

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE  
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
TRAINING ROOM 2  
HENRICO, VA  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2021**

- CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”) was convened on September 9, 2021, at 9:16 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Center, Training Room 2, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia 23233.
- FIRST CONFERENCE** 9:16 a.m.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tregel Cockburn, DVM, Chairperson  
Thomas Massie, DVM, Committee member
- STAFF PRESENT:** Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director  
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist  
Jess Weber, Adjudication Specialist
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Tom Haney, Veterinarian  
Lindsey Brown, Practice Manager for Dr. Willis
- MATTER SCHEDULED:** **Earl Willis, Veterinarian**  
**License No. 0301-200192**  
**Case No. 193414**
- DISCUSSION:** Dr. Willis appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated July 29, 2021, to inquire into allegations that he may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary practice in Virginia. Dr. Willis was represented by counsel, Neal Talegaonkar, Esq. The Committee fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice with Dr. Willis.
- CLOSED SESSION:** Dr. Massie moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding **Earl Willis, Veterinarian**. Additionally, Dr. Massie moved that Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because her presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the

Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENE:**

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

**DECISION:**

**Case No. 193414**

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee issue a reprimand, a monetary penalty of \$750.00 to Earl Willis, Veterinarian,, and require him to complete continuing education in prescribing and recordkeeping; and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board order sent to Dr. Willis. The motion was seconded and properly carried.

The hearing concluded at 12:15 p.m.

**SECOND CONFERENCE:**

12:25 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tregel Cockburn, DVM, Chairperson  
Thomas Massie, DVM, Committee member

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director  
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist  
Claire Foley, Adjudication Specialist

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Daniel White

**MATTER SCHEDULED:**

**Sonya Lea Etter, Veterinarian**  
**License No. 0301-200310**  
**Case No. 189194**

**DISCUSSION:**

Dr. Etter appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated August 2, 2021, to inquire into allegations that she may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary practice in Virginia. Dr. Etter was not

represented by counsel. The Committee fully discussed the allegations contained in the Notice with Dr. Etter.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding **Sonya Lea Etter, Veterinarian**. Additionally, Dr. Massie moved that Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because her presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENE:**

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

**DECISION**

**Case No. 189194:**

Dr. Massie moved that the Committee dismiss the case against Dr. Etter, and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board order sent to Dr. Etter. The motion was seconded and properly carried.

The hearing concluded at 1:12 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelli Moss". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director