

From: Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners (KBVE) <michelle@kbve.ccsend.com>
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KENTUCKY BOARD OF
VETERINARY EXAMINERS



KBVE Newsletter October 2025 Edition

National Resolutions Pass!

At this year's annual meeting of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB), three distinct resolutions put forth by the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners (KBVE) passed by majority vote of the Assembly. The AAVSB is the national body of state regulators charged with guiding legislation for the veterinary profession in 63 jurisdictions, including all of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the ten Canadian provinces.

Specifically, the KBVE proposed three resolutions on important topics that the veterinary profession is currently facing, including the midlevel position and the standard for establishing the veterinary-client-patient relationship (VCPR).

1. KBVE proposed that the AAVSB endorse the position that the VCPR cannot be established solely by virtual means (i.e., an in-person component is required).
2. KBVE proposed that AAVSB membership not be opened beyond current regulatory members until the Association is better equipped to address the needs of current members.
3. KBVE proposed that AAVSB leadership clearly *not* endorse the creation of the Veterinary Professional Associate (VPA) / Mid-Level Practitioner Position.

A fourth resolution proposed by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in American (NAVTA) passed directing AAVSB to work with Members to promote the composition of regulatory boards to include veterinary technicians in addition to

veterinarians and public members. All resolutions passed by a majority vote of the Delegate Assembly.

The adoption of these resolutions is a recognition of Kentucky's leadership in this national association, and demonstrates the KBVE's commitment to actively engaging on those issues affecting the profession and its regulators.

"Recent legislative activity in veterinary medicine is poised to compromise public and animal protection," says Dr. John Park, DVM, Board Chair of the KBVE. "With the passage of Kentucky's three resolutions, the Member Boards recognize this and have now directed the AAVSB leadership to clearly position the Association against the expansion of VCPR establishment solely by virtual means and against the expansion of VPAs in Member Board jurisdictions."

Copies of the full resolutions are available on the [KBVE Statements and Announcements page](#).

See also:

- [American Veterinary Medical Association \(AVMA\) Press Release](#)
- [National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America \(NAVTA\) Press Release](#)

Initial Facility Registration Deadline Reached

All initial veterinary facility registrations were due to KBVE by September 30, 2025. If you have not yet submitted your facility's registration paperwork, please [contact KBVE today](#) to learn about your options.

Agency staff are busy processing hundreds of applications and working with IT staff on a substantial upgrade to the Board's database to accommodate the new registrations, be able to run reports on Kentucky facilities, and more. The upgrades are in the works but will take some months to code and implement. KBVE expects all renewals in 2027 to be online through the eServices Portal. Facility certificates are expected to be available in early 2026.

Members of the KBVE are also considering the development of an interactive map for constituents showing where services are provided. KBVE wants to hear from you on what current or potential clients might be looking for on such a map. Please take a moment to provide your feedback to help the agency with development:

[Take the Survey Here](#)

Grievance Case Spotlight

KBVE Agency Grievance # 2018-21

Case Details:

- September 2018 - The Lexington Herald Leader published an article citing a licensee who shipped cattle over state lines without inspection, and that article was forwarded to the Board. Between April 2013 and April 2015 the veterinarian issued CVIs for more than 60,000 cattle they did not inspect -- instead, they

allowed an assistant to do the work and pre-signed at least 675 CVIs that the assistant filled out.

- That same month, the KBVE issued a letter of inquiry to the respondent in the case.
- October 2018 - An attorney for the respondent asked the board to hold its case in abeyance pending resolution with the federal government's case. The attorney kept the Board updated at each stage, including that the respondent entered a guilty plea.
- February 2019 - USDA APHIS revoked the NVAP accreditation of the licensee.
- April 2019 - The respondent's attorney filed a self-disclosure with the Board relaying the results of the federal conviction, which imposed a three-year probation and a fine of \$10,000.
- August 2019 - The Board offered a settlement agreement to the licensee. Lawyers entered into negotiations.
- February 2020 - The Board filed an Administrative Complaint with the Kentucky Attorney General's Office because an agreement could not be reached.
- June 2020 - An Administrative Hearing was held.
- October 2020 - A Final Order was issued against the licensee:
 - Suspension of the veterinarian's Kentucky license for one (1) year, including Board-discretionary inspections during the suspension period;
 - \$10,000 fine paid prior to reinstatement;
 - Following reinstatement, probation with inspection conditions for two (2) additional years;
 - Requirement to provide a copy of the Final Order to any associate or relief veterinarian working at the licensee's facility; and
 - Any additional violations would be cause for the Board to enact an emergency order for suspension of the license.
- October 2021 - The respondent was also licensed in Tennessee. When the TN Board learned of the federal conviction and the Kentucky Board's disciplinary action, Tennessee revoked the respondent's license.

Start to Finish: This case spanned over 24 months to determine a resolution; this time period did not include the period of suspension, probation, or monitoring.

General Cautions: Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs) are not just busy work created by the federal bureaucracy. CVIs are critical health checks completed by veterinarians to ensure animals are free from disease and pests before moving across interstate lines or internationally. Healthy animals are an integral part of Kentucky's strong agricultural trade position.

Especially during the resurgence of NWS, CVIs are a frontline tool for stopping the spread of disease and pests into our Commonwealth, and for tracing back the source of such infections in the event disease or illness does cross into Kentucky.

This spotlight is part of our effort to illustrate the Board's role in maintaining professionalism and protecting the public interest.

KBVE Legislative Activities

KBVE hosted a public hearing on September 29 to listen to public comments on proposed changes to the veterinary facility registration regulations. KBVE received written comments as well. The next step in the rule making process is for the Board to write responses to those comments in a Statement of Consideration (SOC) that will be filed with LRC. To address this need, the Board is hosting a Special Meeting on October 23. The

Board will post the final SOC on the KBVE [Practice Act page](#) after filing the document with LRC.

The public comment period for proposed amendments to the Allied Animal Health Professional (AAHP) regulations is still open until October 31. The proposed changes incorporate requirements for the new equine dental provider (EDP) license. The regulations are available on the KBVE website [Practice Act page](#) under the heading "Regulations – Filed with LRC (proceeding through administrative rule making process)". Comments may be mailed to the Board or emailed (preferred) to Michelle.Shane@ky.gov.

The Board is beginning sunset review of key regulations in [201 KAR Chapter 16](#). If you would like to provide input on any of the regulations pending sunset review, email the Board at Vet@ky.gov or attend an upcoming meeting.

News You Can Use

ALERT: Medetomidine found in syringes in Jefferson County

The UK Harm Reduction Hub is issuing an alert that medetomidine, a veterinary tranquilizer structurally similar to xylazine, was detected in 34 of 43 (79%) syringes tested from a site in Jefferson County during the last week of September.

Unlike xylazine, medetomidine has not been associated with skin wounds or necrosis, however, it has been associated with severe withdrawal symptoms that often require intensive medical care. These symptoms have been reported to occur as soon as 3-4 hours after using drugs containing medetomidine. The Philadelphia Health Department has issued [recommendations for responding to medetomidine withdrawal](#).

If you have any questions, please email UKHarmReductionHub@uky.edu.

UK HARM REDUCTION HUB



DRUG SUPPLY

ALERT

DATE: 9.26.2025 * KY COUNTY: JEFFERSON

WHY DOES MEDETOMIDINE MATTER?

Harsh withdrawal symptoms

Medetomidine is associated with harsh withdrawal symptoms, which occur very quickly (as early as 3-4 hours after use) and often require intensive medical intervention. These symptoms include extremely rapid heartbeat (often over 100 bpm), elevated blood pressure, tremors, nausea & vomiting, and anxiety and rapid mood changes.

Overdose symptoms

Though it is not an opioid, medetomidine overdose also causes respiratory depression. Symptoms of a medetomidine overdose include heavy sedation, dizziness, low blood pressure, physical exhaustion, and slowed or stopped breathing.

New World Screwworm (NWS) Updates

At the end of September, the United States Animal Health Association ([USAHA](#)) in collaboration with the National Institute for Animal Agriculture ([NIAA](#)) hosted a national meeting in Kansas to provide updates on the New World Screwworm (NWS) and eradication efforts. Learn more at the links below.

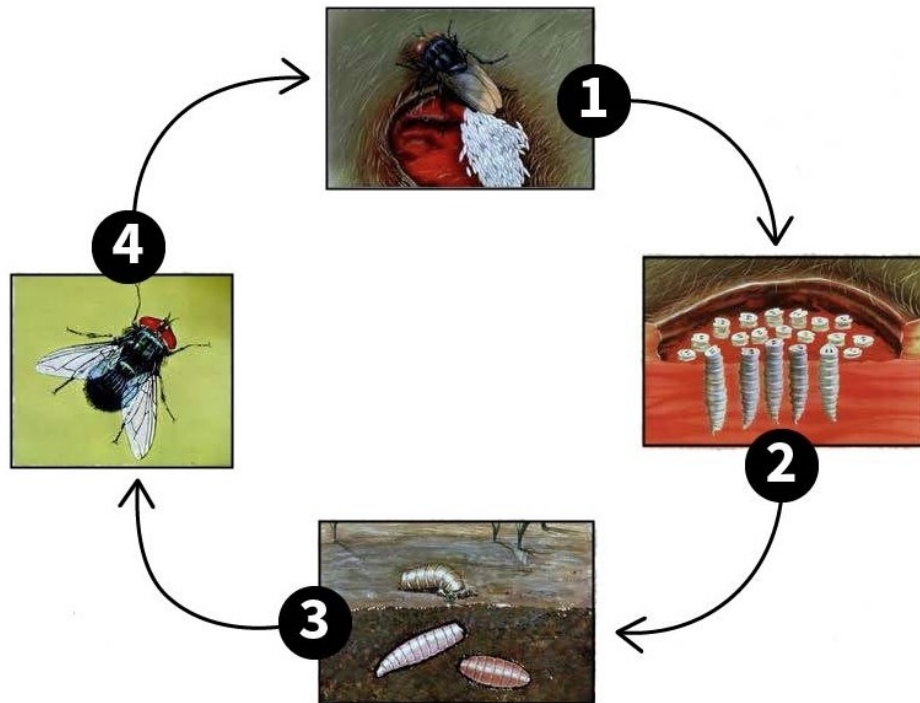
- **FDA** - [NWS Information for Veterinarians](#) - Drugs authorized for treatment
- **USDA APHIS** - [NWS resources](#), webinars, identification, treatments, guidance for veterinarians, emergency response information, history of NWS eradication, and more
- **Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA)** - [NWS information](#), quick facts, detection tips, and life cycle information

States and the federal government are counting on frontline practitioners like you to provide reports of early detection in an effort stop the spread of this devastating pest. Remember that this pest infects all mammals -- not just livestock; even humans may be infected.

It is critical that any suspected cases of NWS be reported to both the USDA and the Kentucky Office of the State Veterinarian at the below contacts:

- **USDA** - christopher.j.craig@usda.gov
- **Kentucky** - StateVet@ky.gov

NWS Life Cycle



1. The adult screwworm fly is attracted to the smell of an open wound and lays her eggs on the edges of it.
2. Within a few hours, the eggs hatch into larvae, which burrow into the wound to feed. This worsens the wound and attracts more flies, which lay more eggs.
3. The larvae feed for about 1 week and then fall off and burrow into the ground to pupate.
4. After at least 7 days, an adult fly emerges.



KBVE presented at the KVMA 2025 Mid-America Conference in Lexington in the Regulatory and One Health Track. Attendees at this event may apply this session as one (1) hour of the required state/federal regulations CE hours.

The Board also had an exhibit booth at the conference. Staff was available to assist with facility applications and LVT renewals, as



In September, [USDA announced changes to the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program \(VMLRP\)](#). No applications will be accepted in FY2025.

Assuming appropriations are dedicated to the program in FY2026, applicants may have increased funding available from the combined monies of both fiscal years.

well as answer any questions from attendees.



The American Veterinary Medical Foundation ([AVMF](#)) is seeking additional volunteer reviewers for their Scholarship Review Committee. Veterinarians, retired veterinarians, and licensed veterinary technicians (LVTs) qualify for this role. Interested in serving your profession? Review the eligibility criteria and reviewer responsibilities online with the [AVMF Scholarship Review Committee](#).

A Note from the KBVE Chair

As KBVE works to implement the new allied animal health professional (AAHP) licenses for animal chiropractic providers (ACPs) and equine dental providers (EDPs), we are also working to form an **AAHP Advisory Committee**.

The Committee is established by statute in [KRS 321.257](#), and members are appointed by the KBVE Chair with approval from the Board. The statute requires licensed veterinarians who work with AAHP providers to serve on the committee alongside AAHP licensees. Members serve five (5) year terms, initially staggered to establish the committee. At this time, the committee is anticipated to meet only a few times each year.

Are you interested in joining the AAHP Advisory Committee? If so, please submit a letter of interest detailing your area of specialty or relationship with ACPs or EDPs to Vet@ky.gov for consideration.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to the KBVE office at 502-564-5433 or email Vet@ky.gov.



A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to John C. Park, DVM.

John C. Park, DVM
KBVE Board Chair
Equine Veterinarian

Did You Know?

Every two (2) years the Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners (KBVE) is required to submit a proposed biennial budget to the Office of the State Budget Director ([OSBD](#)). The budget proposal is due by October 1 in odd years. KBVE does not receive any tax dollars for operations -- the Board operates and pays all expenses solely based on fees collected.

Between October and January, the State Budget Director conducts a thorough review of all agency proposals and makes a recommendation to the Governor's Office. KBVE's approved budget will appear in the State Budget presented to the General Assembly. Both

the House and the Senate must pass the same State Budget bill and it must be signed by the Governor for continuance of agency operations.

Citizens may follow the budget proposals during the legislative session by following links for the 2026 Budget Bills on the Kentucky Legislative Research Commission (LRC) homepage at <https://legislature.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx>. Look for the Budget Bill link after the start of the legislative session in 2026.

Interested in more details? Anyone may request additional information from KBVE regarding the agency budget by making an [Open Records Request \(ORR\)](#) to Vet@ky.gov.

Upcoming KBVE Meetings

Upcoming regular and special meetings in 2025:

- October 23, 2025 - 9:00 am EDT – Special Board Meeting to address proposed regulations and amendments
- November 20, 2025 - 1:00 pm EST – Regular Board Meeting
 - 10:00 am - Applications Committee
 - 9:00 am - Grievance Committee (Most of this meeting is closed to public, pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c) and (j) and KRS 321.187(6))

Location:

KBVE Office, 4047 Iron Works Parkway, Suite 104, Lexington, KY 40511
Hybrid virtual option available with RSVP to Vet@ky.gov

2025 and 2026 KBVE Board [Meeting Schedule is available online](#). Additional Committee meetings are also listed at this location.

Meetings are open to all licensees and the public. Board meeting agendas are posted in advance of the meeting. Attend and earn free CE for veterinarians and LVTs -- this CE will count toward the new requirements for state/federal laws and regulations.

Don't forget to check out the KBVE Meeting Minutes which highlight major points of discussion, as well as directives and decisions issued by the Board. Find KBVE Minutes online in the [Meetings and Minutes Archive](#). Minutes are posted as soon as they are approved as final by the Board at a subsequent meeting.

KBVE Mission

The mission of the KBVE is to regulate and ensure professional competency for veterinarians, veterinary technicians, allied animal health professionals, and animal euthanasia specialists in the Commonwealth of Kentucky for the safety and well-being of animal health as well as the confidence of the public in the services provided by members of these professions.

Have comments about this newsletter, or ideas for future newsletter topics?
Email Vet@ky.gov with your feedback and input!

kbve.ky.gov

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