2016 AAVSB Annual Meeting & Conference

Below are highlights from the 2016 Annual Meeting & Conference held in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Business Sessions

Three Bylaws amendments were passed. The updated Bylaws document can be found on the AAVSB website. One resolution was passed. The amendments can be found on the free and secure online member forums.

The voting delegates were elected the following to the open positions:

President	Dr. Frank Walker (ND)
President-Elect	Dr. Mark Olson (KS)
Directors	Dr. Vito DelVento (DC), Dr. Larry McTague (OK), Dr. Roger Redman (OH)

Dr. Kim Gemeinhardt (NC), Ms. Leslie Knachel (VA), and Dr. Chris Runde (MD) will continue as **Directors.** Dr. John Lawrence moved into the role of **Immediate Past President.** Dr. Olson previously held the position of Treasurer which left that office vacant. Dr. Walker appointed Dr. Michael Gotchey (CO) as **Treasurer** for the remainder of the term. In accordance with the Bylaws, an election will be held at the 2017 Annual Meeting & Conference for the Treasurer position.

Nominating Committee	Dr. Kimberly Riker-Brown (OH)
NBVME Representatives	Licensed Veterinarian – Dr. Bruce Louderback

Presentations

FTC Guidance on Active Supervision – an update on the North Carolina Dental Board Case

Ms. Jennifer Semko reviewed the history of the case as well as the document *FTC Guidance on Active Supervision of State Regulatory Boards Controlled by Market Participants*. She provided examples of satisfactory disciplinary supervision, insufficient supervision, and litigation consequences.

Telemedicine Presentations & Workshops

Three perspectives on Telemedicine were presented from Mark Cushing, JD - Veterinary Innovation Council, Dr. Lori Teller - AVMA Practice Advisory Panel Work on Telemedicine, and Cal Lai - CEO of Vet24Seven.

Attendees then broke into 20 groups and discussed the following questions for one hour:

- What are the legal implications of telemedicine?
- For regulatory boards, what is the definition of telemedicine?
- How can regulatory boards ensure telemedicine is safe?
- When is telemedicine permitted?
- How should we regulate telemedicine – in the practice act or in administrative rules?

Following the workshop, each table reported on their discussions. A summary of the discussions was provided to the Regulatory Policy Task Force.

Drug Enforcement Agency
Mr. Jim Arnold discussed the Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act of 2014 – H.R. 1528 (https://www.cbo.gov/publication/45287), Relief Veterinarians, definitions of "agent" and "effect control over an agent" and "effective controls" as well as regular drug destruction (inventory vs. pharmaceutical waste). His information referenced Title 21 United State Code Controlled Substance Act (https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/21cfr/21usc/822.htm), and Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations (https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/21cfr/cfr/1301/1301_12.htm). He referred attendees to www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov for more information.

Unlicensed Practice
Mr. Dale Atkinson, JD, AAVSB Legal Counsel, discussed the definition of unlicensed practice, why it is relevant, and how it is addressed in law. Attendees shared examples of unlicensed practice instances within their state/province. Mr. Atkinson discussed language being precise regarding the scope of practice in the Practice Act. An example was provided regarding overlapping scope such as chiropractors and physical therapists treating animals when the Practice Act does not distinguish human vs. animal treatment. He emphasized defining scope of practice as risk-based vs. turf based.

Drug Compounding
Dr. Vito DelVento facilitated the sessions regarding Drug Compounding. He provided the following definitions:

- Pioneer drug – FDA approved "trade name" drugs.
- Generic drug – drugs that have the same bio equivalency of pioneer drugs.
- Distributor Label drugs – pioneer drugs or generic drugs that have had the distributor change the label and apply their own name brand. The drugs themselves haven't changed.
- Approved drugs – these can be pioneer, generic or distributor label drugs.
- Unapproved drugs – drugs that are utilized in the veterinary profession but are not approved for veterinary use.
- Compounding vs. manufacturing: Compounding is taking a specific drug and modifying it to meet the needs of a single animal as a single prescription; manufacturing is taking bulk active prescription ingredients and putting them together to create a drug in mass production. Manufacturing requires a certain amount of quality control.

Member Boards shared legislation currently being discussed in their respective jurisdictions specifically in California and Minnesota and encouraged veterinary boards to work closely with their pharmacy boards.

Licensee Wellness
Dr. Timothy Kolb from the Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board, Dr. David Goldberg from the Ohio Physician Health Program (OPHP), and Dr. Jerome Williams, Director of the Alabama Veterinary Wellness Professionals Program presented examples of Licensee Wellness programs. Cases studies were reviewed as well as the benefits of working with a program. He noted that through the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board honors treatment in lieu of disciplinary action so long as the person is referred to the OPHP. Dr. Williams reviewed the AVMA's position on wellness and stated that several states do not have a wellness program and therefore do not offer any kind of assistance. He reviewed the history and work of the Program and provided information on what a wellness program should offer.

Top Recent Regulatory Cases
Dr. Walker introduced Dale Atkinson, JD, AAVSB Legal Counsel, who gave an overview of legal cases relevant to the veterinary profession and accepted questions from the audience.