

**MVMA Board of Directors**  
**MVMA Office, So. St. Paul, MN**  
**April 20, 2017, 12:30 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

**Attendees**

Tim Goldsmith, DVM  
Matt Kruse, DVM  
Joni Scheftel, DVM  
John Howe, DVM  
Tim Krienke, DVM  
Nancy Peterson, DVM

Beth Thompson, DVM  
David Fell, DVM  
Ginger Garlie, DVM  
Julie Wilson, DVM  
Cory Bennett (guest)

**Staff**

Dan Tjornehoj

Kelly Andrews

**I. Call to Order**

President Dr. Tim Krienke called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. He introduced Dr. Elbert Hutchins attending via phone to discuss his plan for gathering member information during the convention as well as developing a needs assessment survey instrument. He referenced the needs assessment draft survey in the agenda materials. The needs assessment work was identified as a work project under the MVMA's strategic plan. Members provided input on the survey questions. The board discussed offering a financial incentive for participants to complete the survey.

*Motion: As an incentive for veterinarians to complete the survey the board recommended offering 3-\$200 gift cards with the winners drawn from those who completed the survey was approved.*

Dr. Krienke updated board members on the recent meeting that he and a few others had with Cody Wiberg and staff members of the Board of Pharmacy. The discussion centered about the fee arrangements associated with veterinary prescriptions and pharmacies in both small and large animal settings. The MVMA will continue to monitor this situation and provide input to the Board of Pharmacy on these issues.

**II. Minutes**

The minutes of the February 22, 2017 Board Meeting were distributed, reviewed and were adopted.

**III. Treasurer's Report**

Dan Tjornehoj provided an overview of the MVMA's financial statements that were distributed to members. He also provided an update on the MAP financial consultant work. He noted that the Finance Committee will be meeting in the spring to develop the 2017-18 budget. Dr. Krienke mentioned that the MVMA has been approached by Banfield to offer a block dues arrangement for all of their approximately 70 veterinarians

in Minnesota. The slide show from Banfield shared earlier with board members describes this proposal and how they are doing this with several other states.

*Motion to negotiate and pilot a two year membership program with Banfield that will be re-evaluated at the end of the two year period as to whether the MVMA wants to continue this arrangement as well as consider offering a similar arrangement to other corporate groups if it is successful was approved.*

#### **IV. U of M CVM, BAH, and SCAVMA Reports**

Dr. Beth Thompson reported on Board of Animal Health activities and referenced her handout that includes updates on legislative funding (base budget proposed), Avian flu update, chronic wasting disease among some deer herds in MN, and TB surveillance of a few cattle herds in the Midwest.

Dr. Julie Wilson followed up with some additional comments regarding the meeting with the Board of Pharmacy. She indicated that she is working on an article on this topic that she is getting approval from her board before disseminating to veterinarians. Dr. Krienke noted that it would be helpful if the Board of Pharmacy would consider having a veterinarian on their board or establish a veterinarian advisory group. Dr. Wilson will explore this with Cody Wiberg.

#### **V. Committee/Task Force Reports**

MVMA lobbyist, Cory Bennett, provided a legislative update. He provided updates on legislation including student loan forgiveness, veterinarian immunity in suspected animal abuse incidents, and Board of Vet. Med. appointment process. The only legislation that the MVMA has been tracking and is currently being debated is the student loan forgiveness legislation with conflicting bills in the House and Senate. Other bills tracked did not make it out of committee so will not be acted upon in this session. No direct cuts to either the Board of Vet. Med. and Board of Animal Health, with U of M CVM receiving base funding or comparable funding to the previous fiscal period. The legislature is scheduled to adjourn on May 22nd

Dr. Ginger Garlie reported on another strategic planning item pertaining to the veterinary technician shortage issue. She said that the task force has met a couple times and is in the data gathering phase with a meeting scheduled in May with the Argosy university vet. tech. program director, Dr. Julie Hanson.

#### **VI. AVMA Report**

Dr. Howe provided an update on the AVMA's work on telehealth and the development of an action plan. He also shared information pertaining to AVMA volunteer engagement, mobile version of JAVMA, standardized chart of accounts, numerous AVMA policies approved at the board level, review of service dog policy, and the FTC is seeking the AVMA's position regarding MARS acquisition of VCA. Dr. Howe also indicated that he will be actively pursuing a run for AVMA president-elect in the months ahead.

**V. Other Business**

Kelly Andrews highlighted convention MVMF activities. She shared the successful MVMF fundraising activities at the MVMA convention. She also noted that the MVMF is seeking the MVMA's support again for this year's foundation annual campaign.

*Motion to provide a match up to \$22,500 for the MVMF's annual campaign was approved.*

The board meeting schedule for 2017 includes the following dates: July 13, Oct. 5 (Rochester), and Dec. 15 and 16.

*Motion to adjourn at 5:00 p.m. was approved.*