Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association
Executive Board Meeting
June 15, 2011

UW School of Veterinary Medicine
2015 Linden Drive
Madison, WI

Room 2255

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President, Dr. Steve Erickson.

Executive Board members in attendance: Drs. KC Brooks, John Been, Jessica Daul, Tom Whitten, Bill Nussdorfer, Philip Johnson, Bob Klostermann, Tom Howard, Robert Zukowski, Randy Schuett, Pete Gaveras, Robert Ehlenfeldt, Tom McKenna, Daryl Buss; student, Marsha Bush, and WVMA staff, Kim Pokorny and Sarah Young.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the April minutes. Vote taken and motion passed.

New Members Approved: – Dr. Erin Greuel; Dr. Dena Baumgartner; Dr. Mackenzie Hellert; Dr. Paul Kunde; Dr. Sukhwinder; Singh; Dr. David Trask; Dr. Kimberly Peacock (pending the graduate student paperwork).

President's Report - Dr. Erickson reported on attending the State FFA Convention. The WVMA sponsors the Veterinary Medicine Proficiency Award. In addition, Dr. Erickson attended the UW SVM, Board of Visitors meeting.

Executive Director's Report - Kim Brown Pokorny reported that the computer upgrades are complete in the office. The WVMA held four Dog Breeders and Sellers informational meetings with over 325 members in attendance. The office is working with the SVM on rescheduling the legislator reception for some time in the fall.

Sarah Young reported on the Constant Contact professional development training she attended.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Dr. Howard. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Vote taken and motion passed.

Report from DATCP – Dr. Ehlenfeldt – The outbreak of Equine Herpes Virus 1 appears to be waning. There were no Wisconsin resident horses impacted. Nationally there are 88 confirmed cases in 10 states and 12 of the clinical horses either died or were euthanized. A total of 1685 horses in 19 states were exposed. The initial exposure appears to have occurred at a cutting horse show in Utah with secondary and tertiary exposure occurring after the index horses returned home. Once again bio-security is critical in limiting exposure to this disease. Most outbreaks have been linked to tracks and exhibition exposure. This outbreak also resulted in some states immediately changing their import requirements. Remember to always contact the state of destination for current requirements. For more information on EHV contact Dr. Darlene Konkle 608-224-4902 or Darlene.konkle@wisconsin.gov

The division recently completed two Tuberculosis investigations with all exposed cattle slaughtered with no gross lesions and negative herd tests. A beef investigation was a trace-out from Indiana and the dairy investigation was a trace from California.

Electronic TB/Brucellosis forms are being piloted.

For those veterinarian interested in fish medicine, “Save The Date” for those veterinarians interested in fish health veterinary seminar/workshop is being planned for September 19 and 20 at the UW Pyle Center. For more information contact Dr. Myron Kebus 608-224-4876 or Myron.kebus@wisconsin.gov

250 registered dog licensing premises at this time.

Report from WVDL – Dr. McKenna – The WVDL is waiting to see what the budget is going to look like. The WVDL is working on developing a bulk tank test for FMD (Kathy Kurth’s division).

SVM Tour – Dean Buss facilitated a tour of the new tomotheraphy division, the dental division and rehabilitation divisions.

Report from SCAVMA – Marsha Bush spoke about her trip, via CVMF, and about the opportunities that the students are involved in internationally.

SVM Report – Dr. Chris Olsen, Associate Dean, reported that the Class of 2015 had 1183 applicants, of which 207 were WI residents. Wisconsin applicants have increased over the past three years. Food animal applicants have seen a steady increase over the last couple of years. The UW is a standout for food animal/dairy medicine.

Residue Task Force Report – Dr. Howard: Several groups have committed to the WVMA plan. Dr. Maas from UC Davis, advisors to the NCBA, BQA veterinarians, FSIS/FDA (to name a few), have been positive about the WVMA action plan. The goal is for the plan to be used for more than residue avoidance – protocol development, employee training, management.

There are two member meetings planned for July 20 and 21. These meetings are intended to be informational and train the trainer type of meetings.

Legislative Committee Report – Drs. Klostermann -- The Dept. Regulation and Licensing, VEB continues to work on VE Rules revisions. We continue to work with the Department to address the enforcement of unlicensed practice. A motion was made and seconded to write a letter of support for Sheldon Schall, to fill the public position on the VEB. Vote taken and motion passed.

AVMA Model Practice Act Draft – Read and send comments to Kim regarding what we do and do not like. We will need to submit comments to the AVMA.

We are working with the VEB on scheduling a time to tape an informed consent video.

Personnel Committee Report - Dr. Johnson – reported on the change made to health insurance carriers, due to high increases in premium. In addition, staff interviews were conducted during the annual review process.

Executive Committee Report – Dr. Erickson - Insurance renewal – approved the renewal because the insurance needed to be changed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Executive Committee actions – switch to Physician’s Plus Health Insurance. Vote taken and motion passed.

President’s History Project – Dr. Johnson reported that it is in the electronic editorial stage.

Best Practices Update – Dr. Johnson – Will be meeting with Impromed within the next couple of weeks.

Nominating and Procedural Committee – A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation of Dr. KC Brooks for president-elect. Vote taken and passed.

Awards & Recognition Committee – Dr. Daul reported that the award nomination information is in the newsletter and needs to be submitted to the WVMA office by July 31.

Membership & Member Services Committee – Dr. Whitten reported that the member's benefits are implemented and are being promoted online and in the newsletter.

Public Education & Marketing Committee – Sarah Young reported that through Constant Contact we will begin collecting email addresses from public members interested in receiving the monthly informational piece. The committee is working on getting quotes to update the display, and to begin illustrating the color books.

Report from AVMA – Dr. Schuett
AVMA House of Delegates (HOD), meeting/business: As presented the WVMA Ex. Board voted to approve Amendments 2-9; disapprove amendments 11 and12 and to approve Resolution 4 and 5.

Because new information often becomes available during the HOD meeting, a motion was made and seconded to allow Dr. Schuett to use his judgment on voting for the amendments and resolutions. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Animal Welfare Committee – Dr. Gaveras reported that the committee is working on guiding principles and should have some of them finished by the next Executive Board meeting.

Grievance Committee – Dr. Brooks reported that the committee is currently working on a grievance. In addition, it was recommended that we highlight the Grievance Committee and its services.

Public Health & Food Safety Committee – Dr. Zukowski presented the following recommendations, they were voted on and approved.

Recommendation: The WVMA should support premises registration, livestock identification and traceability.

Background: The ability to identify affected animals and quickly trace livestock is critically important for rapid response and containment efforts in a disease outbreak. Limiting the spread of an animal disease and quickly controlling it are important to protecting animal, public and economic health in Wisconsin.

Following the 2001 Foot and Mouth disease outbreak in Great Britain and the 2002 Exotic Newcastle Disease outbreak in the Southwest U. S., Wisconsin became the first state to require the registration of all livestock premises. This registration is important not only from a post-infection response but it also provides a means to rapidly communicate emerging disease information directly to the producers that may be affected. Tying premises registration to livestock identification provides a start and end point for traceability.

Improved livestock identification is useful in identifying sources of food-borne illness such as *E. coli* and Salmonellosis. In addition drug residue is an increasing problem. With proper livestock identification and records the true source of drug residue violations can be determined.

Improved methods of permanently identifying livestock, including electronic identification, are necessary for the accurate tracing and accounting of exposed animals should an outbreak occur. The WVMA strongly supports premises registration, increased efforts to identify livestock and the development of methods and systems for tracing exposed animals, identifying sources of food-borne illness and drug residues to enhance animal, public and economic health in Wisconsin and the U.S.

Recommendation:
The WVMA should support individual activities of veterinarians in educating clients about the prevention of zoonotic diseases, and facilitate enhanced cooperation between veterinary medicine and human medicine professionals in zoonotic disease education and prevention, for the benefit of the people of Wisconsin.

Background:
Whereas, it is estimated that at least 60% of infectious diseases of humans that have emerged in the past several decades are zoonoses (WHO, 2010); and,

Whereas, infectious diseases can have particularly severe consequences for immunocompromised patients (Kaplan et al., 2009); and,

Whereas, the causes of immunocompromise among human patients are extensive, including but not limited to -- HIV infection, chemotherapy, immunosuppressive therapy for immune-mediated diseases, asplenia or splenectomy, pregnancy, advanced age; and,

Whereas, 32.4%/37.2%/3.9% of households in the United States include cats, dogs, or birds, respectively (AVMA, 2007); and,

Whereas, a large number of persons in Wisconsin have contact with food and fiber animals on farm premises; and,

Whereas, veterinarians specifically receive "instruction in the principles of epidemiology, zoonoses, food safety, the interrelationship of animals and the environment, and the contribution of the veterinarian to the overall public and professional healthcare teams" as a part of the required curriculum in all AVMA Council on Education-accredited schools/colleges of veterinary medicine (AVMA, 2010a); and,

Whereas, the Veterinarian's Oath specifically stipulates "the promotion of public health" (AVMA. 2010b); and,

Whereas, multiple studies have demonstrated the need for enhanced communication and cooperation between veterinary medicine and human medicine professionals in the control of zoonoses, including specifically among immunocompromised persons (Grant and Olsen, 1999; Lipton et al. 2008; Von Mattiessen et al., 2008);

Therefore, the above stated resolution is put forth by the WVMA Food Safety and Public Health Committee for consideration by the WVMA Executive Committee.

References:
AVMA. 2007. U.S. pet ownership and demographics sourcebook. (Available at: http://www.avma.org/reference/marketstats/ownership.asp)

AVMA. 2010a. Accreditation policies and procedures of the AVMA Council on Education (COE), standard 9.9.d. (Available at: http://www.avma.org/education/cvea/coe_standard.asp)

AVMA. 2010b. Veterinarian's oath. (Available at: http://www.avma.org/about_avma/whoweare/oath.asp)

Grant, S. and C.W. Olsen. 1999. Preventing zoonotic diseases in immunocompromised persons: the role of veterinarians and physicians. Emerg. Infect. Dis. 5:159-163. (Available at: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/eid/vol5no1/grant.htm)

Kaplan, J.E. *et al.* 2009. Guidelines for prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections in HIV-infected adults and adolescents. Morb. Mortal. Weekly Rep. 58 (RR-4): 1-207.

Lipton, B.A. *et al.* 2008. A survey of veterinarian involvement in zoonotic disease prevention practices. JAVMA 233:1242-1249. (Available to AVMA members at: http://avmajournals.avma.org/toc/javma/233/8)

Von Mattiessen et al. 2003. Zoonotic diseases and at-risk patients: a survey of veterinarians and physicians. AIDS 17:1404-1406. (Available at: http://journals.lww.com/aidsonline/fulltext/2003/06130/zoonotic_diseases_and_at_risk_patients___a_survey.21.aspx)

WHO. 2010. Strong intersectoral partnerships in health: managing zoonotic public health risks at the human-animal-ecosystem interface. (Available at: http://www.who.int/zoonoses/en/)

Raw milk update – WVMA continues to participate in the Safe Milk Coalition (producers, processors, public health and medical associations), to coordinate strategy and communication strategies in opposing the legalization of raw milk.

Veterinary Technician Committee – Dr. Daul reported that a survey was sent out on June 14. Everyone should encourage their CVTs to complete the survey.

Professional Education Committee – Dr. Nussdorfer reported that the Convention planning is on track and the marketing piece should hit the mailboxes in early August. The Committee needs to meet again to look at potential new opportunities – aligning with corporate sponsors for additional CE opportunities. The WVMA is solely responsible for speaker selection (transparency.) Ideas would include a brown bag lunch webinar series and some OSHA, State requirements informational meetings.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn into closed session for performance reviews. Vote was taken and motion passed.

WVMA Mission*: To advocate and promote veterinary medicine, while enriching animal and human health.*