



Legislative Background Brief

for the
Economic Affairs Interim Committee

August 2011

Board of Veterinary Medicine

Prepared by Pat Murdo, Legislative Research Analyst

Board = 6 members (expiration of term in parentheses)

Licensed Veterinarians = 5	
Bob Sager, Wilsall (7/31/2011)	Jean Lindley, Miles City (7/31/2013)
Bruce Sorensen, Belgrade (7/31/2014)	Joan Marshall, Ekalaka (7/31/2015)
	Barbara Calm, Kila (7/31/2012)
Public Member = 1 Kim Baker, Hot Springs (7/31/2015)	

Number of Licensees, FY2011

Veterinarians	1,024
Certified Euthanasia Technicians	21
Certified Euthanasia Agencies	10
Embryo Transfer Technicians	12

Revenues FY2009-FY2010 and Budgets for FY 2009-2013

	Revenues		Expenditures	
	Licensing	Other	Personal Services	Operating
FY 2009	\$85,158		\$95,558	
FY 2010	\$81,980	\$1,363	~\$50,500	~\$48,500
FY 2011	not available	not available	not available	not available
FY 2012	not available	not available	\$57,095*	\$46,876*
FY 2013	not available	not available	\$57,086*	\$47,047*

*Projected

Expenditures, FY 2010	Direct	Indirect	
		Admin	Div. IT/Bureau
Personal Services, incl. per diem	\$43,096	\$3,089	\$4,313
Operating Expenses			
Consulting, Printing, IT, Other	\$4,396	\$1,454	
Supplies, incl. Computer	\$3,305	\$838	
Postage, mailing, IT network, voice srv	\$2,333	\$1,590	

Travel for Board Members	\$11,093	na
Rent and other expenses*	\$4,838	\$7,438
Legal and hearings	\$11,234	--

*Includes computer and office equipment repair, dues, education & training, and fee collection expense for direct expenses and rent of \$2,515, DLI OIT expense of \$1,493 and indirect agency of \$3,430 for indirect expenses.

Number of Complaints

FY 1016

Disciplinary Action (may be from other years)

FY 10 1 (21 dismissed)

Scope of Practice

Veterinarians - The practice of veterinary medicine is defined in 37-18-102, MCA, as (a) representing oneself as a veterinarian, (b) including titles, (c) diagnosing, prescribing, or administering drugs, appliances, or other treatments or performing surgery or manipulation for the prevention, cure, or relief of pain of animals, (d) instructing someone in administering biologics or medicines or other cures for preventing or treating disease in animals, (e) performing manual or laboratory procedures to diagnose animal pregnancy, sterility, or infertility, (f) performs acupuncture, ova or embryo transfer, or dentistry on animals, or instructs others, or (g) instructs others in any of the above actions.

Certified Euthanasia Technicians - An employee of a certified agency (law enforcement, animal control, or humane society) or a person working under the supervision of a veterinarian and certified by the board to administer a controlled substance approved by the board for euthanasia, as described in Title 37, chapter 18, part 6.

Embryo Transfer Technician - Scope of practice set by administrative rule (24.225.701) under definition of nonsurgical embryo transfer, which involves basic knowledge, skills and abilities related to removing ova or embryos from a donor bovine, administering local anesthetics and antibiotics, freezing and thawing embryos, catheterizing animals, and grading embryos.

2011 Legislation Impacting Board or Profession

- HB 94, sponsored by Rep. Arntzen at the request of the Department of Labor and Industry, generally revises reciprocity and other board functions. (Became law)

Summary of Responses from Survey as made through August 4, 2011:

of Responses from Board of Veterinary Medicine licensees - 2

- Appreciated board's ability to monitor profession and streamline the continuing education process.
- Biggest complaint of one was the board's response to unlicensed practice.
- The regulation causing the most problem for one related to delays in renewal applications.
- One felt the scope of practice was too narrow and needed to be expanded to take in equine dentistry, chiropractic, acupuncture, and naturopathy.