



**NEW MEXICO BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
REGULAR MEETING**

**IN PERSON AT DoIT
725 6th Street, Albuquerque, NM 87102**

MINUTES

1
2 **November 05, 2025**

3
4 **Call to Order:** The Regular Meeting of the New Mexico Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board)
5 was called to order by Dr. Emily Walker, the Board Vice Chair, at approximately 1:01 p.m. The
6 Board's Executive Director Deborah Schenk conducted a roll call.

7
8 **Roll Call:**

9 **Members Present:**

10 Dr. Ralph Zimmerman
11 Dr. Emily Walker, Vice Chair
12 Ms. Jennifer Rabinowitz
13 Dr. Hannah Leonard
14 Ms. Kristin Chavez
15 Chair, Dr. Lawrence Young, Absent

16
17 **Agency Representative:** Deborah Schenk, Executive Director to Board

18
19 **Legal Counsel:** Douglas Alsup, NM Department of Justice (Virtual)

20
21 **Approval of Proposed Agenda**

22 Member Rabinowitz approved the agenda and Dr. Leonard seconded the motion.
23 A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

24
25 **State Veterinarian Update**

26 None.

27

28 **Approval of July 9, 2025, Draft Meeting Minutes**

29 Vice Chair, Dr. Walker asked for approval of July 9, 2025, minutes. Member Chavez approved
30 and Dr. Leonard seconded.

31 A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

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33 **Approval of October 1, 2025, Draft Meeting Minutes**

34 Vice Chair, Dr. Walker asked for approval of October 1, 2025, minutes. Member Chavez
35 approved and Dr. Zimmerman seconded.

36 A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

37

38 **Executive Director Report – Deborah Schenk**

39 Complaints 24-20, 24-21, and 24-18 are all considered complete and closed.

40 Have been working on the appropriations for FY-27 and asking for \$100,000 supplemental
41 money again this year. If the agency does not get the supplemental money, only one Inspector
42 might be contracted for FY-27 and only about 70 facilities will be inspected. Agency is short on
43 money due to the fee for the data client system.

44 We have only a couple of facilities that have not renewed their license.

45

46 **New Business**

47 There are 3 requests for Continuing Education approval. Member Rabinowitz motioned to
48 approve all 3 Continuing Education requests and Dr. Leonard seconded. A roll call vote was
49 taken and the motion passed unanimously.

50 CRC Committee will be switched out from Dr. Walker and Dr. Favis to Dr. Leonard and Dr.
51 Zimmerman.

52 Dr. Zimmerman discussed how important mash type s/n programs are and the importance of
53 having set guidelines. Dr. Walker stated the Practice Act is a guideline and there are no
54 exceptions to the Practice Act. Deborah will reach out to AAVSB to ask how other Boards
55 handle mash type s/n programs and will report to the Board the feedback she receives from other
56 Boards.

57 Discussion regarding a Dr. who has consented to a 2-year suspension on her veterinary
58 accreditation. Legal recommended doing a FOIA/IPRA request because at this point it's really an
59 investigation. If there are concerns, a complaint can be filed on behalf of the Board. The

60 FOIA/IPRA report would have to be presented as part of the investigation. Dr. Tracy will do the
61 investigation and report the findings to the Board.

62 Legal discussed the possible action the Board can take against a veterinarian who has a
63 suspension in Texas and has a New Mexico license. Legal stated the statute only allows action
64 based on a revocation of their license in another state and not a suspension. No action will be
65 taken by the Board at this time.

66 Discussion regarding an email that was received from PETA regarding Lovelace Biomedical.
67 Dr. Tracy Young will continue to try and get in touch with somebody from Lovelace Biomedical
68 to discuss the situation. Dr. Walker commented that no action needed to be taken by the Board
69 at this time and Dr. young agreed, as she is still trying to compile information from USDA
70 and/or Lovelace, and this will be discussed further at a future board meeting.

71 The Board discussed late fee 16.25.2.19 C (2) and the need to rewrite the rule regarding the late
72 fee. Dr. Walker feels the late fee rule as it is now does not make sense. Dr. Walker and Deborah
73 will look at the rules and will work on better phrasing the late fees.

74 Legal discussed an email received regarding a person that rescues parrots and offers “expertise”
75 on how to treat the birds. Legal recommended filing a complaint on behalf of the Board. Deborah
76 will file the complaint, and the complaint will be handled as any other complaint.

77 Discussion regarding the fee to reinspect a facility that does not pass. The Board agreed \$250 is
78 fair to pay the inspectors for a reinspection of the facilities that fail to pass inspection.

79 The Board meeting dates for 2026 will be January 14, 2026, April 22, 2026, July 15, 2026, and
80 October 14, 2026.

81 Obtaining all the required Continued Education on-line was extended through 12/31/2026. Dr.
82 Leonard made the motion to extend the on-line CE for another year, and Dr. Zimmerman
83 seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

84 A press release will be sent out regarding the spay/neuter grant money that was awarded. Legal
85 counsel and the DOJ do not agree with the press release, but the Board voted to send it. Member
86 Rabinowitz made the motion and Dr. Zimmerman seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the
87 motion passed unanimously.

88

89 **Shelter Committee Update**

90 The shelter committee would like to have the application rebuilt during the downtime since some
91 issues were found with the application. The committee feels the application was rushed and the
92 committee requests more time and involvement in reviewing the application plus would like
93 more independent and user testing in the future. The committee had some questions on how the
94 applications can be delivered to the committee members in a different way to them and this could
95 be a question for inLumon. The committee members would like the application period shortened
96 and maybe start making it known sooner when the application period will open. The committee
97 would like to have at least 6 weeks for the process of going through the applications. The
98 committee would like to get away from meeting during the months of July and August as they
99 are very busy months for them. Mid-term and final report templates are needed and Member

100 Rabinowitz volunteered to work on the templates. Dr. Parker's term ends this month but he is
101 willing to stay until a replacement is found.

102

103 **Disciplinary Matters (presented by Complaint Review Committee)**

104 The meeting may be closed to the public during this portion of the agenda pursuant to the New
105 Mexico Open Meeting Act, NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(1): to discuss matters pertaining to
106 the issuance, suspension, renewal or revocation of a license and disciplinary matters. The closed
107 session is limited to discussion of the matters identified in the motion. Any final action will take
108 place after the closed session, on record, and in the open session.

109 The meeting went into closed session at 2:41 pm.

110 The meeting went back to open session at 3:28 pm.

111 Complaint #24-27 – Dr. Leonard presented the case. After Board discussion, Dr. Leonard made
112 a motion to dismiss. Dr. Zimmerman seconded. The vote was taken and the motion passed
113 unanimously with Dr. Walker abstaining.

114

115 Complaint #25-01 – Dr. Leonard presented the case. After Board discussion, Dr. Leonard made
116 a motion to dismiss. Member Rabinowitz seconded. The vote was taken and the motion passed
117 unanimously with Dr. Walker abstaining.

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119 Complaint #25-02 – Dr. Leonard presented the case. After Board discussion, Dr. Leonard made a
120 motion to make this a reportable violation of the practice act 16.25.3.8(L), 16.25.9.21 A (3) (b)
121 and (c), \$500.00 fine and 4 hours of continuing education in pharmacology/steroid use. Member
122 Chavez seconded. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously with Dr. Walker
123 abstaining.

124 Complaint #25-03 – Dr. Leonard presented the case. After Board discussion, Dr. Leonard made
125 a motion to dismiss. Member Chavez seconded. The vote was taken and the motion passed
126 unanimously with Dr. Walker abstaining.

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128 Complaint #25-04 – Dr. Leonard presented the case. After Board discussion, Dr. Leonard made a
129 motion to make this a reportable violation of the practice act 16.25.3.8(L), 16.25.9.21. A (3) (e),
130 \$500.00 fine and 4 hours of continuing education in equine euthanasia. Member Chavez
131 seconded. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously with Dr. Walker abstaining.

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133 Complaint #25-05 – Dr. Leonard presented the case. After Board discussion, Dr. Leonard made
134 a motion to dismiss. Member Chavez seconded. The vote was taken and the motion passed
135 unanimously with Dr. Walker abstaining.

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137 Complaint #25-06 –Dr. Leonard presented the case. After Board discussion, Dr. Leonard made a
138 motion to make this a reportable violation of the practice act 16.25.3.8(L), 16.25.9.21. A (3) (c),
139 \$500.00 fine and 10 hours of continuing education in lower urinary tract disease in cats and
140 pharmacology. Member Chavez seconded. The vote was taken and the motion passed
141 unanimously with Dr. Walker abstaining

142 Complaint #26-11-Director Schenk explained to the Board that this respondent missed the 10-
143 day deadline. About 4 months ago, the same scenario played out with a settlement agreement.
144 The Board agreed to move forward with the complaint minus the respondent’s response.

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146 **Announcements**

147 No announcements.

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149 **Public Comments**

150 No public comments.

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152 **Next Scheduled Meeting**

153 January 14, 2026, at DoIT in Albuquerque.

154

155 **There being no further business before the Board, Vice Chair, Dr. Walker adjourned the**
156 **meeting at approximately 3:33 p.m.**