Minutes of ACVPM Epidemiology Specialty Annual Meeting  
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Denver, CO  
July 15, 2018

Outgoing Specialty Secretary Bob Brady called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm. He explained that Specialty President Dr. Kimberly Orr was unable to attend in person and would participate through GoToMeeting. Also present were incoming Specialty Secretary Dr. Tom Doker and members Drs. David Smith, Rosalie Trevejo, Kimberly Woodruff, Christa Hale, Mark Starr, and Tim Stevenson. ACVPM Diplomate Dr. Muhammad Usman Zahzer was also present. Dr. Sarah Hamer called in as did President Orr. The specialty is grateful to Dr. Barbara Jones for helping set up GoToMeeting.

Outgoing Secretary Bob Brady presented a certificates of appreciation to Dr. Rosalie Trevejo for her service on the Continuing Education Committee and Dr. Christa Hale for service on the Nominations Committee. Dr. Doker presented Dr. Brady with a certificate of appreciation for his service at Secretary. Dr. Brady will mail Dr. Chika Okafor a certificate of appreciation for his service on the Examinations Committee.

Minutes of the 2017 Specialty meeting were unanimously approved.

In her President’s Report to the ACVPM Executive Board, Dr. Orr said that as of 7/13/18, there were 53 active specialty members and 22 emeritus. She was unable to determine with certainty the number of inactive members because of the difficulty of confirming who has paid their dues. We hope this will be rectified with the new website planned for this fall. In the meantime, any member who has questions about whether he/she owes dues can contact Dr. Doker. Will plan to hold quarterly meetings using GoToMeeting (Dr. Barbara Jones is ACVPM’s contact).

Credentials Committee: Three applications to take the Specialty exam in 2018 were received, and all 3 were deemed qualified to sit for the exam. Dr. Benjamin Newcomer is chair of this committee.

Examination Committee: All 3 qualified candidates identified by the Credentials Committee took the exam simultaneously at 2 different proctored locations on 6/14/17, and all 3 passed. We welcome Drs. Kristina Hubbard, Cooper Brookshire, and Sarah Hamer to the Specialty. Dr. Stevenson asked about the pass rate for the exam in recent years. In 2017, all 3 candidates passed, and in 2016 one candidate took the exam and passed. Committee will be revising SOPs soon and will ask for input.

Nominating Committee: Dr. Tom Doker agreed to serve as Secretary 2018 – 2020 term. Dr. Christa Hale is chair of this committee, and Dr. Katherine Feldman is the other member. The committee would welcome a third member if anyone is willing to help.
Continuing Education Committee: The Continuing Education Committee worked closely with the College Continuing Education Committee to provide Continuing Education for the Denver 2018 Meeting. Dr. Christa Hale, the incoming chair, will lead a session. The Specialty is committed to work closely with the College in support of Continuing Education and Outreach, via participation in webinars, outreach, AVMA sessions, and other methods. Drs. Woodruff and Trevejo are the other members of this committee.

There was discussion about recertification. There does not seem to be a requirement for recertification in the Epi Specialty. Those who must be recertified for ACVPM (namely, those who have become Diplomates in the past 2 years) and are specialty members would not need a separate recertification for Epidemiology. Will verify that there is no recertification requirement with ACVPM’s ABVS representative, Dr. John Sanders.

We also discussed ways of encouraging more Diplomates to sit for the Epi Specialty exam. Ideas included sending a letter to new Diplomates, including a notice in the Newsletter, using the new website, and personal contacts between members and non-members. Dr. Hale recommended targeting Epidemic Intelligence Service veterinary fellows.

The question of what members should “call themselves” in their signature blocks or business cards came up. Diplomate, ACVPM (Epi) or Diplomate, ACVPM (Epidemiology) are used by different members for different audiences. Dr. Stevenson will check our bylaws and do some research.

The meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.