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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :
 :
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
STEVEN L. MEYER, D.V.M., : LS0808065VET
RESPONDENT. :

[Division of Enforcement Case # 03 VET 061]

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Steven L. Meyer, D.V.M.
50172 State Hwy 112
Ashland, WI 54806

Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Veterinary Examining Board
Department of Regulation & Licensing
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board. The Board has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Steven L. Meyer, D.V.M., Respondent herein, whose date of birth is July 4, 1952, is duly licensed by the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 3287, which was first granted on September 14, 1988.
2. Respondent's last address reported to the Department of Regulation and Licensing is 50172 State Hwy 112, Ashland, WI 54806.
3. At all times relevant to this action, Respondent was working as a veterinarian at Willow Animal Hospital in Ashland, Wisconsin.
4. On July 25, 2003, a seven year old spayed female Boxer dog owned by Mary Barnes was presented at Willow Animal Hospital for evaluation of a growth on her flank which had opened.
5. The Barnes dog was evaluated by Colleen Walmsley, D.V.M., who diagnosed the growth along with other subcutaneous growths as tumors and recommended that they be removed.
6. The growths were surgically removed by Dr. Walmsley on August 5, 2003. The dog was discharged on that

date.

7. Later in the afternoon of August 5th, the owner noted bleeding from around the surgical site and contacted the clinic. An unknown individual advised that some bleeding and oozing was normal post surgically, but to recontact the clinic if it worsened.

8. On August 8th, Ms. Barnes recontacted the clinic since the appearance of the wounds had worsened and the bleeding had continued.

9. Respondent examined the Barnes dog on August 8th, and noted bloody drainage and several staples at the middle of the left chest wall incision had dehisced. The dog was hospitalized for further treatment of the wound.

10. Respondent lavaged the incision with warm water and dressed the wound with Xenadine on a daily basis through Monday August 11th when the wound was noted to have enlarged.

11. The Barnes dog received Amoxicillin 500 mg. BID on August 8th.

12. The Barnes dog received Amoxicillin 500 mg in the morning of August 9th.

13. The Barnes dog received Amoxicillin 500 mg in the morning of August 10th.

14. Administration of Amoxicillin 500 mg BID to the Barnes dog was resumed on August 11th and continued through August 13th.

15. On August 12th Respondent performed a wound debridement.

16. On August 13th Respondent noted that the right side surgical site had also started to dehisce. He continued wound lavage through August 15th.

17. No Amoxicillin was administered to the Barnes dog on August 14th or 15th.

18. During the hospitalization, the Barnes dog was hospitalized in a stable area where a post surgical horse was also confined and where sanitary conditions could not be maintained.

19. On August 15th Ms. Barnes removed the dog to another clinic for evaluation of the wounds.

20. The evaluating veterinarian found a left flank wound of 16 x 12 centimeters of infected granules tissue and a right flank wound of 5 x 4 centimeters which was also infected. She debrided and closed the wounds and the dog's wounds eventually healed.

21. Respondent failed to provide adequate antibiotic therapy and sanitary housing for the Barnes dog during its hospitalization.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 453.07(2), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. Respondent's conduct as set forth in paragraph 21 of the Findings of Fact constitutes a violation of Wis. Admin. Code § VE 7.06 (1).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Stipulation of the parties is hereby accepted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the license of Steven L. Meyer, D.V.M. to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Wisconsin shall be limited on the following terms and conditions:

1. Within nine (9) months of the date of this Order, Dr. Meyer shall obtain four (4) hours of continuing education in wound management, including sanitation considerations, and four (4) hours of continuing education in antibiotic therapy, including the use of such therapy in wound management. The courses attended in satisfaction of this requirement may not be used to satisfy the statutory continuing education requirements for licensure.
2. Dr. Meyer shall be responsible for obtaining the courses required under this Order, for providing adequate course descriptions to the Department Monitor, and for obtaining pre-approval of the courses from the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board, or its designee, prior to commencement of the programs.
3. Within thirty (30) days following completion of the courses identified in paragraph 1 above, Dr. Meyer shall file with the Department Monitor certifications from the sponsoring organization(s) verifying his attendance at the required courses.
4. All costs of the educational programs shall be the responsibility of Dr. Meyer.
5. Upon successful completion of the educational programs and payment of the costs set forth below, the license of Steven L. Meyer, D.V.M., shall be restored to unlimited status.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

6. Respondent shall, no later than October 6, 2008, pay costs of this matter in the amount of two thousand five hundred and thirteen (\$2513) dollars. Payment shall be made to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, and mailed or delivered to:

Department Monitor
Department of Regulation and Licensing
Division of Enforcement
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Fax (608) 266-2264
Telephone (608) 267-3817

7. In the event that Respondent fails to pay costs as ordered or fails to comply with the ordered continuing education, Respondent's license (#3287) SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

8. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board

By: Robert Spencer
A Member of the Board

8/6/08
Date