVE newsletter.

- **2025 Legislative Session Updates**

Ms. Shane relayed a legislative update to the Board following the opening of the 2025 session. The below bills are being tracked by KBVE.

- [SB 69 \(BR-426\)](#) – Sens. [Webb](#) and [Howell](#) – AAHP license for Equine Dental Providers (EDPs)
- [HB 69 \(BR-1059\)](#) – Rep. [Grossberg](#) – Rabies vaccine administration bill.
- [HB 153 \(BR-232\)](#) – Reps. [Imes](#), [Rudy](#) et al. (20 sponsors total, down from >50 last year) – Murray State CVM build authorization

- [HB 194 \(BR-1187\)](#) – Rep. [Witten](#) – Requires animal control officers to receive training on recognizing child abuse; adds animal control officers to the list of people with a duty to report dependency, neglect, or abuse of a child.
- [HB 133 \(BR-1118\)](#) – Reps. [Doan](#) and [Roberts](#) – Allows universal recognition of occupational licenses and government certifications; includes work experience as a basis for licensure or certification.
- [SB 39 \(BR-304\)/LM/CI](#) – Sen. [Elkins](#) – An Act related to animal fighting.
- [HB 87 \(BR-29\)](#) – Reps. [Callaway](#), [Doan](#), [Hart](#) – Requires hiring or licensing authorities to establish an application process that gives persons convicted of a crime an opportunity to obtain a determination about whether the crime will disqualify the individual from a position of public employment or occupational license before pursuing training; Requires hiring or licensing authorities to formulate policies and procedures for the application process by promulgating regulations no later than January 1, 2026; Requires an annual report to the Legislative Research Commission by November 1, 2026; Adds criteria for hiring and licensing authorities to consider when determining if a conviction directly relates to the position of public employment or occupational license sought; Requires hiring or licensing authorities to request information; Allows an applicant a hearing before making a determination of hiring for a position of public employment or granting an occupational license; and Requires written findings of fact be provided to the applicant upon determination.
- [HB 103 \(BR-921\)/LM](#) – Reps. [Kulkarni](#) and [Brown Jr.](#) – similar to HB 87 regarding licensure of individuals with convictions.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Members of the Board and some guests discussed the equine dental provider situation in Kentucky. Dr. Prater discussed a 2023 letter from AVMA to KBVE regarding their opposition to any carveout for non-veterinarian equine dental providers. Like them, he argued that the “compromise” in the equine dental bill and other AAHP carveouts is really the compromise of the animal’s health and patient welfare. Other Members of the Board expressed their agreement.

Dr. Wills, former Member and Chair of KBVE, made a statement to the Board. He reminded them that their mission is to protect the public and hold practitioners accountable. While the EDP bill and the AAHP permit may not be ideal solutions, they do offer an avenue for KBVE to govern what has been unchecked and unlicensed practice so that the Board can ensure EDPs have the proper training to protect the public and their animals and take appropriate enforcement action when needed.

Dr. Park thanked Dr. Wills for his insights. He then shared about a trip he took to Germany and the Netherlands in November where he toured several equine hospitals. Each of those hospitals had a dedicated dental barn with dedicated equine dental veterinarians. Dr. Park asked the veterinarians about their experience with lay equine dental providers, and they relayed that they confronted the lay equine dentists 10-15 years ago. The profession successfully stopped the practice – however, they had the support and backing of their legislators to ensure the veterinary profession did not suffer any carveouts for those with far less training and qualifications.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Location: KBVE Offices, 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Suite 104, Lexington, KY 40511

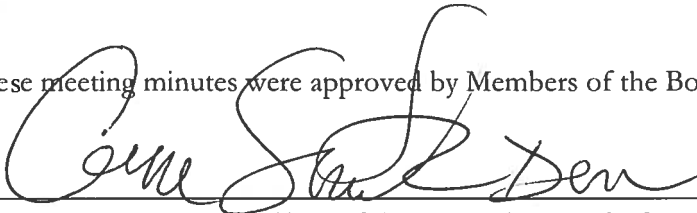
A MOTION was made by Dr. Gardner to change the September meeting date from September 18 to September 11 due to the AAVSB Annual Meeting. The motion, seconded by Dr. Quammen, passed unanimously.

- **2025:**
 - Jan 30
 - Mar 20
 - May 22
 - July 31
 - Sep 11
 - Nov 20

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Dr. Park adjourned the meeting at 3:32 pm.

These meeting minutes were approved by Members of the Board on January 30, 2025.



Gene Smith, DVM, Vice Chair of the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners

PRESIDING OFFICER: John C. Park, DVM, KBVE Board Chair
Minutes Recorded by: Michelle M. Shane, KBVE Executive Director