

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGISTS BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MEETING

Grand Ballroom, Salon D Hotel
Baltimore, Maryland
2:00 P.M., Sunday, July 26 1998

MINUTES

1. **Attendance:** Board members: Drs. C.A. (Sandy) Baldwin, T.L. Bowersock, A.E. Castro, S.A. Dee, H.W. Dickerson, R.E. Dierks, B.W. Fenwick, C.S. Hayhow, D.S. McVey, L.N.D. Potgieter. Also present were: R.L. Jones, D.J. King, R.E. Welsh.

2. **Call to Order.** Dr Harry Dickerson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

3. **Welcome to the New Board of Governors Members.** Dr. Harry Dickerson welcomed the new Board of Governors members; Drs. Terry L Bowersock, Scott A. Dee, and Brad W. Fenwick.

4. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the November 1998 meeting were approved (Hayhow, Castro).

5. **Secretary-Treasurer's Report.**

a. **Financial Report and Review by Budget Committee.** The budget committee reviewed the financial statement and financial activity for The committee reviewed also the proposed budget (projected income and expenses) for 1998. The Chairman of the Committee, Dr. David H. Ley, reported by e-mail that everything was in order and had no questions about the budget. The Committee recommended that the budget be approved. A detailed account of the financial activity from January 1997 to December 31, 1997 and the budget was presented to the Board. Balance of all accounts on December 31 was \$17,606.96.

b. **Request for Emeritus Status.** Emeritus status was requested for Drs. Arnold D. Alstad, Suraj Singh, M. Herb Smith and Howard N. Whitford

c. **Deceased.** Drs. Archie J. Flowers and Victor A. Miller died the past year.

d. **Dues status.** A summary of the dues status of all members was presented to the board. Dues collections are at a record level; only 7 members are delinquent.

A motion to accept the report was made and approved (Baldwin, Dierks).

6. **Committees and Representative Reports.**

a. **Examinations Committee Report.** Guests or potential examination candidates were excused from the room. Dr. R.L. Jones, Chairman of the Examination Committee reported on the applications of five candidates. The credentials of all candidates were satisfactory. Three qualified via the standard route; one via alternate route 1 and one via alternate route 2. The applicants were **R. Aboytes, D. Daignault, I. Feder, K. Nagaraju and S. Patel.** Administration of Part I qualifying examination is scheduled for September 9, 1998. Part II subspecialty certifying examinations are scheduled at Roosevelt University, Chicago on November 7, 1998. Bacteriology/Mycology at 10:00 a.m., Virology at 2:00 p.m. and Immunology at 5:00 p.m. Motion was made and approved to accept the report (McVey, Hayhow).

b. Continuing Education and Program Committee. Dr. Terry L. Bowersock reminded everyone of the program on Antimicrobial Resistance at the AVMA meeting in Baltimore. The topic is very timely. The program for the Symposium at the Conference of Research Workers in Chicago on November 8, 1998 will be on the **Immunology and Pathogenesis of Reproductive Tract Diseases**. The presentations are "Immunology of Wira), Brucellosis (Dr. Steve Olson), "Immune Recognition by Dam of Transferred Interspecies Embryo" (Dr. Bob BonDurant) and "Pregnancy Immunology of Ruminants: Possible Implications of Embryonic Survival, Fetal Growth and Uterine Defense Mechanisms" (Dr. Peter Hansen). Dr. Hayhow asked for input concerning topics for future symposia. Motion was made and approved to accept the report (Castro, Baldwin).

c. Continuing Education Funding Committee. No report. Dr. Potgieter stated the Committee was very successful last year. Donations more than covered all the expenses of the symposium. Dr. Gerald Buening, Chairman of the Committee, has updated the list of industry contacts and implemented a mechanism for official recognition of donors.

d. Graduate Student Awards Committee. No report. Dr. Brad Fenwick indicated that it was sometimes difficult to balance competitors in each category and inquired whether it was acceptable to move awards from one category to another or not giving an award at all for a particular category. Dr. Hayhow suggested that if competitors listed several categories in their application, the problem would be minimized. Dr. R.L. Jones suggested awards should be given to the best three papers with an attempt to represent the three disciplines. Dr. Fenwick will share these suggestions with the committee.

e. American Board on Veterinary Specialties. Dr. Potgieter reported that ACVM had been granted continued full recognition. The only concern expressed was the low percentage of credentialed applicants that eventually become certified. Dr. Potgieter reviewed the report that had previously been submitted to the College. The Board of Governors had previously approved registering our name and logo as a trademark. A motion was made and passed to contribute a maximum of \$50 to register the ABVS logo (Hayhow, McVey). AVMA will be informed of this decision. The Board directed Dr. Potgieter to collect more information on the potential need for liability insurance for ABVS (AVMA has arranged for group insurance for specialty organizations with an annual premium of \$1000). Of specific concern was whether officers could be personally liable. Dr. Potgieter reported also that the AVMA Executive Board had denied supporting a one-day educational forum on "The Promotion of Veterinary Specialties". Also the Judicial Council postponed further action on the proposed new Guidelines for the Use of Specialty Titles (approved by the Executive Board in November of 1997). Dr. R.D. Park, ABVS Chairman has established an ad hoc committee on specialty guidelines to develop guidelines acceptable to ABVS and AVMA. An item submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee on Organizational Audit Task Force that ABVS members fund half the travel costs for attendance by their respective representatives for the full ABVS meeting was approved by the AVMA Executive Board. Dr Potgieter will determine the details of the implication of this recommendation. This task Force determined that the function of ABVS was very significant but that it had not been effective in controlling the proliferation of new veterinary specialty organizations. It does serve a vital function in monitoring the credibility of all veterinary specialty organizations. They recommended also that three AVMA private practitioners serve as liaisons to ABVS and that AVMA incorporate veterinary specialties into any public visibility campaigns. Dr. Charles A. Williams, Chairman of ABVS Specialty Promotions Committee requested that specialty organizations define their needs with respect to promotion to the public and within the profession. ACVM Board of Governors supported this effort and requested Dr. Potgieter to affirm this wish with Dr. Williams.

f. Council on Biological and Therapeutical Agents. No report.

g. **NOAH Coordinator Report.** No report. Dr. Potgieter mentioned that AVMA is actively seeking specialists in microbiology to participate as moderators in NOAH Discussion Groups. Please contact Jill Indelicato at the Center for Information Management of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

h. **Budget Committee.** Report submitted by Dr. David Ley; See Secretary-Treasurer's report (5).

7. New Business

a. **Election of Officers.** Dr. Sandy Baldwin had been nominated by the Nominations Committee (Drs. Harry Dickerson and Melissa Kennedy) to be Vice-Chair. No nominations were received from the floor and Dr. Baldwin was elected by acclamation (Hayhow, Fenwick). Dr. Chris Hayhow succeeds Dr. Harry Dickerson as Chair.

b. **Approval of New Committee Members, Committee Chairs and Representative to COBTA** The slate presented by Dr. Dickerson was discussed. The slate then was presented by Dr. Dickerson and accepted (Castro, Potgieter). (See the 1998 Directory on the Web).

c. **Election Results for Honorary Membership.** Dr. Dickerson reported that the College had elected Drs. Carlton L. Gyles, Lorraine J. Hoffman and David L. Huxsoll to ACVM honorary membership.

d. **Microbiology Network.** Dr. Potgieter discussed the overture by the "Microbiology Network" for our web site to be included in their listings. A motion to link our web site with the Microbiology Network was proposed and approved (Bowersock, Castro).

e. **American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics.** Dr. Scott Brown (Chairman of AAVPT) discussed current issues concerning antimicrobial resistance especially as it relates to their use in food animals. Dr. Brown appealed to ACVM to link with AAVPT in the discussions regarding this issue and in the education on the prudent use of antibiotics. A discussion followed on mechanisms to implement the proposed cooperation. One mechanism may be to develop a combined program for a future AVMA meeting. A proposal was made and approved to establish a hot link with the AAVPT web site (Hayhow, McVey).

f. **ASM Division for "Animal Health Microbiology".** Dr. Bowersock urged everyone to be involved in the proposed division within ASM on animal health microbiology. Please contact Dr. T.L. Bowersock for detailed information on how to participate.

g. **SCAVMA Request.** A request from SCAVMA for financial support for their symposium on March 18-20, 1999 was discussed. A motion was made and approved that ACVM would donate up to \$500 provided a diplomate was included on the program to provide information on the College (Castro, McVey). It was suggested that the College offer the use of our poster and that SCAVMA consider placing Dr. Scott Dee on the program because of his background in clinical practice. The latter volunteered to cover the costs for attending the SCAVMA symposium.

8. Other Business

a. **Proposal for Infectious Diseases Subspecialty.** Dr. Dickerson indicated that no action had been taken on this matter. He requested Dr. Scott Dee take up the issue, to co-opt two to three diplomates to form an ad hoc committee and make a report at the meeting in November.

b. **Constitutional Change (Article 2, Section 1 of Bylaws) Concerning Eligibility of Nominating Committee for Office.** Submitted by Dr. R.D. Welsh and signed by two other diplomates in good standing.

Discussion concerned the apparent conflict of interest. The Board of Governors voted to change the Bylaws. This adds the following addendum to Article II, Section 1: "**Members of the nominating committee shall not be eligible for election to the Board of Governors**".

c. **Update of Constitution and Bylaws.** Several housekeeping changes were proposed by Dr. Potgieter over the signature of two other diplomates in good standing concerning the election and function of the Secretary/Treasurer. The Board of Governors voted to make the proposed changes. Therefore the second sentence of Article VII, Section 3 has been changed as follows: "**In addition, they shall also ~~annually~~ elect a Secretary- Treasurer as provided in the Bylaws (Article I, Section 4)**". An additional change is to the Bylaws, Article I, Section 4 (1). The following sentence is to be added: "**The Secretary-Treasurer, if not an elected member of the Board, shall be an ex-officio member without the power to vote.**"

d. **Limit on Honorary Membership.** A proposal to limit the number of Honorary Diplomates each year was withdrawn pending further review by the Board of Governors and the Honorary Diplomat Nominating Committee.

e. **Request for Nominations for the AJVR Board of Scientific Reviewers.** No nominees were identified.

f. **Society for Tropical Veterinary Medicine.** Dr. Potgieter discussed a communication from Dr. James A. House in which he appeals for closer interaction between ACVM and STVM. The goal is to achieve greater emphasis on microbial tropical diseases and to promote participation at the fifth biennial meeting of the STVM. A motion was made and passed to establish an internet link with the STVM (Dickerson, McVey).

g. **Dues.** Dr. Castro raised to issue of ACVM dues. He requested that annual dues paid by members be reviewed; they may not be realistic if the organization is going to have a significant role in issues that appear to be emerging. The Board of Governors recommended that this matter be placed on the agenda for the November meeting.

h. **Graduate Education.** Dr. Brad Fenwick expressed a concern about the dearth of veterinarians in graduate programs. There do not appear to be enough veterinarians with a graduate education to serve academia. This may be an issue that ACVM should address.

9. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m.