

REC'D
JUN 12 2013
TEXAS STATE BOARD OF
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

DOCKET NO. 2013-86

IN THE MATTER OF § TEXAS BOARD OF
THE LICENSE OF § VETERINARY
LU ANN GROVES, D.V.M. § MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this the 16th day of July, 2013 came to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board) the matter of the license of Lu Ann Groves, D.V.M. (Respondent). Pursuant to Section 801.408, Texas Occupations Code and Board Rule 575.27, an informal conference was held on May 13, 2013. The Respondent appeared at the informal conference, and was represented by counsel, Roy Minton. The Board was represented at the conference by the Board's Enforcement Committee.

Respondent, without admitting the truth of the findings and conclusions set out in this Agreed Order, wishes to waive a formal adjudicative hearing and thereby informally dispose of the issues without a formal adjudication. Respondent agrees to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in this Order. In waiving an adjudicative hearing, Respondent acknowledges her understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice provided to her.

Upon the recommendation of the Enforcement Committee and with Respondent's consent, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and enters this Agreed Order as set forth below.

Findings of Fact

1. Respondent, Lu Ann Groves, D.V.M. of San Marcos, Texas, holds Texas veterinary license 8928.
2. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter and Respondent. Respondent received notice, which may be required by law and by the rules of the Board. All jurisdictional requirements have been satisfied under Tex. Occ. Code Ann. Title 4 (Act). By entering into this Agreed Order, Respondent waives any defect in the notice and any further right to notice and hearing under the Act; Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2001.051-.054; and the Rules of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board Rules) (22 Tex. Admin. Code, Chapter 575).

3. On June 26, 2012, Janet Spencer presented her gelding quarterhorse named "Chip" to Respondent at The Whole Horse Veterinary Clinic ("Clinic") in San Marcos, Texas for musculoskeletal manipulation.

4. Respondent took radiographs, and declined to perform musculoskeletal manipulation on "Chip." Respondent offered Ms. Spencer two alternatives: either take "Chip" for additional diagnostic testing to another veterinarian to whom Respondent referred, or bring "Chip" back to the Clinic in September when Respondent would have Janek Vluggen available to consult regarding techniques of musculoskeletal manipulation that might work best on "Chip." Respondent did not record the referral or Ms. Spencer's response to the referral suggestion in her patient record.

5. On September 17, 2012, Ms. Spencer again presented "Chip" to Respondent at the Clinic for musculoskeletal manipulation. Janek Vluggen was present at the Clinic, and examined "Chip." Respondent did not perform her own examination of "Chip." In her patient records, Respondent recorded Mr. Vluggen's physical examination findings without noting that the examination was performed by someone other than her. Respondent took radiographs again, and again declined to perform musculoskeletal manipulation. Respondent administered Xylazine to "Chip," but did not record the concentration, dosage or route of administration in her patient record.

Conclusions of Law

1. Respondent is required to comply with the provisions of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Chapter 801, Texas Occupations Code, and with the Board's Rules.

2. Based on Findings of Fact 1 through 5, Respondent has violated Rule 573.52, PATIENT RECORDKEEPING, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, by failing to record details necessary to substantiate examination, and failing to record the concentration, route of administration and dosage of drugs administered.

3. Based on Findings of Fact 1 through 5 and Conclusions of Law 1 through 2, Respondent has violated Section 801.402 (6) of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code, and is subject to disciplinary action by the Board:

801.402. GENERAL GROUNDS FOR LICENSE DENIAL OR DISCIPLINARY ACTION. A person is subject to denial of a license or to disciplinary action under Section 801.401 if the person:

(6) engages in practices or conduct that violates the board's rules of professional conduct.

4. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 through 3, Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Section 801.401 of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code:

801.401. DISCIPLINARY POWERS OF BOARD. (a) If an applicant or license holder is subject to denial of a license or to disciplinary action under Section 801.402, the Board may: (a)

- (1) refuse to examine an applicant or to issue or renew a license;
- (2) revoke or suspend a license;
- (3) place on probation a license holder or person whose license has been suspended;
- (4) reprimand a license holder; or
- (5) impose an administrative penalty.

.... (d) In addition to other disciplinary actions authorized by this subchapter, the board may require a license holder who violates this chapter to participate in a continuing education program.

5. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 through 4, Respondent may be disciplined in the manner set out in Section 801.451, IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY, of the Veterinary Licensing Act, which authorizes an administrative penalty for violations of the Act and Board rules.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD AND RESPONDENT AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board ORDERS that Respondent receive an INFORMAL REPRIMAND.

In addition, the Board ORDERS that Respondent complete an additional THREE (3) hours of continuing education in RECORDKEEPING within one year of the date of this Order. Documentation of the completion of the continuing education penalty shall be received within thirty (30) days after one year of the date of this Order. If Respondent fails to provide documentation of completion within forty-five (45) days of one year of the date of this Order, Respondent's license may be suspended until the continuing education penalty is completed and documentation is received by the Board.

The Board ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 45 days of the date of this Order, an ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00). If Respondent

fails to pay the administrative penalty within 45 days of the date of this Order, Respondent's license may be suspended until the penalty is paid, and any payment by the Respondent to the Board to renew her license will be applied toward the payment of any administrative fee owed to the Board, and further enforcement action may be taken.

The Board further ORDERS that:

1. Respondent shall abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct, the Texas Veterinary Licensing Act, and the laws of the State of Texas and the United States.

2. Respondent shall cooperate with the Board's attorneys, investigators, compliance officers and other employees and agents investigating Respondent's compliance with this Agreed Order.

3. Failure by Respondent to comply with the terms of this Agreed Order or with any other provisions of the Licensing Act or the Board Rules, may result in further disciplinary action.

Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, acknowledges her understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth herein, and agrees that she will satisfactorily comply with the mandates of the Agreed Order in a timely manner or be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by the Board.

Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, waives her right to a formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order. Respondent acknowledges that she had the right to be represented by legal counsel in this matter.

RESPONDENT WAIVES ANY FURTHER HEARINGS OR APPEALS TO THE BOARD OR TO ANY COURT IN REGARD TO ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREED ORDER. RESPONDENT AGREES THAT THIS IS A FINAL ORDER.

The effective date of this Agreed Order shall be the date it is adopted by the Board.

I, LU ANN GROVES, D.V.M., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AGREED ORDER. I UNDERSTAND BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS ORDER CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND, VERBAL, WRITTEN OR OTHERWISE.

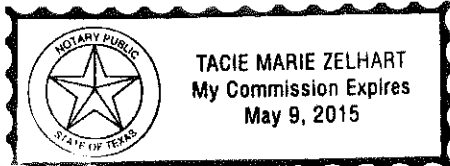
Lu Ann Groves D.V.M.
LU ANN GROVES, D.V.M.

6/10/13
DATE

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF Hays §

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared Lu Ann Groves, D.V.M., known to me as the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing document, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes stated therein.

Given under the hand and seal of office this 10 day of June, 2013



Tacie Zelhart
Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 16th of July, 2013

Bud E. Alldredge, Jr.
Bud E. Alldredge, Jr., D.V.M., President