

Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2025
Oklahoma State University Veterinary Medicine Authority

The OSU Veterinary Medicine Authority convened a regular meeting at 10:00am on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 in the Alumni Conference Room, McElroy Hall, OSU College of Veterinary Medicine, 115 McElroy Hall, Stillwater, OK.

Notice of the meeting was provided to the Oklahoma Secretary of State consistent with the open meetings guidelines, and the agenda was posted at 115 McElroy Hall prior to the meeting in compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

I. Call to Order, Acknowledgement of Meeting Filing and Establishment of a Quorum

Chair Arthur called the meeting to order at 10:04am. A quorum was established.

PRESENT: Blayne Arthur, L. D. Barker, Joe Hall, Jerry Ritchey, Richard Prather, Troy Shelby, Jimmy Harrel, Jeff Stroup

ABSENT: None

Chair Arthur welcomed Representative Hasenbeck and Dr. Rosemarie Strong, Executive Director of OVMA.

II. Discussion and Possible Vote for the Approval of Minutes of the July 29, 2025 Meeting of the Authority

Chair Arthur asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the July 29, 2025 Authority meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Troy Shelby and seconded by Richard Prather.

AYES – Arthur, Barker, Hall, Ritchey, Prather, Harrel and Shelby

NAYS – None

III. Report and Overview of OSU – President Jim Hess

President Hess reported that the evaluation of potential sites for the new Animal Teaching Hospital is progressing. As soon as a conclusion is reached, it will be presented to the Regents for a final decision.

Dr. Hess noted the excellent pass rate for veterinary graduates and said the increased number of admitted resident students will continue to be an asset for the state.

The Dean Search Committee has been formed. They are hoping to conclude their search within the next 2 or 3 months.

President Hess thanked Representative Hasenbeck for her continued support and for facilitating meetings between him and many legislators during the last session.

IV. Report and Overview of College of Veterinary Medicine Status – Interim Dean Jerry Ritchey

a. Status and update report on the College of Veterinary Medicine

Interim Dean Ritchey presented a power point presentation.

- Class of 2029 (current Year 1 students) has increased resident students from 58 to 69.
- Class of 2030 (current recruitment) – Changed admissions requirements. No GRE and no Casper is required and only their last 45 hours GPA is reviewed.
- Class of 2031 – Will require interviews of all applicants (resident and non-resident) and include it in the scoring rubric.
- Beginning January, 2026 they will no longer accept Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE) students. These are international DVM graduate students who want to practice in the United States. This will cause a deficit of around \$700,000 in annual revenue. The gap will be mitigated by VMA.
- After dropping the GRE requirement, there was an increase of applicants. Nonresident applicants rose to 1,269 and resident applicants rose to 195.
- There have been several new hires and the addition of a new Equine Ambulatory program.
- The House Office Program has expanded, adding 2 internships and increasing salaries to be more competitive.
- There are still a few openings left to fill, but progress is being made and they should be filled soon.
- Representatives from the CVM, LRP and GH2 went on site visits to 6 universities with new or newly renovated teaching hospitals. They focused on what was working well but also what wasn't working. They also want to gain input from the Authority members and others.
- The OADDL renovation drawings are finished and bids are going out soon.
- Last year the Oklahoma Rural Veterinary Scholarship and Loan Forgiveness Program awarded \$600,000 to 8 students. This year they will have \$1,000,000 available for awards. Dr. Rosslyn Biggs is in charge of this process. Applications will open September 18 and are due November 1.
- The first Ambulatory Field Service truck is here and two more are on their way.
- The CVM Open House will be held on October 25 from 10:00am-2:00pm

V. Chief Executive Officer's Report and Possible Action Items

- a. Discussion and possible vote on Cooperative Agreement between the Oklahoma State University Veterinary Medicine Authority and the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges for the term of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Dr. Stroup presented the Cooperative Agreement between the OSUVMA and the Board of Regents. This agreement allows OSUVMA to receive appropriations from the Oklahoma

legislature and then transfer funds to the Oklahoma A&M Board of Regents. He asked for a motion to approve the agreement.

Joe Hall made a motion to approve the Cooperative Agreement for July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. Jimmy Harrell seconded the motion.

AYES – Arthur, Barker, Hall, Ritchey, Prather, Harrel and Shelby

NAYS – None

- b. Discussion and report on the request for funding from the Oklahoma Legislature for the 2026-2027 year.

Dr. Stroup presented a spreadsheet reporting the FY26 Appropriation and FY27 Appropriation Request from the Oklahoma Legislature. The only changes for FY27 are the LCF payment amount which will be \$12.5 million per year and the goal to increase Oklahoma student resident population amount which will increase each year to accommodate more resident students. The appropriation change amount total is \$16,388,000.

- c. Report and possible action on architectural expenses paid since July 29, 2025.

- i. Payment of \$27,783.45 on 10/2/25 to GH2 Architects

Dr. Stroup reported that one payment of \$27,783.45 was made for architectural expenses. That brings our current balance to \$78,713,378.61.

- ii. Total payments made (8/6/24 to 10/2/25) total \$286,621.39. Approval is requested to make additional payments that may occur prior to the next meeting of the Authority. Any payments authorized by the CEO will be reported to the Authority at their next regular meeting.

Dr. Stroup requested a motion to ratify the payments made and for approval of interim payments until ratified at our next meeting. A motion to approve payments made and for the CEO to approve additional payments for expenses that may occur prior to the next Authority meeting was made by Joe Hall and seconded by Richard Prather.

AYES: Arthur, Barker, Hall, Ritchey, Prather, Harrel and Shelby

NAYS: None

- iii. Report on debt service payments to date to the Oklahoma Capitol Improvement Authority.

Dr. Stroup shared the report showing that the Authority has met obligations for debt payments.

- d. Report on the recapitalization of the Oklahoma Animal Disease Diagnostics Laboratory (OADDL)

Dr. Stroup presented the OADDL renovation timeline. The Forensic lab at CHS should be operational for a soft start by November 15, 2025. The goal of a fully operational service will be after January 1, 2026. Bids for the OADDL renovation should be going out by March, 2026.

e. Financial Report for the Animal Teaching Hospital including accruals for Authority funding – Kristi Howey

Dr. Stroup introduced Kristi Howey for the presentation of the financial report for the Animal Teaching Hospital. Kristi's report shows the new budgeted amount of \$1,000,000 for the Rural Scholarship/Loan Forgiveness program. She explained the carryforward amount of \$400,000 is the encumbered amount which will be paid to students per their scholarship schedule.

The Operational Support budget shows the amount received from the Authority and the normal expenditures.

f. Financial Report of the Authority as of September 30, 2025 – Kristi Howey

Kristi presented the Financial Report of the Authority. The expense total of \$258,838 represents payments made in the design phase of the capital improvement project for the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

g. Discussion and possible vote on possible meeting dates for 2026.

Chair Arthur asked for a motion to approve the meeting dates for 2026. Dean Ritchey made a motion to approve the meeting dates with the option to change if conflicts arise. Troy Shelby seconded the motion.

AYES: Arthur, Barker, Hall, Ritchey, Prather, Harrel and Shelby

NAYS: None

Chair Arthur asked for any further comments. Authority members asked for an update of the new veterinary colleges around the US and would like to meet some of the new team veterinary medicine leaders at OSU at the January 2026 meeting.

Adjournment

Chair Arthur asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Jimmy Harrel seconded by Joe Hall. The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 am.



OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY VETERINARY
MEDICINE AUTHORITY


Blayne Arthur, Chair