

MINUTES
UTAH VETERINARY PHYSICIANS LICENSING BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2025 9:00 A.M.
ROOM 402, 4TH FLOOR
160 E 300 S SALT LAKE CITY

Hybrid Meeting- In Person and Electronic

CONVENED: 9:02 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 11:13 A.M.

DOPL STAFF PRESENT:

Bureau Manager: Jim Garfield
Board Secretary: Tina Marshall
Compliance Specialist: Bernice Palama

DOPL Investigation: Sharilee Scheller
Legal Analyst: Lauren Harvey

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair: Tonya Hardy, DVM
Amy Knollinger, DVM
Jason Gibson, DVM

Justin Berkowitz, Public Member
Neil Moss, DVM

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

DOPL STAFF NOT PRESENT:

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ian Kolbaba, Riverside Pet Care

Note: Other guests may have been in attendance electronically but were not identified.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Dr. Hardy called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M.

REVIEW AND APPROVE May 8, 2025 MINUTES (Audio 00:03:23)

Dr. Gibson motioned to approve the minutes.

Dr. Moss seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

DOPL INVESTIGATIONS (Audio 00:06:07)

Ms. Scheller explained that there are currently 10 open cases, and 40 complaints have been received for the year. Ms. Scheller went on to explain the different complaint types that have been received along with case dispositions.

APPOINTMENT ITEMS:

GARY DURRANT, PROBATIONARY INTERVIEW *(Audio 00:13:21)*

Ms. Palama explained that there have been no missed check-ins, drug/alcohol screenings have been negative and supervisor reports have been submitted without concern.

Dr. Durrant explained that he is requesting early release from probation and that he would also like to request to have a controlled substance license reinstated. This would allow him to more fully contribute to the clinic that he is currently working at.

Dr. Hardy asked Dr. Durrant to explain how controlled substances are currently controlled at the clinic as Dr. Durrant is not allowed to access or use them.

Dr. Durrant explained the process that has been put into place when doing surgeries. Dr. Durrant also explained that Dr. Cannon approves and prescribes all controlled substance prescriptions.

Dr. Durrant, Dr. Cannon and Dr. Gibson discussed the process of how controlled substances are accounted for, how audits are conducted and drawn up for use in the clinic.

Dr. Gibson made a motion to grant early release from probation and to allow Dr. Durrant to apply for a controlled substance license.

Dr. Moss seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gibson made a motion to find Dr. Durrant in compliance with his Stipulation and Order.

Mr. Berkowitz seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

JOE ROUNDY, PROBATIONARY INTERVIEW *(Audio 00:32:20)*

Ms. Palama explained that no reporting is required for Dr. Roundy.

Dr. Hardy asked how things are going at the clinic.

Dr. Roundy stated things are going well.

Dr. Hardy and Dr. Roundy discussed how controlled substances are now handled at the clinic and what changes have been made.

Dr. Gibson made a motion to find Dr. Roundy in compliance with his Stipulation and Order.

Dr. Moss seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

A tentative appointment was made for Dr. Joe Roundy to meet for the May 2026 meeting.

MICHAEL BLOTTER, PROBATIONARY INTERVIEW *(Audio 00:42:08 and 01:32:30)*

Ms. Palama explained that supervisor reports have been received with no concerns, supervisor is to review 20% of medical records for animals treated and Board is to review and approve the supervisor.

Dr. Hardy asked Dr. Blotter to explain what a working day looks like.

Dr. Blotter explained that once he arrives at the clinic, he reviews the schedule for the day and then begins seeing patients until the clinic closes.

Dr. Hardy asked what kind of appointments Dr. Blotter handles.

Dr. Blotter states that he mostly handles wellness to internal medicine cases. He is not currently doing surgeries.

Dr. Hardy asked Dr. Blotter to explain what steps he has taken to improve his practice.

Dr. Blotter stated that the clinic has a different way of record keeping than he has at his office. He is taking note on how things can be improved.

Dr. Hardy asked if there were any accomplishments.

Dr. Blotter explained that it is a fantastic experience. Dr. Blotter explained that he is learning new techniques and treatment protocols, allowing him to improve his practice and to see how things have changed since he has entered the work force.

Ms. Palama and Dr. Benson discussed supervisor and audit reports and how they can be submitted.

The Board and Dr. Benson discussed how Dr. Blotter is doing at the clinic and the training that has happened along with chart audits that have been completed.

Dr. Moss made a motion to approve Dr. Susan Benson as supervisor.

Mr. Berkowitz seconded the motion.

Dr. Gibson abstained from the vote

The Board motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Moss made a motion to find Dr. Blotter in compliance with his Stipulation and Order.

Mr. Berkowitz seconded the motion.

Dr. Gibson abstained from the vote.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

A tentative appointment was made for Dr. Michael Blotter to meet for the May 2026 meeting.

TYLER SORENSEN, INITIAL PROBATIONARY INTERVIEW (*Audio 01:00:38*)

Ms. Palama explained that quarterly supervisor reports are to include 20% of patient chart audits, 24 hours of continuing education are due by 8/21/2026 which will include 8 hours DEA safe prescribing training, 8 hours DEA substance use disorder training and 8 hours medical charting and the Board needs to review and approve a supervisor.

Dr. Hardy asked if Dr. Sorensen was currently working and how many hours a week.

Dr. Sorensen explained he is currently working and works around 60 hours a week.

Dr. Hardy asked what a normal workday looks like.

Dr. Sorensen explained that dairy farms are seen in the mornings and afternoons are filled with surgeries and appointments on large and small animals. Once the clinic is closed, paperwork is completed.

Dr. Hardy and Dr. Sorensen discussed Dr. Beckstead's schedule at the clinic, along with hours and days worked and that Dr. Beckstead is available by phone if not in the clinic.

The Board, Ms. Palama and Dr. Sorensen discussed the issues and events that caused Dr. Sorensen to be placed on probation, issues surrounding controlled substances and record keeping, and the continuing education courses that Dr. Sorensen is getting ready to take.

Dr. Hardy asked Dr. Sorensen what issues have been corrected at the clinic.

Dr. Sorensen explained that they have upgraded their systems, adding more details to records and other issues that were found.

Dr. Gibson made a motion to approve Dr. Kaitlin Beckstead as supervisor.

Dr. Knollinger seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gibson made a motion to find Dr. Sorensen in compliance with his Stipulation and Order.

Mr. Berkowitz seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

A tentative appointment was made for Dr. Tyler Sorensen to meet for the May 2026 meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

CHAIR (*Audio 00:08:30*)

Dr. Moss made the motion to nominate Dr. Hardy as Chair.

Dr. Gibson seconded the motion.

Dr. Hardy accepted the nomination.

The Board Motion passed unanimously.

EXEMPTION STATUTE LANGUAGE FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY (*Audio 01:46:25*)

Mr. Garfield explained in the Veterinary Practice Act 58-28-307(12)(b) the start of the wording states "upon written referral by a licensed veterinarian". The other professions that are found in the exemptions form chapter do not state this. The Legislators are looking into removing the referral language from this section.

The Board discussed what it would mean to remove the "upon written referral" language, how it could affect patients and the possibility to add this language to the other professions in the exemption chapter.

Dr. Moss made a motion to recommend retaining the requirement for a referral to a physical therapist from a veterinarian and making the requirement equal to all professions where an animal is being referred to.

Dr. Gibson seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

AAVSB ANNUAL CONFERENCE (Audio 00:48:37)

Dr. Gibson explained that attending the conference allows Board members to talk with Board members from other states and to see how other Boards are run. The meeting also explained members' roles in helping to protect the public.

Dr. Moss explained the resolutions that were presented at the AAVSB annual conference. The resolutions were: a resolution opposing the AAVSB proposal to expand membership to jurisdictions around the globe, a resolution opposing AAVSB endorsement of the veterinary professional associate/ mid-level practitioner position, a resolution on veterinarian-client-patient relationship, and veterinary technician representative: member board composition.

R156-28-302B(1)(B) – LEGISLATIVE REVIEW REQUEST (Audio 01:56:40)

Mr. Garfield has received a request from a legislative analyst requesting that the Board review the specific language found in the Rule. A Legislator is looking to remove the minimum time to completion requirement from the Rule.

The Board and Mr. Garfield discussed the minimum hours that were required for full licensure, the training that is gained from the hours and if the minimum time requirement is a barrier to the profession.

Dr. Gibson made a motion to recommend that the minimum of no less than six months be left in place.

Mr. Berkowitz seconded the motion.

The Board motion passed unanimously.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:13 A.M.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.


NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: Hearing, January 15, 2026



Chairperson

05/07/2026

Date



Bureau Manager

05/07/2026

Date