

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
FORMAL HEARING MINUTES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
BOARD ROOM 2
HENRICO, VA
July 28 and 29, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) was called to order at 12:05 p.m. on July 28, 2022, at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 2, Henrico, Virginia.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Tregel M. Cockburn, D.V.M., President

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Karras, D.V.M.
Thomas Massie, D.V.M.
Jeffery Newman, D.V.M.

QUORUM: With four members of the Board present, a quorum was established.

STAFF PRESENT: Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director
Heather Pote, Senior Discipline Case Administrator

BOARD COUNSEL: Charis A. Mitchell, Assistant Attorney General

COURT REPORTER: Andrea Pegram, Court Reporting Services, LLC

PARTIES ON BEHALF OF THE COMMONWEALTH: Emily Tatum, Senior Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division
Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

COMMONWEALTH WITNESSES: Jermial Gray, Senior Investigator, DHP
Scott Dillon, Senior Investigator, DHP
Curt Shade
Sienna Church, Veterinarian
Jacob Bogart
Richard Malament
Renee Addison, Veterinarian
Taylor Wilcher
Hannah Plaughter, Veterinarian

RESPONDENT WITNESS: Ayman Salem, Veterinarian

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shirin Zin Faqiri
Taryn Singleton, L.V.T., Discipline Case Administrator
Tsering Cole
Greer Peacock
Diane Powers, DHP
Sue Bartos, DHP
Randi B. Hagi
Erin T. Weaver

MATTER SCHEDULED:

Ayman Salem, Veterinarian
License No: 0301-201313
Case Nos: 210960, 212327, 213511, 213789, 214580

Dr. Salem appeared before the Board in accordance with a Notice of Formal Hearing dated May 9, 2022. He was represented by Michael Thorsen, Esq. The Board received evidence from the Commonwealth and from Dr. Salem and his counsel regarding the allegations in the Notice.

RECESS:

Dr. Cockburn recessed the hearing at 3:59 p.m. on July 28, 2022, to be reconvened on July 29, 2022.

July 29, 2022

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) was called to order at 9:02 a.m. on July 29, 2022. Dr. Cockburn stated for the record that all of the same board members, staff members, and the parties were in attendance as were at the first day of the hearing.

**COMMONWEALTH
WITNESSES:**

Scott Dillon, Senior Investigator, DHP
Thomas Burgess, Veterinarian
Joseph Sorensen
Garrett Smith, Veterinarian

RESPONDENT WITNESS:

Ayman Salem, Veterinarian

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shirin Zin Faqiri
Diane Powers, DHP
Sue Bartos, DHP
Randi B. Hagi
Erin T. Weaver
Crissy Sorensen

CLOSED SESSION:

Dr. Karras moved that the Board 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 of **Ayman Salem, Veterinarian**. Additionally, he moved that Ms. Mitchell and Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded by Dr. Massie and carried unanimously.

RECONVENE:

Dr. Karras moved that the Board 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 by Dr. Massie and carried unanimously.

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

DECISION:

Dr. Karras moved to continue the indefinite suspension of the license of Dr. Salem for not less than two years, and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order that will be sent to Dr. Salem at his address of record. The motion was seconded by Dr. Newman and carried unanimously.

This decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions and decision of this quorum of the Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Formal Hearing adjourned at 4:08 p.m. on July 29, 2022.



Leslie L. Knachel, M.P.H., Executive Director