Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Officer, Dr. Mike Topper, President-elect, at 9:30am on July 9, 2015.

Roll Call
The House approved a motion to adopt the list of delegates and alternate delegates submitted as the official list of the voting members of the 2017 Regular Annual Session of the House of Delegates.

Report of House Advisory Committee (HAC), acting as committee on rules and procedures
The House approved a motion to adopt the Manual of the House of Delegates and the Order of Business contained in the agenda materials for the Regular Annual Session of the House of Delegates.

The House approved a motion by a two-thirds majority, to waive the prior notice provisions for Resolution 8—Policy on Handling of Companion Animal Remains, Resolution 9—Policy on Handling of Companion Animal Remains, Resolution 10—Policy on Telemedicine, and Resolution 11—Revised Model Veterinary Practice Act. Resolutions 8 and 9 were referred to Reference Committee 2, and Resolutions 10 and 11 were referred to Reference Committee 1.

Nomination and Balloting for Officers
Dr. John de Jong was nominated for the office of AVMA President-elect.

Action on Officer Election
Dr. John de Jong was elected AVMA President-elect by unanimous consent for the 2017-2018 Association year.

Balloting for Council and HAC positions
Council on Biologic and Therapeutic Agents
- Dr. Brian Lubbers was elected to the position representing Pharmacology
- Dr. Brad Tanner was elected to the position representing Private Clinical Practice- Predominantly Equine
- Dr. Bruce Coston was elected to the position representing Private Clinical Practice- Predominantly Small Animal

Judicial Council
- Dr. George Cuellar was elected to a position representing At Large.

Council on Public Health and Regulatory Veterinary Medicine
- Drs. Allan Drusys, Patricia McKane, and Misha Robyn were elected to the 3 positions representing Public Health Agencies or Uniformed Services
Council on Research
- Dr. Alicia Bertone, Dr. Kristin Evans, Dr. Mark Suckow, and Dr. Katrina Taylor were elected to the 4 positions representing Veterinary Medical Research

Council on Veterinary Service
- Dr. Robert Sager was elected to the position representing Private Practice-Predominantly Food Animal
- Dr. Duane Colmey was elected to the position representing Private Mixed Practice
- Dr. Manuel Himenes was elected to the position representing Private Practice-Predominantly Equine

House Advisory Committee
- Dr. Jim Brett was elected.

Action on Proposed Bylaws Amendments
A motion to adopt Bylaws amendment 2—Student Chapters of the AVMA, was approved as amended.
A motion to adopt Bylaws amendment 3—Constituent Allied Veterinary Organizations, was approved as amended.

Action on Resolutions
The House approved adoption of Resolution 4—Policy on Therapeutic Use of Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine.


Resolution 6—The Importance of Federal Veterinarians in Emergency Response, was adopted by the House.

The House approved adoption of an amended Resolution 7—The Importance of Veterinarians in Food Safety.

The HOD approved adoption of amended Resolution 8—Policy on Handling of Companion Animal Remains.

Resolution 9—Revised Policy on Veterinary Hospice Care, was adopted as amended.

Resolution 10—Policy on Telemedicine, was adopted by the House.

The House approved adoption of Resolution 11—Revised Model Veterinary Practice Act.

Action on Topics Referred from Veterinary Information Forum
Marijuana Therapies for Animals

The House approved recommending that the Board of Directors consider creating and disseminating informational pieces on:
1. The current legal status of cannabis as applied to practitioners;
2. Unified definitions of cannabis and its derivatives;
3. Current research available; and
4. The signs, symptoms, and treatment of cannabis toxicosis in animals for both practitioners and clients.

The House approved recommending that the Board of Directors investigate working with other research organizations and medical stakeholders to reclassify cannabis from Schedule 1 to Schedule 2 to facilitate research opportunities for veterinary and human medical uses.

**Application and Definition of the Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship**

No Action

**Prescription Monitoring Programs and Opioid Prescribing**

The House approved recommending that the Board of Directors encourage appropriate AVMA entities to develop model language pertaining to veterinarians’ involvement in state prescription drug monitoring programs and report back to the House of Delegates during the 2018 annual meeting.

The House approved recommending inclusion of:

a. Model language for waivers;
b. Information on how to positively interact with state boards of pharmacy;
c. Recommendations for reporting that is practical, reasonable, and realistic;
d. Development of appropriate software;
e. Methods for permanent identification for animals;
f. Veterinarians’ responsibility in monitoring;
g. Continuing education for veterinarians, such as best prescribing practices and identifying diversion and abuse;
h. Clarifying the differences between patients (in human medicine) and clients (in veterinary medicine) and the impact of HIPAA; and
i. What happens with the information, such as who is tracking the information or being notified.

**Service and Assistance Animals**

The House approved recommending that the Board of Directors have educational materials on service and assistance animals created and made readily available to educate the public, veterinarians, businesses, and human medical professionals.

The House approved recommending that the AVMA advocate for unified definitions for service, assistance, and emotional support animals.

The House approved recommending that the Steering Committee on Human-Animal Interactions create a working group, to include human healthcare providers, to develop communication materials in support of the exchange of information between human healthcare providers and veterinarians.

The House requested an update from the Board of Directors in January 2018 regarding the recommendations.
Careers in Public Veterinary Practice

The House approved recommending that the Board of Directors instruct Staff and the Vice President to, whenever possible, include information about careers in public veterinary practice and specifically the federal government and the Food Safety and Inspection Service when making presentations to veterinary students—sharing that information with veterinarians at other career stages is also recommended.

With no further business to come before the House, the 2017 Regular Annual Session was adjourned at 3:30pm on July 21.

HOD/HAC/CSJ