



Oregon Veterinary Medical Examining Board

Working to protect animal health and welfare, public health, and consumers of veterinary service.

Spring 2026

A NOTE FROM OVMEB EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello Oregon Veterinarians, certified Veterinary Technicians, veterinary teams and interested parties! With spring now in full bloom across Oregon, we're seeing plenty of exciting activity under the sunny skies and warmer weather.

Thank you to Oregon's veterinarians, CVTs, CETs, interns, and facility teams for your dedicated service to animals and the public. This past quarter, OVMEB advanced its commitment to transparent communication, consistent regulation, and strengthened partnerships across Oregon and nationally. We actively engaged with licensees, enhanced outreach with our partners and began planning agency priorities for FY 2026–27. These activities support our broader mission of consumer protection, access to quality veterinary care, and ensuring the public's trust in veterinary services.

MISSION

The Board works in the interest of animal health and welfare, public health, and consumers of veterinary services. The Board's authority comes from the Veterinary Practice Act, Chapter 686 of the Oregon Revised Statutes and Chapter 875 of the Oregon Administrative Rules.

OVMEB was honored for the opportunity to present to PVMA membership at the Rose City Veterinary Conference in April. OVMEB Public Board Member, Brian Wadyka and I were able to attend the American Association of Veterinary State Boards Spring Summit and Board Training. This was a tremendous opportunity to coordinate with AAVSB and other regulatory jurisdictions throughout the United States and Canada.

Looking ahead, we're preparing for summer inspection cycles and outreach events—please watch for seasonal mailings and reminders regarding inspection scheduling and licensing updates.

Additionally, we join the rest of the state in celebrating current veterinary workforce milestones:

- A big **congratulations to Oregon State University – Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine Class of 2026** as they receive their degrees—your personal and professional achievement is a win for animal health nationwide!
- And hats off to the **Portland Community College Veterinary Technician graduates**, many poised to enter clinical roles—best wishes as you step into your professional journeys!

Thank you all for your steadfast dedication and contributions to animal welfare and public health. Here's to a safe, productive, and sunny season ahead!

-Pete Burns, OVEMB Executive Director |
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Board Updates & Activities

Public Board Meetings

The Board continues to hold regularly scheduled public meetings throughout the year. These meetings are where the Board conducts its public business, including reviewing rule updates, voting on policy items, discussing licensing trends, and receiving public comment. This is our best opportunity to engage with the public, receive input, feedback and suggestions. All agendas, meeting materials, minutes, and disciplinary actions are available on our website at: www.oregon.gov/ovmeb

2026 Remaining Meeting Dates: May 7–8 | July 16–17 | September 1–2 | November 16–17

Licensees, stakeholders, and members of the public are always welcome to attend the public portion of Board meetings. Contact ovmeb.info@ovmeb.oregon.gov or call 971-673-0224 for more information.

Case Review at Board Meetings

The Board is required by statute to review every complaint received. Each investigation is reviewed carefully in the closed Executive Session of a Board Meeting. The Board is comprised of eight members who consider the full investigative report and all evidence provided by complainants, respondents, and witnesses before making a determination. This process ensures fairness, due process, and thoughtful decision-making in every case.

BOARD GOVERNANCE & RECRUITMENT

The Board appreciates the strong interest in service this year. Applications received will move through the standard [appointment review and legislative confirmation process](#). For more information please email ovmeb.info@ovemb.

Recently Updated OVMEB Rules

In Process: March 2026 – NEW Rulemaking: SB 1539 empowers the Oregon Veterinary Medical Examining Board to develop rules allowing trained, non-veterinarian individuals to perform cattle pregnancy checks, effective January 1, 2027, and set to sunset January 1, 2031. Currently in exploratory and planning phase.

Effective 02/17/2026 – OAR 875-010-0010: Criminal Conviction Determination Process (SB 1552): OVMEB staff will prescreen potential DVM/CVT applicants to determine if past criminal history would impact licensure.

Effective 12/31/2026 – OAR 875-010-0092(2)(c): CE credit will be granted for attending Board meetings.

Effective 12/31/2026 – OAR 875-005-0005: Adds definition for Practitioner of allied health methods.

View All Rule Filings: <https://www.oregon.gov/ovmeb>

Compliance Corner –Tips for Success

- ✓ Maintain current contact information in [the Licensee Portal](#)
- ✓ Documentation remains the most common source of deficiencies—ensure clear informed consent, thorough SOAP notes, and proper chart retention. [Rule: OAR 875-015-0030](#)
- ✓ Some facility inspections show recurring issues in controlled substance logs and sanitation. It is recommended to conduct internal self-audits regularly. [Rule: OAR 875-011-0010](#)
- ✓ Facility staff are reminded to regularly review OAR requirements around continuing education, facility standards, and medical records. [Rule: OAR 875-010-0000](#)

Investigator's Corner

Common violations:

- Keep **complete, dated, and signed treatment notes**—including diagnostics, procedures, and communications. [875-011-0010\(1\)\(a-g\)](#)
- Ensure **informed consent** is documented, especially for surgeries, anesthesia, or alternative therapies. [875-015-0030 \(1\)\(f\)\(W\)](#)
- Maintain accurate **controlled substance logs, medication labels**, and up-to-date **client billing notes**. [OAR 875-011-0010](#)
- Respond promptly to requests for records and provide **legible, full patient histories** upon request. [OAR 875-011-0010\(14\)](#)

Frequent complaints:

- Poor client communication
- Billing confusion/issues
- Delayed record access: [875-011-0010 \(14\)](#)

Following these best practices can significantly reduce common complaints and help maintain high-quality care.



Licensing Desk – Quick Reminders

Keeping your information up to date helps ensure you receive important notices from the Board. Please remember:

✓ **Update your contact information promptly** in the Licensee Portal—including your email, mailing address, and phone number—to ensure you receive renewal reminders, inspection notices, and time-sensitive Board communications.

✓ **Managing Veterinarian changes must be reported immediately.** Each facility must have an actively licensed Managing Veterinarian on record, and it is the responsibility of both the MV and the facility to notify OVMEB when changes occur.

✓ **Renew your individual license and facility registration on time** to avoid penalties or lapses. Renewal instructions and current fee schedules are available on the [OVMEB website](#).

✓ **Use the Licensee Portal for all updates**—including employment changes, CE documentation, address updates, and facility information.

If you have questions about your licensure status, renewals, Continuing Education, or how to make changes in the portal, Board staff are here to help:

ovmeb.info@ovmeb.oregon.gov | 971-673-0224



Inspector's Advice

Our inspector wants to help you avoid common pitfalls during facility inspections. Here are some **Common deficiencies found during inspections:**

- Drugs stored in refrigerators/freezers without thermometers (OAR 875-015-0040(3)(e))
- Licenses of veterinarians not posted in a conspicuous manner (OAR 875-015-0020(10))
- Records of drug invoices for the past 3 years not readily available (OAR 875-015-0040(2)(b))

Reach out with any questions: ovmeb.inspector@ovmeb.oregon.gov



Regulatory Resources, Trends & Topics

Continuing Education Resources

- **AVMA:** maintains a growing digital hub offering live and on-demand webinars, podcasts, certificate programs, and action-oriented courses across topics like compliance, leadership,

clinical care, One Health, wellbeing, and more—available for all veterinary team members, with new content added monthly.

- **Oregon Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA):** recently held the **2026 Oregon Veterinary Conference** in Corvallis and highlighted post-conference sessions now available online. OVMA also spotlights webinars on animal welfare, recalls, and legislative issues—look for updates under their CE & Events feed.
- **Portland Veterinary Medical Association (PVMA):** offers **monthly member meetings** with CE sessions led by local specialists, workshops, on-demand webinars housed in its File Library, and the **“Power of Ten” program** for early-career development.
- **Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine:** hosts practitioner-friendly CE, such as an upcoming **dentistry webinar** (“Oops, They Bit it Again”) on April 9, 2026, available both in-person and via Zoom.

Transparency & Public Protection

OVMEB’s mission is to protect animal health and welfare, as well as public health and safety, through effective regulation of veterinary medicine in Oregon. The Board remains dedicated to:

- Investigating complaints as required by law
- Applying statutes and rules consistently
- Conducting meetings openly and transparently
- Providing accessible regulatory resources to licensees

Thank you for your dedication to Oregon’s animals and communities!

- OVMEB Team

www.oregon.gov/ovmeb

Portions of this newsletter were prepared with the assistance of artificial intelligence tools. All content has been reviewed and approved by OVMEB staff to ensure accuracy, neutrality, and compliance with Oregon laws and rules.
