



Alaska

The Alaska Board of Veterinary Examiners will meet [February 1, 2024](#).

Drafted on the agenda is an update on

- Current Regulations Projects:
  - PAVE, exams, supervision, and PDMP
  - State exam administration and veterinary technician requirements
  - Temporary military licensing; and
- Conceptual Regulation Changes:
  - VCPR
  - Maintenance of Medical Records

The Board recently posted minutes from their [November meeting](#), which included the discussions below.

*VCPR regulation revision: Update and next steps*

The board discussed how to correct the VCPR regulations that became effective in May. Ms. Chambers explained that the changes LAW made to the regulations the board had adopted were believed by the LRLR and agency attorneys to be merely technical; however, when the board was working on the FAQs for the regulations in September, they discovered that what had been filed with the Lt. Governor's office included substantial changes that the board had not reviewed or approved. Ms. Chambers explained that she, Ms. Osborne, and AAG Burley had discussed this situation with Chair Bergartt and agreed that the board would be presented with two pathways at this meeting to address this situation:

One pathway is to propose a new project to adjust the existing faulty regulations. The color-coded document provided by Ms. Osborne in the board's meeting materials demonstrates the various versions and changes made by the board and LAW. Another pathway is for the board to completely start from scratch with a version that accomplished the board's goals and that was written in a way that was clearer to veterinarians and the public, requiring no explanatory FAQs.

The board discussed both options and decided to pursue a complete rewrite of their VCPR regulations. Drs. Vollaro and Albert agreed they would draft concepts of that the VCPR regulations should accomplish and send those to Ms. Chambers, who would request the same from Dr. Bergartt. AAG Burley agreed that a clear list of the outcomes important to the board would be sufficient for she, Ms. Osborne, and Ms. Chambers to craft new regulations for the board's consideration. The board agreed to set a meeting date before the end of the year to work exclusively on this topic. Ms. Chambers would coordinate the meeting dates over email after consulting with Dr. Bergartt

### Temporary military license wording change

Ms. Bowman reviewed the current requirements for temporary military courtesy licensure, explaining that 12 AAC 68.043(b)(3)(6) required applicants to obtain the VIVA score report, which was an additional expense and paperwork burden on the applicant. She said that the suggested change in wording would allow her to verify the passing score required by the jurisdiction, which she could do quickly online with no additional burden to the applicant. Ms. Chambers reminded the board that the legislature's intent behind this mandate is to help military members and spouses streamline portability of their licenses when they are assigned to a new post.

**Motion by Dr. Albert to initiate a regulations project to amend 12 AAC 68.043(b)(3)(6) to read** "must demonstrate that the jurisdiction of current licensure required a passing examination score **as required in 12 AAC 68.010(a) [AS SHOWN ON THE FORM REQUIRED UNDER 12 AAC 68.035(A)(6)] or 12 AAC 68.315(a)**, as applicable, as a condition of licensure." Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

### Augmenting the board's regulations on licensee maintenance of medical records

Dr. Albert proposed that the board update 12 AAC 68,910 to augment the requirements for veterinary medical records so expectations were clear. She pointed to AAVSB's Practice Act Model, Section 501, as a guide. Dr. Vollaro agreed that this section needs to be updated, including clarification of length of time, types of records to include, whether the licensee or the clinic retains the records, and other key elements.

**Motion by Dr. Albert empowering Dr. Vollaro to draft language updating 12 AAC 68.910 for the board to consider at its next regular meeting. Seconded by Dr. Vollaro. Passed by unanimous consent.**

The board agreed to move the topic of statutory changes to the next regular meeting since Dr. Bergartt was unavailable to present on this agenda item **New Business - Correspondence**

### Board Correspondence on Animal Massage

The board reviewed two email requests for clarification on the standards for canine massage. They discussed the statutory definition of veterinary medicine and asked Ms. Chambers to respond by providing a copy of AS 08.98.250(6) with a statement that doing the activities on this list required a veterinary license or supervision by a veterinarian. If the inquirers had additional questions or details, Ms. Chambers would alert the board.

### Chiropractic on Animals

The board discussed a letter received by a member of the public who was concerned that

chiropractic was being practiced on animals by a person licensed to practice chiropractic on humans under AS 08.20. The board asked Ms. Chambers to send a letter to the requestor containing a copy of AS 08.98.250(6) and copy the investigator. Ms. Chambers encouraged the board to consider clarifying the practice of animal chiropractic with the Board of Chiropractic Examiners so both boards could align their advice.

Board correspondence on VTNE Changes

In response to letters received by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America (NAVTA) and the AAVSB, the board briefly discussed how work experience may be phasing out nationally as a pathway to veterinary technicians. Given the potential impacts to Alaska veterinary services, the board desired more time to discuss and requested that this topic be on the next regular meeting agenda.

