

Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Minutes for May 28th, 2026

Meet In Person at 10:30 AM at Maryland Department of Agriculture

Joint Meeting

Board Members: Dr. Christine Calvert, President; Ms. Patricia Quimby, Vice-President; Dr. Heidi Schmechel; Ms. Lynne Chaput; Dr. Peter Radue, Dr. Monica Maa, Dr. Justin Sobota.

Staff: Nathaniel Boan, Executive Director; Susan Husk, Assistant Director; Cindy Spirt, Assistant Attorney General; Britney Branch, Office Administrator; Pegeen Morgan, Inspector; Sarah Hultz, Investigator

Open Meeting

Call to Order:

Dr. Calvert called the meeting to order at 10:33am.

Approval of the Minutes:

In a motion by Ms. Quimby, and seconded by Ms. Chaput, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 30th, 2026 Board Meeting.

Veterinary License Applications Approvals:

In a motion by Dr. Sobota, and seconded by Ms. Quimby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following applications:

- Applications for Board Review:
 - Dr. Maslin Slade
 - Previous charges in ID for using fake ID when underage.
- SCRA Application:
 - SCRA-0003 Katelyn Thomas
- Vets approved by designated authority:

• M. Bencinvenga	• C. Marshall
• T. Pestell	• G. Castro
• C. Seebart	• S. Ott
• K. Rodriguez	• J. Randle
• C. Freeman	• N. Seifman
• S. Campbell	• M. McBride
• S. Stern	• S. Jung
• K. McGhaw	• R. Horton
• B. Gleizer	• B. Andrews
• A. Boyd	• A. Calo
• D. Briscoe	• V. Levine
• T. Jefferson	• A. Blancke
• S. Vandiver	
- Technicians Approved by Designated Authority
 - C. Weaver
 - J. Wolfe

Sanitation Reports:

- Inspectors Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James presented the sanitation reports for May 2026.
- In a motion by Dr. Radue, and seconded by Dr. Sobota, the Board voted unanimously to approve the reports as presented.

CE Approval Requests:

In a motion by Dr. Maa, and seconded by Dr. Sobota, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following CE requests with the following notes:

- #905 - European College of Veterinary Neurology - Annual Conference
 - Dr. Dylan Fry
 - 13 Credits
 - Clinical/Scientific
 - Veterinarians
 - Seeking Recurring Approval. Ok with annual approvals.
- #906 - Anesthetic Considerations for Neurological Conditions
 - Matthew Moore - Veterinary Referral Associates
 - 1 Credit Hour
 - Clinical/Scientific
 - Both Vets and Techs
- #907 - Clinical Applications of Computed Tomographic Angiography
 - Matthew Moore - Veterinary Referral Associates
 - 1 Credit Hour
 - Clinical/Scientific
 - Both Vets and Techs
- #908 - Immunomodulatory Treatment of MUE dogs.
 - Matthew Moore - Veterinary Referral Associates
 - 1 Credit Hour
 - Clinical/Scientific
 - Both Vets and Techs
- #909 - Regional Anesthesia
 - Matthew Moore - Veterinary Referral Associates
 - 1 Credit Hour
 - Clinical/Scientific
 - Both Vets and Techs
- #910 - Advancements in Video Assisted Pulmonary Surgery
 - Matthew Moore - Veterinary Referral Associates
 - 1 Credit Hour
 - Clinical/Scientific
 - Both Vets and Techs
- #911 - The Limp that Lies
 - Matthew Moore - Veterinary Referral Associates
 - 1 Credit Hour
 - Clinical/Scientific
 - Both Vets and Techs
- #912 & #913 - Online Rounds - Various Clinical Topics
 - Jacqueline Dolan - American Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathology
 - 1 Credit Hour Each
 - Clinical/Scientific
 - Vets
 - Email doesn't show the number of hours or topics for each session.

Miscellaneous:

- Legislative Update Email
 - SB0054/HB00452 -
 - The beginning of a draft updating existing guidance was shared with the Board.
 - The Board agreed that we should move away from updating existing guidance and create a new short guidance about having appropriate communications with owners to go out before the bill takes effect in October.
 - Other new Legislation - Effective October 1, 2026
 - HB 564/Chapter 547 - Pet Cremation and Burial Services - Requirements (Pet Cremation and Burial Services Consumer Protection Act)
 - Nathan to contact the crematory board or other regulatory agency about distributing information to veterinarians. If they have materials or plan to send anything out.
 - SB 314/Chapter 464- Courts - Immunity From Liability - Donation of Pet Supplies
 - The bill can be provided in the notice.
 - SB 423/HB 666/Chapter 230 Research Facilities and Testing Facilities That Use Animals - Prohibitions and Adoption Requirements (Animal Research Modernization and Best Practices Act of 2026)
 - The Bill can be provided in the notice.
- Dr. Shanthi Ramachandran
 - Can a Veterinary Assistant apply Zorbium under direct supervision, or can they not handle this drug?
 - No problem as long as appropriately trained, under direct supervision, prescribed and dosed by a veterinarian.
 - Can a Veterinary Assistant dispense Buprenex under direct supervision, or can they not handle this drug?
 - Should be kept locked as a Schedule III. Vet would need to get out of the locked storage but the assistant could dispense.
 - As a side note to clarify, Schedule II drugs require vet (or a registered technician that has limited access to a small working stock).
- Jensi Gerber - Physequine
 - My name is Jensi Gerber, and I am the owner of Physequine LLC. I am a certified Equine Sports Massage Therapist relocating my business to Maryland and would like clarification on the legal scope of practice in this state. My services are limited to **non-diagnostic, non-rehabilitative equine massage/bodywork** for general wellness purposes. I work only on healthy horses and do not treat injuries, perform rehabilitation, or diagnose medical conditions. Could you please clarify whether this type of service is permitted to be performed **independently**, or if it requires **veterinary supervision, referral, or oversight** under Maryland law? Additionally, are there any specific guidelines, limitations, or recommended language I should follow to remain compliant?
 - As described, this would be acceptable, specifically on non-diagnostic and non-rehabilitative work. Any issues should be referred to a Veterinarian.

- SCRA Applications for Veterinary Technicians (graduates of AVMA accredited schools)
 - Board is ok with applying the SCRA guidelines to the Veterinary Technician Applications.

In a motion by Dr. Calvert, and seconded by Dr. Maa, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to move into an administrative closed session to perform administrative functions outside the scope of the Open Meetings Act, in accordance with § 3-103(a)(1)(i) of the General Provisions Article. The administrative functions to be performed include discussion of the specific matters identified on the Board Agenda. In the alternative, I move to close the meeting pursuant to the following Section 3-305(b):

(7) To obtain advice of counsel;

(8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;

(12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;" and

(13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

Following a unanimous vote, at 11:20am, the Joint Open Session of the SBVME was closed to perform administrative functions outside the scope of the Open Meetings Act, in accordance with §3-103(a)(1)(i) of the General Provisions Article. The meeting took place in person at the Maryland Department of Agriculture, and the following were present:

Dr. Christine Calvert, President; Ms. Patricia Quimby, Vice-President; Ms. Lynne Chaput; Dr. Monica Ma; Dr. Peter Radue; Dr. Heidi Schmechel; Dr. Justin Sobota.

The following members were not present:

In addition, the following staff and legal representatives were also present during the closed meeting:

Nathaniel Boan, Executive Director; Susan Husk, Assistant Director; Cynthia Spirt, Assistant Attorney General; Britney Branch, Office Administrator; Pegeen Morgan, Inspector; Sarah Hultz, Investigator.

During the administrative session, the SBVME discussed confidential disciplinary matters currently pending before the Board, as identified in the non-public agenda. No other topics were discussed.

The administrative session was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.