

Call to Order

The April 15, 2024, the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine Veterinarian Shortage Study Workgroup meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. at the Virginia Farm Bureau Auditorium, 12580 West Creek Parkway, Richmond, Virginia 23238.

Chair

Leslie Knachel, Executive Director

Workgroup Participants Present

Charles Broaddus, DVM, PhD, Dip. ACT, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Erin Barrett, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs

Thomas B. Massie, Jr., DVM, Board of Veterinary Medicine

Patricia Seeger, LVT, Board of Veterinary Medicine

William T. Swecker, DVM, PhD, DACVN, Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine

Randall Evans, DVM, CPCC, Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine

Martha Moore, Virginia Farm Bureau

Susan Seward, Virginia Veterinary Medical Association (VVMA)

Nathaniel Burke, DVM, VVMA

Melinda McCall, DVM, Virginia Academy of Food Animal Practitioners

Julia Murphy, DVM, Virginia Department of Health

Nicole Riley, Virginia Economic Development Partnership

Stephen Versen, Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission

Jane Naramore, LVT, Virginia Association of Licensed Veterinary Technicians

Beth Venit, VMD, American Association of Veterinary State Boards

Heidi Hertz, Virginia Agribusiness Council

Staff Present

Arne W. Owens, Agency Director

Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director

Taryn Singleton, LVT, Board of Veterinary Medicine

Laura Booberg, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel

Yetty Shobo, Deputy Director, DHP Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Laura Paasch, Senior Licensing Specialist

Public Present

Caroline Buscaglia, Assistant Director for State Government Relations
Carol Heizer, LVT
Jake Tabor, Virginia Farm Bureau
Bom Harris, DVM, Virginia Academy of Food Animal Practitioners
Talya George, VVMA

Public Attending Electronically

Bryan Estey, Legislative Assistant to Delegate Alfonso Lopez
Teresa Dockery, Virginia Alliance for Animal Shelters

Call to Order

The participants were welcomed and introduced themselves to the workgroup attendees.

Ordering of Agenda

Ms. Knachel opened the floor to any edits or corrections regarding the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was accepted as presented.

Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

Discussion

- Ms. Barrett reported on the 2024 legislation (House Joint Resolution No.43 and Senate Joint Resolution No.15) that requested the Board of Veterinary Medicine in consultation with the State Veterinarian study the shortage of large animal veterinarians.
- Dr. Shobo presented information from the 2023 Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians Healthcare Workforce Data Center Reports.
- Ms. Knachel gave an overview of the current laws, regulations, and guidance documents applicable to the practice of veterinary medicine.
- Dr. Broaddus provided information on the following:
 - Previous studies conducted in Virginia and Kentucky.
 - Examples of reimbursement programs currently in use in the United States.
- Dr. Broaddus led the discussion on top solution suggestions.
- Ms. Knachel suggested the following subgroup meeting structure:
 - Financial Resources (to include repayment programs)
 - Veterinary Technician Scope of Practice
 - Supporting Data
 - Class size for veterinarian and veterinary technician schools

New Business

There was no new business to report.

Next Meeting

The subgroup meetings will be scheduled in the near future.

Adjournment

With no objection, Ms. Knachel adjourned the meeting at 1:34 PM.