

Minutes of the Meeting of the
New York State Board for Veterinary Medicine
Friday, June 26, 2026
1411 Broadway, New York, NY

Dr. Van der Woerd called the meeting to order at 10:30 am

Welcome and Introductions:

Board Members Present: Dr. Julie Fixman, Dr. Howard Gittelman, Dr. Ashley Harris, Feliza Lopez, LVT, Dr. Beth Ann Shane-Holser, Dr. Alexandra Van der Woerd, and public member Samantha Segal Esq.

Board Members Absent: Dr. Frank Capella, Dr. Paul Zoyhofski, and Alexandria Kanis, LVT

Staff Members Present: Stephen Boese, Executive Secretary to the Board; Carla Gibbons, Education Program Assistant 2; and Lee Fitzgerald, Education Program Assistant 2.

Guests Present: Tim Atkinson of NYSVMS, Chrissy Bagby CSO of the AAVSB, and Dr. Mark Chmielewicz board member of AAVSB

Review of Minutes:

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve minutes of March 20, 2026 with the correction that Mercy College offered a BS program, not a BA.

Review Public Record of Board of Regents Enforcement Actions in Veterinary Medicine:

The board reviewed the most recent enforcement actions.

Update from NYSED and the Office of the Professions:

Board Membership: Dr. Thompson has resigned from the board. Dr. Van der Woerd will serve as interim chair until a vote is held, but her term ends in February 2027. At the fall meeting, we'll have a vote for Chair and Vice Chair.

Legislation that was introduced this year but did not pass by the end of the session were A8555-C/S8211-B on the standards of care for animals held in or being transported by animal shelters and A8551/S3026 that restricts the performance of surgical devocalization procedures on dogs and cats.

Unique Model for Maximizing Veterinary Technician Utilization:

Dr. Gittelman discussed a podcast regarding increased utilization of LVTs in South Carolina. This particularly relates to mobile and telehealth care where an LVT can be in the room with the

patient taking vital signs and other visual monitoring after a VCPR has been established. The board discussed using this model to maximize LVTs in contrast to the proposed mid-level position of VPA. There was discussion of the different allowed tasks between LVTs and veterinary assistants. The board agreed to create a workgroup to meet and review the Practice Guidelines for expanded guidance on the use of LVTs. That group will report on that at the next meeting.

Update from the AAVSB:

Chrissy Bagby explained the history of the AAVSB and Dr. Chmielewicz explained how the AAVSB relates to and impacts individual state boards. AAVSB is the administrator of the VTNE exam, the organizer of VAULT profiles, and the accrediting organization for Continuing Education programs. The AAVSB will now also be the repository for PAVE and ICVA documents rather than the AVMA. They help board members with administrative support, disciplinary notifications, regulatory education and training, disciplinary procedures, and regulatory language.

They also offer board meeting engagement and support, as well as state board member onboarding and life cycle. They facilitate in-person meetings and webinars for member boards to collaborate on issues that each board encounters. They have model white papers and documents for regulations and practice standards. Ms. Bagby explained all the volunteer opportunities available to board members and the public and how they subsidize attendance for those volunteers.

Next Meeting Dates:

The next meetings are set for 9/10/26, 12/11/26 at 10:30 AM. The following meeting is set for March 12 at 10:30 am.

Meeting adjourned at 12:52 pm.

Draft respectfully submitted,

Carla Gibbons
Education Program Assistant 2