



# MICHIGAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Wednesday, June 16, 2021 Via Zoom Meeting

### CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by President Ast.

*A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented by Dr. Ast.  
**Motion passed.***

**Introductions:** President Ast welcomed everyone and thanked them for their willingness to conduct this meeting in the evening. He introduced Drs. Lloyd and Walker, the co-chairs of the MVMA DEI Committee.

#### **OFFICERS:**

Dr. Christian Ast	President	Present
Dr. Erin Howard	President-Elect	Present
Dr. Larry Letsche	First V.P./Treasurer	Present
Dr. Dana Tatman-Lilly	Second V.P.	Present
Dr. Melissa Ownings	Immediate Past President	Present
Dr. Steve Steep	AVMA Delegate	Present
Dr. Jill Lynn	AVMA Alternate Delegate	Present
Mr. John Tramontana	Chief Executive Officer	Present

#### **DIRECTORS:**

Dr. Megan McQuade	District 1	Present
Dr. Kristin Knirk	District 2 & 3	Present
Dr. Erin Whalin	District 4	Present
Dr. Chelsea Render	District 5 & 9	Present
Dr. Matthew Hynes	District 7	Present
Dr. Tim Duncan	District 6 & 8	Present
Dr. Laurie Lockman	District 10	Present
Dr. Elaine Sheikh	District 11	Present
Dr. Joseph Kline	District 12 & 13	Present
Dr. Anne Shuff	District 14	Absent
Dr. Kenny Rogers	District 15	Present
Dr. Jeff Bunn	Equine Practice	Absent
Dr. Lucy Shields Henny	SEMVMA	Present

**Guests:** Drs. Jim Lloyd and Lauren Walker.

**Strategic and Other Business:**

**1.1 Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Update:**

Drs. Walker and Lloyd joined the meeting to give an update on the DEI Committee. The Committee feels they have great momentum and support; this initiative is very good for the profession. They have done a lot of work but have so much more to do. The consultants have been extremely helpful with this initiative. Drs Walker and Lloyd thanked MVMA for launching this program and the consultants for creating the survey and conveying the survey results. Our consultants reviewed the IDI MVMA tool as a group and will be setting up individual reviews with staff, the DEI Committee Members and the Executive Committee. MVMA hopes to build some educational programs for members. Expect to hear more from us as we move forward as we want to be more actively engaged.

**1.2 In-Person Events/GLVC Update:**

Mr. Tramontana gave a brief update on the first hybrid SAS on June 9. There were a few glitches with presenting it with people in attendance and doing it virtually. We will move forward with the hybrid events but encourage in-person attendance and focus the questions from the audience in that group. It is tougher to answer questions virtually with a live session.

GLVC – We are working on a great program; we encourage attendees to make their room reservations now as the room block will be released July 9.

October Conference at Grand Hotel – October 17-19. We are still creating content for this conference but expect it to be more of an interactive workshop. We are hoping to get the details on this event nailed down very soon.

**1.3 Dental Insurance Update:**

Mr. Tramontana briefly reviewed the staff's dental plan and asked the Board to approve an upgrade to their dental insurance program that would allow them to have two fully paid cleanings a year. This upgrade in the dental plan would result in a slight increase in the dental insurance premium each month.

**Motion with second to accept the new Dental Plan. Motion Passed.**

**1.4 Legislative Update**

Mr. Tramontana and Dr. Letsche updated the Board on the status of the VPA. They stated they had been at the Capitol earlier today and the bill was successful in getting voted out of committee vote was 10 to 1. It will be going to the floor of house in the very near future. There have been many meetings with stakeholders in the past few weeks. Dr. Letsche's work has been instrumental in getting this passed. MHS still has some issues with the bill, but MVMA is moving forward without their support. The issues they have with the bill are already covered in

the Public Health Code. We are hoping the bill will come out of the house before the July break and proceed to the Senate in September.

**1.5 New Employee Policy Manual**

Mr. Tramontana briefly reviewed some of the key items in the new Employee Policy Manual that we received from the HR firm we hired to do the overhaul. Employees will be asked to sign a copy acknowledging their agreement with the policies and procedures put forth in this manual.

**Motion with second to approve the new Employee Policy Manual. Motion Passed.**

**1.6 Budget:**

Mr. Tramontana briefly reviewed the April budget that was sent to the Board. At this point we seem to be in pretty good shape financially. We have had good attendance at our SAS this year and have added Lunch and Learn webinars as another CE Event. These sessions will be recorded and an MVMA library will be created with the content from these sessions.

**1.7 MSU CVM Update**

Dr. Sreevatsan gave a brief update for Dean Puschner. MSU’s president lifted the mask mandate for all fully vaccinated individuals four weeks after the second vaccination.

- a. CVM is evaluating the vaccination status of their students – 88 percent of students in all 4 years are vaccinated and most others planning to get vaccinated before school begins. Only three or four percent are not getting vaccinated. Orientation for the class of 2025 will be August 9. In-person classes begin on August 16. VDL staff is 100 percent vaccinated and 95 percent of LA and 93 percent of SA are vaccinated.
- b. Expanded SACS and hired two soft tissues surgeons, and an orthopedic veterinarian as well - all expected to begin soon.
- c. Kudos to Dean Puschner for keeping everyone together during the pandemic.
- d. Beginning Monday, June 14, 2021, the MSU Veterinary Medical Center will allow clients into the building with patients. Any patient presented to the MSU Small Animal Emergency Services will undergo an initial medical evaluation to determine if urgent care is needed and whether hospitalization is warranted.
- e. Tuition rate budgets are not public yet. BOT is approving tuition at their next meeting. I have attached last year’s rate. Out of state tuition was reduced from 53,000 to 47,000, which is great for us. In state is the same rate. DVM tuition will not be increased for FY 2022. Student data for the class of 2025:

	Total	Male	Female	Hispanic	Asian	African American	American Indian	Multicultural	Notes on Multicultural
In state	60	5	55	1	4	0	1	2	1 American Indian/White, 1 Black/White
Out of state	55	6	49	11	6	0	2	3	2- Black/White, 1 Asian/Japanese
Totals	115	11	104	12	10	0	3	5	

**1.8 Board positions expiring this year with members not eligible to serve another term: They are term limited per the MVMA bylaws.**

Dr. Anne Shuff – District 14 - Northeastern MI VMA

Dr. Jeff Bunn – Michigan Equine Practitioners

Dr. Kristin Knirk – District 2 & 3 – Michiana and Southwestern

**Board Positions expiring this year with individuals eligible to serve another term:**

Dr. Tim Duncan – Districts 6 & 8 - Oakland/Wayne County VMA's

Dr. Lucy Henney - SEMVMA

Dr. Henry Reinart – Food Animal

**Please act on filling these positions these positions and report back to Ms. Fandel – deadline is October 1, 2021.**

**1.9 Other Business:**

AVMA convention is virtual again this year, but the House of Delegates will offer a hybrid meeting and Drs. Steep and Lynn will be attending in person in Chicago, July 28-30. It is at this meeting that the new AVMA president-elect vote will happen.

**Please let Drs. Steep or Lynn know your preference for the AVMA president elect position.**

MVMA will get started soon on the bylaws review – we are just waiting for a volunteer from the MAHF.

Membership Module: still working on this – the survey went out to the membership and is still open. We have had a good response so far. We will get started on a new membership module next year.

Dr. Hankenson informed the Board of a Land-Grant Symposium being held at MSU on September 14-15, 2021. For more information contact her directly.

**Standing Reports and Consent Agenda:**

**2.1 Standing Reports:**

- a. Report from AVMA – Written reports from Drs. Steep & Lynn - Attached
- b. Report from MSU CVM – Live report from Dr. Sreevatsan
- c. Michigan Department of Agriculture – Written report from Dr. Nora Wineland - Attached
- d. Michigan Department of Community Health – No Report
- e. Legislative Update – Live reports from Mr. Tramontana & Dr. Letsche

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

***Please read these reports prior to the meeting, prepared to approve them without discussion. You have the option to pull any items off the agenda if there is a need for Board discussion. Any items pulled off will be placed at the END of the Agenda.***

- 3.1 Minutes of Board of Directors on March 10, 2021 - Attached.
- 3.2 Draft Minutes of Executive Committee on June 2, 2021- Attached.
- 3.3 Membership Report - Attached
- 3.4 Financial Report for April - Attached
- 3.5 New Employee Manuel - Attached

**Motion with second to approve the consent agenda. MOTION PASSED.**

**2021 MVMA Board Meetings:**

- Tuesday – September 14, 2021 – Karoub & Associates, Legislative Day
- Wednesday – December 15, 2021 – GLAR (Greater Lansing Association of Realtors)

**The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Sheri Fandel.**