

Maine Board of Veterinary Medicine
Minutes of April 29, 2026, Board Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Donald Hoenig called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Donald Hoenig, D.V.M., Chair
Peter Davis, D.V.M., Complaint Officer
Douglas Andrews, D.V.M., Complaint Officer
Charmaine Brown, D.V.M., Board Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Randy Dow, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel
Penny Vaillancourt, Director
Meagan Trussell, Comprehensive Health Planner II
Clark Phinney, Comprehensive Health Planner II

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

February 11, 2026

Davis moved to accept the minutes of February 11, 2026, as written; seconded by Brown. Andrews and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.

COMPLAINT PRESENTATION(S) AND BOARD ACTION

2025-VET-21087

Brown moved to dismiss 2025-VET-21087 with no evidence of a violation of the Board's law and rule, seconded by Davis. Hoenig in favor; Complaint Officer Andrews abstained.

2025-VET-21086

Andrews moved to dismiss 2025-VET-21086 with no evidence of a violation of the Board's law and rule, seconded by Brown. Hoenig in favor; Complaint Officer Davis abstained.

2025-VET-21140

Brown moved to dismiss 2025-VET-21140 with no evidence of a violation of the Board's law and rule, seconded by Davis. Hoenig in favor; Complaint Officer Andrews abstained.

2026-VET-21221-

Brown moved to schedule 2026-VET-21221 for an adjudicatory hearing and to offer a Consent Agreement to include the following: 1) Admission to violation of 10 M.R.S. § 8003(5-A)(A)(2), incompetence with regard to medical treatment records and Board Rule Chapter 5, Section 2, insufficient recordkeeping; 2) (6) Six hours of Continuing Education on the topic of record keeping, to be preapproved by complaint officer, CEUS to be completed within 90 days and will not count toward biennial continuing education requirement for licensure; seconded by Davis. Hoenig in favor; Complaint Officer Andrews abstained.

Office Location: 76 Northern Avenue, Gardiner, Maine 04345
Mailing Address: 35 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333

<https://www.maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/board-veterinary-medicine>

Brown moved to issue a Letter of Guidance for case 2026-VET-21221. Letter to communicate the practice of a Veterinarian versus a Veterinary Technician regarding patient treatment. Letter to remain on file for a period of (3) three years; seconded by Davis. Hoenig in favor; Complaint Officer Andrews abstained.

2025-VET-21131

Andrews moved to dismiss 2025-VET-21131 with no evidence of a violation of the Board's law and rule, seconded by Brown. Hoenig in favor; Complaint Officer Davis abstained.

2026-VET-21171

Andrews moved to dismiss 2025-VET-21171 with no evidence of a violation of the Board's law and rule, seconded by Brown. Hoenig in favor; Complaint Officer Davis abstained.

APPLICATION REVIEW AND BOARD ACTION

Thyagaraja Pethandlahalli, VT2838 (Initial)

Andrews moved to approve the application and issue licensure to Thyagaraja Pethandlahalli, VT2838, seconded by Davis. Brown and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.

Brown moved to find that the licensure requirements of Maryland are substantially equivalent to those in Maine, and to add to the list of states approved for future endorsement applications submitted to the Board, seconded by Davis. Andrews and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.

Beth Pellegrini, VT2855 (Initial)

Andrews moved to approve the application and issue licensure to Beth Pellegrini, VT2855, seconded by Davis. Brown and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.

Davis moved to find that the licensure requirements in Massachusetts are substantially equivalent to those in Maine, and to add to the list of states approved for future endorsement applications submitted to the Board, seconded by Brown. Andrews and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.

Janice Barnhart, VT2848 (Initial)

Brown moved to approve the application and issue licensure to Janice Barnhart, VT2848, seconded by Andrews. Davis and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.

Davis moved to find that the licensure requirements in New Hampshire are substantially equivalent to those in Maine, and to list of states approved for future endorsement applications submitted to the Board, seconded by Brown. Andrews and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ryleigh Lally re: Veterinarian Technician National Examination retake

Davis moved to approve the request of Ryleigh Lally to sit for the Veterinary Technician National Examination(VTNE), seconded by Brown. Andrews and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.

ADVISORY RULING REQUEST

Federation of Maine Dog Clubs; re: microchipping at rabies clinics

Davis moved to issue an Advisory Ruling to the Federation of Maine Dog Clubs to allow microchipping at rabies clinics. Advisory Ruling to be drafted by Assistant Attorney General Randy Dow and reviewed by Complaint Officer Andrews; seconded by Brown. Andrews and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.



OPOR DIRECTOR REPORT

Director, Penny Vaillancourt addressed the Board and discussed legislative updates, vacant Board member positions, licensing process updates, and Practice Act changes.

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

No public comments

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Brown moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:28a.m., seconded by Davis. Andrews and Hoenig in favor; unanimously voted.

