

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting - Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association

Friday, February 4, 2011

Victoria Inn, 1808 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg, MB

Attendance: Drs. Larry Adelman, Erika Anseeuw, Wadie Ariza, Ray Aslani, Leeanne Bargen, Trevor Bebhuk, Chris Bell, Charlene Berkvens, Anita Bielak, Ken Bingham, Navdeep Braha, Narinder Brar, Amanda Brown, Brad Chappell, Neil Charnock, Joyce Chartrand-Kehler, Kulwinder Chhoker, Wayne Clayton, Cathy Clemence, Shelagh Copeland, John Copps, Jacqueline Enns, Chris Enright, Annette Fleming, Angelica Galezowski, David Hamilton, Waheed Haneef, Harvinder Hirkewal, Joseph King, Chris Kranendonk, Kimberley Krasnesky, Wayne Lees, Ken Johnson, Chris Kranendonk, Jane Kranendonk, Fred Lindenschmidt, Alison Litchfield, Merv Madill, Amanda Malboeuf, Colleen Marion, Sally McGillivray, Dale McKague, Joe Meek, Ron Mentz, Kevin Millar, Hugh Millar, Mary Ann Millar, Catharine Moir, Sarah Moore, Ken Mould, Renu Nandee, Barbara Nelson-Kozack, Camilla Nichol, Gwenda Olson, Colleen O'Morrow, Leanne Paetkau, Suzanne Pankratz, Cathy Patterson, Marc Philippot, Marnie Pisclevich, Max Popp, Allan Preston, Jillian Preston-Gren, Kurt Preugschas, Tanja Preugschas, Bill Richards, Philipp Schott, Mike Sheridan, Bhupinder Singh, Jaswant Singh, Colleen Skavinsky, Jill Tait, Foss Taylor, Wayne Tomlinson, Jessica Treen, Matt Van Steelandt, Lynn Webster, Jennifer White and Melanie Youngs.

New MVMA Members:

MVMA Life Members:

MVMA Staff: Andrea Lear, MVMA General Manager & Director of Communication and Advocacy; Michelle Martin-Strong, MVMA Registrar; and Simone Gillies, MVMA Communication & Regulatory Associate

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the MVMA President Dr. Brad Chappell at 7:10pm.

2. Greetings

Representatives from the western veterinary associations, veterinary college, industry partners and government brought greetings on behalf of their organizations.

- Dr. Melanie Roth from the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association
- Dr. Troy Bourque from the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association
- Dr. John Brocklebank from the College of Veterinarian of British Columbia
- Dr. Julie de Moissac from the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
- Dr. John Campbell from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine
- Mr. Peter Solilak from the Manitoba Animal Health Technologists Association
- Mr. Allan Preston from Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

3. Moment of Silence in Remembrance of Colleagues

Membership was asked to stand for a moment of silence for colleagues Dr. William Henry, Dr. Jack McPhedran, Dr. Norman Stanger and other colleagues who had passed away.

4. Veterinarian's Oath

The membership remained standing and recited the veterinary oath. This standard oath has been adopted by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association and is used across the country.

5. President's Greeting

Dr. Chappell welcomed MVMA members and guests and thanked them for their attendance. He encouraged members to contact MVMA Council members to share feedback on MVMA activities.

A. Dr. Chappell introduced the 2011 MVMA Council:

- Dr. Chris Kranendonk - Incoming President (term begins after the AGM)
- Dr. Marc Philippot - President Elect (term begins February 2012)
- Dr. Trevor Bebchuk – Council Member
- Dr. Leeanne Bargaen – Council Member
- Dr. Bhupinder (Tony) Singh – Council Member
- Dr. Wayne Tomlinson – Council Member

Dr. Chappell informed the membership that the current council members were acclaimed and if there was no objection, the election would be ratified.

B. The two outgoing members of council, Dr. Colleen Marion and Dr. Rosemary Postey, were introduced and thanked for their contribution to the MVMA by Dr. Chappell.

C. Dr. Chappell introduced MVMA staff members to the membership:

- Andrea Lear, MVMA General Manager & Director of Communication and Advocacy;
- Michelle Martin-Strong, MVMA Registrar;
- Simone Gillies, MVMA Communication & Regulatory Associate
- Araina Dowd, MVMA Secretary-Treasurer (not in attendance)
- Judy Reynolds, MVMA Administrative Assistance (not in attendance)

6. Special Orders

Dr. Chappell informed the membership that Council had enlisted the services of a parliamentarian, Ms. Vera Chernecki, to assist in the running of the AGM. Membership was informed that Robert's Rules of Order Newly revised would be used for the meeting. A sheet on the basic rules of parliamentary procedure was available for reference for members at their seats. The scrutineers for the meeting were also introduced: Dr. Colleen Marion and Dr. Rosemary Postey and Ms. Michelle Martin-Strong will act in this role should it be required. Dr. Chappell asked for any objections to their appointment. There were none.

a) Additions/Modification to the agenda - Dr. Chappell asked if there were any objections to the agenda sent to membership prior to the meeting. There were none.

b) Minutes of the February 5, 2010 Annual General Meeting – Dr. Chappell explained, that according to Robert's Rules of Order Newly revised, the minutes do not need to be approved by membership. The MVMA council had previously reviewed and approved the minutes. They were provided to membership for their reference.

c) Presentation of Financial Statements ending June 30, 2010

Dr. Chappell indicated that the financial statements had been completed by OnBusiness Solutions and were posted online for membership review. He then invited Ms. Andrea Lear,

MVMA General Manager & Director of Communication and Advocacy to review the financial statements and 2010/2011 budget.

Ms. Lear reported that the financial statements reflected a net loss of \$41,664. The MVMA Council had projected a loss of \$52,000 during this fiscal year as it was anticipated there would be significant legal costs relating to veterinary incorporation and inter-provincial mobility agreement. During this period, there was also higher than typical staff salaries expenses due to staff modifications. Also, revenues were lower during the fiscal year due to a decline in sponsorship revenue. Ms. Lear also explained that the amortization of the offsite laboratory equipment would be changed to a 4-year straight line method to remove this equipment more quickly off the MVMA financial statements. This equipment is not truly an asset of the MVMA but that of the provincial veterinary laboratory.

d) Presentation of 2010/2011 budget (for information purposes) – Ms. Lear remained at the podium to present the 2010/2011 budget. She indicated that for the 2010/2011 fiscal year there was projected revenues of \$1,765.00. Ms. Lear pointed out that membership fees were increased by 1% and there was an additional fee of \$42.75 added to membership dues. This additional fee has been earmarked as a contribution to the MVMA legal fund. The MVMA Council had established a policy for the legal fund and the goal is to have a balance of \$250,000 in this fund within four years.

e) By-Law Modifications

Dr. Chappell invited Ms. Michelle Martin-Strong to the podium to introduce and explain the proposed amendments to By-laws 3 “Requirements for Registration and Licensure” and By-law 4 “Procedure for Application”.

Ms. Martin-Strong explained that the amendments would clearly define the requirements needed for registration correcting the order of exams to be taken and removing the provision requiring potential members to have an offer of employment before being considered for licence and registration with the MVMA.

Dr. Chappell stated that the motion on the floor is to ratify the changes to By-law 3 and 4 and that the motion was open for debate. There was no debate. Dr. Chappell repeated the amendment and called for a vote which was passed.

7. MVMA Committee/Volunteer Representative Annual Reports

Dr. Chappell reviewed that no verbal reports would be presented at the AGM. The reports were available to membership in the “Annual Reports to Membership, 2010 in Review” which was mailed to all members and was also available on the MVMA website.

Dr. Chappell thanked all volunteers for their hard work and dedication to MVMA activities. He encouraged members in the audience to recognize these volunteers’ efforts and thank them when they next meet.

- Dr. Randy Aitken, Strategic Planning Committee
- Dr. Leeanne Barga, Professional Image Committee

- Dr. Corey Bartley, Companion Animal Committee
- Dr. Fred Lindenschmidt, Practice Inspection, Practice Standards Committee
- Dr. Nancy McQuade, Winnipeg Humane Society
- Dr. Hugh Millar, WCVMA Advisory Representative
- Dr. Ken L. Mould, Canadian Animal Blood Bank
- Dr. Bob Newfield, CVMA Economic Survey Report and Red River College
- Dr. Mike Sheridan, CVMA Representative
- Dr. Wayne Tomlinson, Food Animal Committee
- Dr. Philipp Schott, Peer Review Committee
- Dr. Wenchao Zheng, City of Winnipeg Animal Services

Dr. Chappell identified various activities the association had been working on and indicated an update was available in the "Annual Reports to Membership, 2010 in Review". The activities include:

- PIPS Changes
- Veterinary Incorporation
- Veterinary Pharmaceuticals
- Cosmetic Surgery
- Terms of Reference for committees/volunteers

8. New Business

Dr. Chappell invited MVMA members to present any new business. He reminded the membership that the MVMA By-laws do not allow voting on items for which notice was not given.

Dr. Lynn Webster brought forward the topic of incorporation of veterinary practices and the consultative meeting held at 5pm, prior to the AGM. He expressed concern regarding the low attendance at this meeting. Dr. Webster stated that he was not certain that the lack of provincial legislation allowing veterinarians to incorporate was a serious issue. He felt that because many members did not attend the 5pm meeting, that maybe this issue could be reviewed with members attending the AGM.

Mr. Robert Dawson, the MVMA solicitor, was asked to address the membership regarding this issue. Mr. Dawson identified that many veterinarians are currently incorporated and are doing so in order to reduce income tax. Mr. Dawson further explained that in Manitoba, members of a profession cannot incorporate unless their governing legislation specifically states they may. The Veterinary Medical Act is silent on this matter. The MVMA currently has a proposal before the Manitoba Government to amend the Act. Mr. Dawson shared information from the consultative meeting including that there would be two shareholders categories - voting and non-voting. Voting shares could only be owned by veterinarians (to maintain disciplinary relationship to MVMA). Also at the meeting, information regarding the requirements of incorporation permit was introduced. All these items are key to maintain the protection of public and oversight of profession.

Dr. Tim Pasma, from MAFRI and who was the presenter at the incorporation consultative meeting, commented that the MVMA does not want to rush legislation. Dr. Pasma will make available a copy of the presentation and will accept written comments.

Dr. Allan Preston, also from MAFRI, explained the legislative process to the membership.

The discussion on this matter ended.

Dr. Chappell invited members to present any further new business; there was none.

9. Passing of the gavel

Dr. Chappell thanked the council and staff for their support during his presidency. He appreciated the opportunity to represent the MVMA.

Dr. Chappell invited Dr. Chris Kranendonk to the stage to accept the MVMA gavel as representation the presidency has passed onto Dr. Kranendonk.

Dr. Kranendonk accepted the gavel and thanked Dr. Chappell for his extraordinary contribution to the MVMA.

Dr. Kranendonk took over as chair of the meeting.

10. Adjournment

Dr. Kranendonk announced that seeing that there was no further business, the meeting would be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.