

The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision, and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
January 22, 2025**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mary Anne O'Neill, Chairperson
Kenneth Bernhard, Esq.
Lauren Mascola, DVM
Timothy Plunkett, DVM

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Theresa Cianciolo, DVM

DPH STAFF PRESENT:

Ryan Burns, Deputy Legal Director
Kevin Hansted, Legal Counsel to the Board
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney
Celeste Dowdell, License and Applications Analyst
Betty J. Rozario, Board Liaison

CALL TO ORDER.

Chairperson Mary Anne O'Neill called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kenneth Bernhard moved to approve the October 30, 2024 minutes. Dr. Timothy Plunkett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

CHAIR UPDATES

None.

REINSTATEMENT APPLICATION

Elizabeth Lynch, DVM

Celeste Dowdell, License and Applications Analyst

Celeste Dowdell presented Dr. Lynch's request for reinstatement of her veterinarian's license to the Board. Respondent was present.

Dr. Timothy Plunkett moved to recommend reinstatement of Dr. Lynch's license subject to receipt of validation from the doctors with whom Dr. Lynch has studied with over the last several months, by the end of the month. Mr. Kenneth Bernhard seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by acclamation.

HEARING – FACT-FINDING

Ronald Maier, DVM

Petition No. 2022-218

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina

The proceedings were digitally recorded.

Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina appeared on behalf of the Department. Attorney Jonathan C. Zellner appeared on behalf of the Respondent.

Kevin Hansted, Legal Counsel to the Board was present to advise the Board Panel.

The Board Panel conducted fact-finding.

Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lauren Mascola, that the Department has proven its case as to the allegations outlined in paragraph 1 of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lauren Mascola, that the Department has proven its case as to the allegations outlined in paragraph 2 of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Dr. Timothy Plunkett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard, that the Department has proven its case as to the allegations outlined in paragraph 3A of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lauren Mascola, that the Department has proven its case as to the allegations outlined in paragraph 3B of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lauren Mascola, that the Department has proven its case with respect to the documentation allegations outlined in paragraph 3C of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed by acclamation by everyone present except Mary Anne O'Neill who voted no.

Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lauren Mascola, that the Department has proven its case that Respondent failed in performing adequate diagnostic testing as to the allegations outlined in paragraph 3C of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed by acclamation by everyone present except Mary Anne O'Neill who voted no.

Ms. Mary Anne O'Neill made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard, that the Department has proven its case as to the allegations outlined in paragraph 3D of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Dr. Lauren Mascola made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard, that the Department has proven its case with respect to the documentation allegations outlined in paragraph 3E of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Dr. Timothy Plunkett made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lauren Mascola, that the Department has not proven its case that he failed to refer to a higher level of care allegations outlined in paragraph 3E of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Dr. Timothy Plunkett made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lauren Mascola, that the Department has proven its case as to the allegations outlined in paragraph 3F of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lauren Mascola, that the Department has proven its case as to the allegations outlined in paragraph 4 of the Statement of Charges. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

Dr. Timothy Plunkett made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lauren Mascola, that Dr. Maier be issued a letter of reprimand, pay a \$2500 civil penalty, be put on 6 months' probation, attend a class on documentation and recordkeeping, attend a class on feline respiratory illness, and retain the services of a third party to audit 20% of the Respondent's records or 20 records (whichever is larger) for 6 months and report back to the Department. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

ADJOURN

Mr. Kenneth G. Bernhard moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Timothy Plunkett. The motion was approved unanimously by acclamation. The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Mary Anne O'Neill, Chairperson