

MINUTES
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
Toll Free 888.808.6959; Conference Code 9218690

General Business Meeting
January 20, 2009 @ 11:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. O'Neil called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Robert O'Neil, Chair
Henry Dover, Vice Chair
Dr. Sergio Vega
Dr. Joann Helm
Dr. George Simmons
Dr. Guy Maxwell
Cynthia Lewis

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Deborah Loucks, Board Counsel
Linda Tinsley, Government Analyst

Dr. O'Neil advised the board that Ms. Cynthia Lewis was appointed to the board by the Governor and Dr. Maxwell was re-appointed.

Mr. Dover congratulated Dr. Maxwell and Ms. Lewis.

Dr. O'Neil advised the board that after speaking with the Governor and the Chief of Staff about the state of the economy he suggested to the Governor that the board members give back their board compensation voluntarily to help with the state's budget crises. He stated that if the board agrees he was going to challenge the other boards at DBPR to do the same during the budget crisis.

MOTION: Mr. Dover made a motion to voluntarily give back the \$50.00 per day board compensation to the state.

SECOND: Dr. Helm seconded the motion.

Dr. Vega stated that this was just politics and the people that created this mess should be the ones to give up their perks and their salaries if needed. He stated that they should not ask the little people. He stated that he had a couple of ideas to save money. Dr. Vega recommended that the board should meet at the cheapest location and the board could meet three (3) times a year instead of four (4) times a year and have telephone conference calls when needed.

Dr. O'Neil stated that this was his idea not the Governor's or anyone else. He stated that if you start cutting meetings it will be a permanent cut and you will not get the four (4) meetings back. He stated that the board members did not have to give back their compensation it would be voluntary.

Ms. Loucks stated that the board could vote as a board not to accept the fifty dollars (\$50.00). She stated that what each board member needed to do was to write a letter to Ms. Chastain stating to please not pay them the fifty dollars (\$50.00).

Dr. O'Neil asked Ms. Tinsley to call the roll.

The motion passed with Dr. Vega opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.