

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE  
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
TRAINING ROOM 1  
HENRICO, VA  
April 23, 2026**

- CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of a Special Conference Committee (“Committee”) of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”) was convened on April 23, 2026, at 9:04 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Center, Training Room 1, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia 23233.
- FIRST CONFERENCE:** 9:04 a.m.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bruce Bowman, DVM, Chairperson  
Richard Godine, DVM, Committee Member
- STAFF PRESENT:** Claire Foley, J.D., Deputy Executive Director  
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist  
Christine Corey, Esq., Adjudication Consultant,  
Administrative Proceedings Division
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Anne Vincelette  
Zach Barker
- MATTER SCHEDULED:** **Christin Dean, Veterinarian**  
**Case 246928**
- DISCUSSION:** Dr. Dean appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated February 2, 2026, to inquire into allegations that she may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary medicine in Virginia. Dr. Dean was not represented by counsel.
- CLOSED SESSION:** Dr. Godine moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia (“Code”) for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding Christin Dean, Veterinarian. Additionally, Dr. Godine moved that Ms. Foley 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. Godine 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 Nos. 246928**

Dr. Godine moved that the Committee issue an order reprimanding Dr. Dean and requiring the completion of continuing education in the subjects of client communication and record keeping. Dr. Godine further moved that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order sent to Dr. Dean. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 10:03 a.m.

**SECOND CONFERENCE:**

10:13 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bruce Bowman, DVM, Chairperson  
Richard Godine, DVM, Committee Member

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Claire Foley, J.D., Deputy Executive Director  
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist  
Christine Corey, Esq., Adjudication Consultant,  
Administrative Proceedings Division

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Stephanie Keevis

**MATTER SCHEDULED:**

**Andrew Mercurio, Veterinarian**  
**Case No. 234663**

**DISCUSSION:**

Dr. Mercurio appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated February 23, 2026, to inquire into allegations that he may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary practice in Virginia. Dr. Mercurio was represented by Margaret Hardy, Esq.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Dr. Godine 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 Andrew Mercurio, Veterinarian Applicant. Additionally, Dr. Godine moved that Ms. Foley 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. Godine 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. 234663**

Dr. Godine moved that the Committee issue an order reprimanding Dr. Mercurio and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order sent to Dr. Mercurio. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 11:47 a.m.

**THIRD CONFERENCE:**

12:21 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bruce Bowman, DVM, Chairperson  
Richard Godine, DVM, Committee Member

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Claire Foley, J.D., Deputy Executive Director  
Heather Pote, Sr. Discipline Case Specialist  
Emily Tatum, Esq., Sr. Adjudication Specialist,  
Administrative Proceedings Division

**MATTER SCHEDULED:**

**Jonathan Reiss, Veterinarian  
Case Nos. 235590 and 245423**

**DISCUSSION:**

Dr. Reiss appeared before the Committee in person in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated March 19, 2026, to inquire into allegations that he may have violated certain laws and regulations governing veterinary practice in Virginia. Dr. Reiss was represented by Ashley Moss, Esq.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Dr. Godine 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 Jonathan Reiss, Veterinarian. Additionally, Dr. Godine moved that Ms. Foley 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. Godine 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.

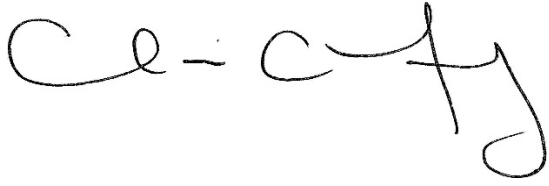
The Committee reconvened in open session pursuant to §2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

**DECISION:**

**Case Nos. 235590 and 245423**

Dr. Godine moved that the Committee issue an order reprimanding Dr. Reiss, requiring continuing education in the subject of record keeping, requiring a written attestation that he has read and understands the laws and regulations governing the practice of veterinary medicine, and requiring a compliance inspection within one year of the date of entry of the order. Dr. Godine further moved that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order sent to Dr. Reiss. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The hearing concluded at 2:21 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Foley'.

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Claire Foley, J.D., Deputy Executive Director