

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGISTS  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MEETING

Westin Hotel  
Seattle, Washington  
Whidbey Room  
Sunday July 12, 2009

MINUTES

**Attendees:** Dr.'s M.M. Chengappa, J.R. Fahey, C.S. Hayhow, J.A. Roth, T.H. Stevenson, J. Storz, D.L. Suarez, G.A. Uhlich, and A.R. Woolums.

**Call To Order**

President M.M. Chengappa called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Roll call was taken and all diplomates present introduced themselves. The minutes from the December 7, 2008, ACVM Board of Governors' meeting in Chicago, Illinois were reviewed. Motion by J.A. Roth and second by J.R. Fahey to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**President's Report**

President M.M. Chengappa gave a brief report. He stated that through the efforts of the ACVM Examinations Committee to improve the examinations and to reach out to potential candidates, we have experienced an increased number of applicants and improved overall pass rate. It is obvious that our continuing education program is also a great success. Our college has been challenged to encourage our diplomates to pay dues to support the efforts of the college, and to continue to attract donations from our corporate friends.

**Vice President's Report**

Vice President J.R. Fahey gave a brief report. He stated that we have some issues that need resolved concerning our examinations and the appeal process. In addition, he requested our members consider participating in the One Health initiative.

**Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

- a. Chris Hayhow summarized the financial status of the college. Our tax return was filed with the IRS and approved. We have renewed our non-profit status with the State of Illinois. On December 31, 2008, we had a balance of \$32,636.47 in our checking account and \$16,380.13 in CD's, for a total of \$49,016.60. On May 1, 2009, we had a balance of \$32,650.55 in our checking account and \$16,659.50 in CD's, for a total of \$49,310.05. A detailed itemized report of our income and expenses for the last year was reviewed.

- b. Request for Emeritus Status: Motion by J.A. Roth and second by J.R. Fahey to approve Charles A. Carson (MO) for ACVM Emeritus Status. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. Deceased: Mark G. Stevens and Robert Dee Williams.
- d. Election results: J.R. Fahey (2009), L. Gershwin (2009), and M.A. Kennedy (2009) have completed service on the Board. Effective at the conclusion of this Board meeting T.E. Besser (2012), C.C.L. Chase (2012) and J.R. Fahey (2012) will each begin a three year term of service. Thank you to those members completing service and welcome aboard to the new members.

## **Committees**

- a. **Examinations Committee:** Dr. A. Woolums, Chair  
Amelia reported that following review of the examination results in 2008, that we need to determine how best to handle appeals and to review our policies. The appeal process is outlined in our ACVM Constitution. James Fahey has agreed to review the process and decide if we need to make any revisions. This year we had sixteen (16) applicants for certification by examination. The ACVM Examinations Committee reviewed all the applications and recommended approval of the application of fifteen (15/16) of these candidates. The ACVM Board endorsed the recommendation of the ACVM Examinations Committee. Chris Hayhow reported that all 16 applicants were notified of the vote of the Board. We now have 87 candidates eligible to sit for our examinations this year.
- b. **Continuing Education and Program Committee:** Drs. Chris C.L. Chase, Chair  
In the absence of Chris Chase, Chengappa reported that the title of the symposium for this year is "Immune Evasion by Intracellular Pathogens." If you have any ideas for topics for 2010 please provide them to Chris, Scott McVey, or another member of the committee as soon as possible. Chris Hayhow reported that based on efforts by Scott McVey we have commitments from Pfizer Animal Health, Fort Dodge Animal Health, and Schering-Intervet to support the joint ACVM/AAVI symposium and our other activities at the 2009 CRWAD meeting. In addition, we have an agreement in place for AAVI to provide ACVM \$1,000.00 in support of the symposium.
- c. **Graduate Student Awards Committee:** Dr. Steven Olsen, Chair  
Steven Olsen was unable to attend the meeting. Chengappa asked that anyone interested in assisting with evaluation of the graduate student presentations at CRWAD contact Steven Olsen as soon as possible.
- d. **Nominating Committee:** Dr. Sanjeev Narayanan, Chair  
Sanjeev Narayanan was unable to attend. James Fahey agreed to work with the committee to solicit candidates for election in 2010. In 2010 we need at least six (6) candidates for the three (3) positions that will be

- available on the Board of Governors. In addition, in 2010 we will elect a President. The committee is seeking names of candidates for the ACVM Distinguished Veterinary Microbiologist award and ACVM Honorary Diplomate award for 2010. If you are aware of a deserving candidate for either of these awards please contact Sanjeev Narayanan or another member of the committee as soon as possible.
- e. **Budget Committee:** Dr. Chris Chase, Chair  
Chris Chase was unable to attend but Chris Hayhow reported that we are within our budget at this time. A full audit of our financial records will be conducted by the ACVM Budget Committee prior to our meeting in conjunction with CRWAD in December 2009.
  - f. **American Board of Veterinary Specialties:** Dr. Chris Hayhow  
Chris Hayhow reported that the ACVM annual reports for 2009 were submitted to AVMA, reviewed at the ABVS meeting in February, and approved. We remain in good standing as a college with AVMA.
  - g. **COBTA:** Dr. Chris Chase  
Chris Chase was unable to attend. Chris Hayhow reported that one of the big topics at this time is product labels, and freedom of information summaries. Following urging by COBTA, the USDA recently licensed a canine influenza vaccine.

### **Old Business**

- a. ACVM Biosecurity Task Force: Jim Roth reported that the task force has not had any activities to date. However, we are ready and willing to assist as needed.
- b. AAVI/ACVM Symposium: Plans have been finalized for 2009. We are now planning for 2010.
- c. The Distinguished Veterinary Microbiologist Award for 2009 will be presented on Monday, December 7, 2009. Dr. James A. Roth is the recipient for 2009.
- d. The One Health initiative was discussed by Vice President Fahey during his report.
- e. Parasitology specialty: Drs. Susan Little (Oklahoma State) and Lora Ballweber (Colorado State) were invited to speak on activities and progress on adding a new specialty to our college. Following a brief introduction, Chris Hayhow reported that the group was making excellent progress on preparation of a petition. The plan is to submit the petition to ABVS by November 1, 2009. It was agreed that the parasitology group will have the petition package to the ACVM Secretary-Treasurer for review by September 15, 2009. When the package is ready it will be submitted to the ACVM Board for review and approval prior to submission to the American Board of Veterinary Specialties (ABVS). Obviously we have a tight schedule but if we all work together we can achieve the goal of making a submission to ABVS in 2009. Susan Little reported that the parasitology group will meet in August to review and make

recommendations on the proposed charter diplomates. There was a discussion concerning the process for approval of both charter and honorary diplomates. President M.M. Chengappa summarized the progress and thanked everyone for their support as we work through this process. It is obvious that we all need to be open-minded and work in the best interest of all parties if we are to achieve success.

### **New Business**

- a. Election of ACVM Vice President for 2009-2010: Motion by Chengappa second by Roth to approve J.R. Fahey as ACVM Vice President. There were no nominations from the floor. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Election of Board members in 2010: James Fahey agreed to work with the nominating committee to solicit candidates for the three board seats, ACVM President, and the candidates for the ACVM Distinguished Veterinary Microbiologist award and ACVM Honorary Diplomat award for 2010.
- c. New Committee Members: James Fahey agreed to work with the committee chairs to update members for the coming year. Chris Hayhow agreed to send the information in the December 2008 Board meeting minutes to James Fahey, Jim Roth, Chengappa and Amelia Woolums to review so we can update our ACVM website.
- d. Status of members not current on dues: We had a discussion concerning the status of our ACVM diplomates that have not paid dues. There was a recommendation that we should make these members “inactive” in status until they pay delinquent dues. This issue is outlined in our ACVM By-laws. Following a long discussion, it was agreed that Chris Hayhow will provide President M.M. Chengappa with a list of all members delinquent on payment of dues more than two years. Chengappa will write a letter to each of these members requesting dues payment and notifying them that if they do not pay they will be listed as inactive. If they do not pay dues and are listed as “inactive” they will be unable to vote or hold any office.
- e. Naming of awards presented at CRWAD: A proposal to name awards for distinguished members of ACVM was discussed. Drs. Chengappa and Olsen will submit a proposal for consideration by the Board in December 2009.
- f. Fees for application to ACVM and to sit for our examinations: We had a discussion concerning the pros and cons of increasing our fees. Dr. Amelia Woolums recommended that members of the ACVM Examinations Committee have their expenses paid to the meeting in Chicago. She agreed to provide a proposal to the ACVM Board for consideration in December 2009.
- g. The next ACVM Board meeting will be in conjunction with the CRWAD meeting in Chicago, Illinois on December 6, 2009.

- h. Request from ACVIM for ACVM to participate in a list serve: Chris Hayhow reported that there was a business list serve offered by ACVIM. Chris agreed to investigate whether other ACVM members can participate.
- i. Request to recognize Richard Walker with a travel scholarship: Chengappa stated that there was a request for ACVM to donate to a travel scholarship fund for use at meetings. It was agreed that ACVM will not contribute; however, Chengappa agreed to get information concerning the request so interested ACVM members could donate to the fund if they are interested.
- j. Stipend for ACVM Secretary-Treasurer: Chengappa led a discussion concerning compensation for the Secretary-Treasurer. Currently, the Secretary-Treasurer is reimbursed \$1,500.00 per year. Chengappa appointed a committee of James Roth (Chair), Tim Stevenson, and David Suarez to prepare a recommendation concerning compensation for services by the Secretary-Treasurer for review by the Board at the next meeting in Chicago, Illinois in December 2009.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM PT.

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