

Meeting Minutes

OVMEB: SB-1539 Rulemaking Advisory Committee

Date: July 27, 2026

Time: 12:00 PM – 2:03 PM (Pacific)

Platform: Zoom

Convened by: Pete Burns, OVMEB Director

Members Present

Earl Aalseth, Gail Colbern, Scott Dugan, Rodney Ferry, Rusty Inglis, Ryan Krabill, Adrienne Lulay, Eric Steen, Raleigh Bigsby

Absent: Ben Wustenberg

Staff/Guests: Pete Burns (OVMEB Director), Charlie Esparza (OVMEB Inspector), Joanna Tucker Davis (Oregon DOJ), Ryan Scholz, Emilio DeBess

1. Call to Order & Housekeeping

Pete Burns called the meeting to order and confirmed quorum. Charlie Esparza managed co-host setup and waiting room. Joanna Tucker Davis (Oregon DOJ) joined to provide legal counsel prior to the public session.

2. Public Session — Scope of Practice Discussion

The committee discussed what activities fall within the board's authority to regulate under SB 1539:

- The board may specify training circumstances but not licensure, certification, exams, or fees.
- Blood/serum tests (PAGs): Considered low-barrier; minimal training concerns raised.
- Palpation and ultrasound: Require substantially more training; significant practitioner skill variance noted.
- Veterinary reporting requirements were confirmed as not extending to unlicensed practitioners under SB 1539.

3. Training Standards Discussion

The committee engaged in substantive discussion on what training requirements should look like. Key points raised:

Two Pathways Concept

The committee discussed the need for two distinct pathways:

1. “Grandfather” pathway — for experienced practitioners already performing pregnancy verification.
2. New learner pathway — for individuals seeking to learn and enter the practice.

Volume & Hands-On Experience

- Dr. Ferry noted he required up to 10,000 supervised palpations before allowing an associate to work independently.
- Short 2–3 day schools covering only ~20 animals were deemed insufficient for competency.

OSU Curriculum

- Adrienne Lulay described Oregon State University’s current program: 10 labs, 3 tests, covering palpation from 50–250 days gestation.
- Identified as the most relevant Oregon-based training option currently available.

Apprenticeship / Mentorship Model

- A veterinarian attesting to or vouching for an individual’s competency was discussed as a viable training pathway.
- Ryan Krabill noted this approach could assuage concerns from the veterinary community while addressing real-world access needs.

Tiered Training Framework

- The committee discussed tiered training requirements based on method:
 - Blood/serum testing (PAGs) — lower threshold
 - Palpation — moderate to high threshold
 - Ultrasound — higher threshold

Legislative Intent

- Ryan Krabill emphasized that SB 1539 passed overwhelmingly, sending a strong message that the RAC should work toward a functional solution that serves the marketplace while maintaining animal and food supply safety.
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4. Action Items

#	Action	Responsible Party
1	Compile and distribute meeting notes and bullet-point objectives to RAC members	Pete Burns
2	Follow up with Joanna Tucker Davis re: availability of legal memo summary	Pete Burns
3	Send materials, references, and draft rule language ideas to Pete Burns (no. direct.member_to_member. communication. per.public. meetings.law)	All RAC Members
4	Prepare draft rule language for	Pete Burns / RAC

#	Action	Responsible Party
	review at next meeting	

6. Next Meeting

- Scheduled for mid-August 2026, noon timeframe.
- Draft rule language expected to be ready for member review.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:03 PM Pacific.

Minutes prepared from AI Companion transcript. – July 8, 2025 2:03 PM Pacific