



**NEW MEXICO BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE  
RULES HEARING AND BOARD MEETING**

**IN PERSON AT RLD  
5500 SAN ANTONIO DR NE, ABQ, NM 87109**

**MINUTES**

1  
2 **September 11, 2024**  
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4 **Call to Order:** The Rule Hearing and Board Meeting of the New Mexico Board of Veterinary  
5 Medicine (Board) was called to order by Dr. Lawrence Young, the Board Chair, at  
6 approximately 1:30 p.m. The Board's Assistant Cathy Hernandez conducted a roll call.

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8 **Roll Call:**

9 **Members Present:**

10 Dr. Lawrence D. Young, Board Chair  
11 Dr. Emily Walker  
12 Dr. Ralph Zimmerman  
13 Ms. Jennifer Rabinowitz  
14 Ms. Elizabeth Wolf  
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16 **Members Absent:** Dr. Amanda Favis

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18 **Agency Representatives:** Cathy Hernandez, Executive Assistant to Board

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20 **Legal Counsel:** Leslie Padilla, NM Department of Justice

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22 **Approval of Proposed Agenda**

23 Dr. Young asked if the members had reviewed the proposed agenda and if he could get a motion  
24 to approve. Dr. Walker approved the motion with Dr. Zimmerman making a second.

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

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28 **Approval of August 28, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes:** Dr. Young asked if any Board  
29 Member had questions about the minutes for the January 31, 2024 Regular Meeting. Dr. Walker  
30 made a motion to approve the Minutes with Dr. Zimmerman making a second. A roll call vote  
31 was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

32 **OLD BUSINESS**

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34 **License Fee Increase**

35 Chair, Dr. Young, opened the floor for discussion on license fee increases.

36 Dr. Walker mentioned that Stacie Voss said the euthanasia licenses had gone up substantially in  
37 cost, and would we consider not increasing the application and renewal fee and also the Shelter  
38 fee.

39 Counsel, Leslie Padilla said there is a statutory cap on euthanasia licenses, and that amount is  
40 \$50.00. The statute 77-1B-6D-5 states that the fee shall not exceed \$50.00. This will be  
41 corrected. Dr. Walker asked if there was a cap on the euthanasia instructor and counsel Padilla  
42 said no there was not. Ms. Voss said under the animal sheltering act 77-1B-5L, it states that the  
43 cap is \$150.00 for any licenses that fall under the act which includes Shelters. Counsel Padilla  
44 said we are in fact in violation on rule 16.24.4.8 A and B.

45 Dr. Walker said we should take the EUT application fee and renewal fee back to the \$50.00  
46 which is in statute. We should also exclude the Shelters and the Euthanasia Instructors from the  
47 increase as they are already at the maximum allowed in statute.

48 Dr. Walker said we should increase the fees the 25%.

49 Legal, Ms. Padilla, said our statute refers to the shelter fee and the euthanasia agency fee, which  
50 are technically the same thing. Ms. Voss stated that the difference between a shelter and a  
51 euthanasia agency, is that a shelter is not required to perform euthanasia, but a euthanasia agency  
52 is required.

53 Chair, Dr. Young asked if we could change the statute (Animal Sheltering Act) to read shelter  
54 instead of euthanasia agency. Dr. Walker said that would have to be done through the  
55 Legislature.

56 Dr. Walker made a motion to keep the euthanasia agencies/shelter fees at the \$150.00, reduce the  
57 euthanasia fees, application and renewals, to \$50.00, with member Rabinowitz making a second.

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

59 Dr. Walker made a motion to increase the remaining license fees by 25%, excluding the shelters.  
60 Counsel Padilla wanted to make sure that all the fees were listed on the list.

61 Counsel Padilla advised that we must provide a basis for the increase. It must be related to our  
62 cost. Dr. Walker stated that is clear that we increase the fees as we are a self-sustaining Board  
63 and we have budgetary shortfalls and need to fund the Board office functions. Based on  
64 increased costs and our need to hire employees to sustain the functions of the Board, and the  
65 current fees as they stand do not support the Board function as it needs to be.

66 Member Rabinowitz also stated that the Spay/Neuter program will also be an extra cost.

67 Dr. Walker made a motion to increase the remaining license fees by 25% across the Board, for  
68 16.25.2, 16.25.6, 16.25.7 and 16.25.8, with Ms. Wolf making a second.

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

#### 70 Emergency Services

71 Chair Dr. Young opened the floor for discussion regarding Board rules on emergency services.

72 Dr. Walker made a motion to change the language of Rule 16.25.9.9 B to the language on the  
73 August 28, 2024, board meeting minutes, with Ms. Wolf making a second. The wording shall  
74 read, every veterinary facility shall provide information regarding the availability of the nearest  
75 emergency services and make that information easily available to the public.

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

#### 77 Shelter Medicine Committee

78 Ms. Wolf brought up a request to form a shelter medicine committee to look at rules that pertain  
79 to shelter medicine, consisting of 1 or 2 Board members plus community members.

80 Counsel, Padilla said we should discuss whether to put this item on a subsequent agenda.

81 Ms. Wolf there is interest from the public to look at the rules that apply to shelter veterinary  
82 medicine. Dr. Walker asked if this would be necessary as we already have a shelter committee  
83 in place. Ms. Voss said this was news to her and she had not heard about the request, though she  
84 is not opposed to it, but it is probably not a priority of the Board right now with all the other  
85 items being discussed and worked on. Ms. Voss also said that the minimum standards and the  
86 complaint process for the sheltering board have not been completed and that should also be a  
87 priority. Ms. Wolf's request will be added to the October 16, 2024, board meeting agenda.

88 • Ms. Wolf asked what happened regarding the technical issues we had with the computer  
89 and zoom, because she is sure she will be getting calls from people, and she wants to  
90 know how to respond. Mark Humble, DoIT, he wanted to make sure the computer was  
91 ready and on Monday, the 9<sup>th</sup>, it gave him the blue screen of death, so he had to wipe  
92 everything off and reinstall.

93 He also said that the Board of Veterinary Medicine office is in desperate need of new equipment,  
94 including desktops and a new laptop as all are over 4 years old. When we moved over to DoIT,  
95 they gave us newer desktops, but they are still older than most agencies have.

96 **There being no further business before the Board, Chair, Dr. Young adjourned the meeting**  
97 **at approximately 3:25 p.m.**

