

February/March 2022

Find us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Wyoming-Veterinary-Technician-Association-143782952386199/>

Check out more on our website:

<http://www.wyvta.org>



- Melanie Beardsley, CVT; President@wyvta.org President 2022

Members,

Your board has been hard at work already on many projects looking into 2022. The CE meeting for this fall is quickly coming together. We are looking at a good variety of topics that we hope you will look forward to as much as we are.

More to come on that VERY soon!

The scholarship committee is finalizing the application. It will be up for students that are finishing their second semester to apply for very soon. Online students ARE eligible if they are Wyoming residents. Check out the website or reach out to Tom Page with questions: VicePres@wyvta.org

If you attended the CE meeting last fall, you heard a little bit of our plans to donate money to a Wyoming Non-Profit. We have worked very hard getting donations the last few years and it is time to pay it forward. Please let me know if you are aware of a Wyoming non-profit that is animal or veterinary related that we could consider donating to. We'll have a formal donation nomination list coming soon via email so you have time to investigate and come up with a good one!

You are always welcome to join us for our monthly membership meeting on Zoom if you have further comments, questions, or input. It is, typically, the first Sunday of the month at 7PM. The schedule is always on the website (and also below in the newsletter) if you want to look into it.

Speaking of the website, we are getting it updated, too. New board member biography and photos are going up. 2022 certification and membership forms are also available on the website. If you have website questions, issues, praises, or suggestions, or especially JOB POSTS please e-mail wyvta@wyvta.org so we can help take care of that.

I hope you have a refreshing and hope-filled spring. Please let your board know if we can help you in any way.

Monthly Membership Meetings are via ZOOM at <https://zoom.us/> at 7pm MT.

**Next Meeting ONLINE is
Sunday, April 3th at 7pm MT via
ZOOM.us**

Plan ahead for these upcoming

**ZOOM meetings @ 7 PM Mtn Time: Members
WELCOME!**

- May 1 ++
- June 5
- July 10 (due to 4th of July holiday)++
- August 7
- August 28 (board only final prep for Fall CE the following weekend)
- September 10/11-CE (general membership meeting Sat 10th over lunch) ++
- October 2 (2022-23 board)
- November 6 (2022-23 board) (2023 Membership/Certification renewals go out)++
- December 4 (2022-23 board; official changeover to 2023 board)

++ = Newsletter due OUT by these months indicated by mid month (articles/reports due by that month's meeting to secretary@wyvta.org)

Meeting login IDs are set up each month and emailed out a few days prior to the meeting.

If you've never attended before:

- *AHEAD of the scheduled meeting date, go to <https://zoom.us/test> to test your device's ability to access & view ZOOM (PC/MAC, Android/iPhone, and tablet).
- ***You just need to do this once per device.
- *Email the Secretary at (secretary@wyvta.org) if you do not receive the email notification containing the Meeting Room ID information sent approximately 2-4 days prior to the meeting.
- *Go to <https://zoom.us>, click "Join a Meeting" top right corner, and enter the meeting ID.

Secretary

Deana Baker, CVT; Secretary@wyvta.org

Deana has had a family emergency right after we had our Monthly Membership Meeting and is still away at this time. If you need help with secretary items, please email wyvta@wyvta.org as back up or give Deana another week or so to get back to you. THANKS (WyVTA Admin)

Vice President

Tom Page: CVT; VicePres@wyvta.org



Fall CE and Annual Meeting will take place Saturday, September 10 and Sunday AM, September 11, 2022

Registration opening soon!

Saturday morning: Cardiologist from CSU

CANINE HEART DISEASE: DIAGNOSIS & MANAGEMENT: Dogs can be affected by various forms of heart disease, many of which are difficult to detect and tend to progress, even with treatment. This program covers how to screen for heart disease during annual exams. It also reviews heart disease classification and staging, current diagnostic and therapeutic strategies based on type and stage of heart disease, and the need for additional diagnostics based on clinical situation. In addition, the connection between grain-free diets and diet-associated dilated cardiomyopathy will be examined, as will the benefits of home therapy and monitoring for heart disease patients

UPDATES ON THE STAGING & MANAGEMENT OF MITRAL VALVE DISEASE IN DOGS: Current management of mitral valve disease (MVD) in dogs is guided by consensus panel guidelines based on cardiac staging. This session covers recently updated staging guidelines for MVD with clinical case examples from patients in different stages of disease. Practical use of cardiac drugs at various stages of heart disease are considered, including subclinical disease, the initial presentation of heart failure, and long-term management of advanced disease

Saturday afternoon: Richard Ford DVM, DACVIM, DACVPM (Hon)

RABIES VACCINATION: MISCONCEPTIONS & THE “MUST KNOW” FACTS: Compliance with fundamental rabies vaccination requirements of healthy dogs, cats, and ferrets, as required by state and local jurisdictions in the US, is generally quite high. However, there are unique, often overlooked, requirements in place within individual states that dictate administration of rabies vaccination. In addition to reviewing those requirements, this program will examine the legal definition of “exposure” to rabies virus; who can, and can NOT, make the determination of “exposure”; and what constitutes human exposure. Facts about the complex relationship between rabies vaccination, the antibody response to vaccine, and the meaning of a “positive” vs. “negative” titer result for the individual patient will also be addressed

VACCINES & VACCINATION: PROTOCOLS, PRODUCTS, AND CONTROVERSIES: This program will examine current recommendations for canine and feline vaccination, focusing on recent changes to the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) guidelines. It will review intervals for the initial feline vaccination series and boosters in adults, the rationale behind updates to the initial canine vaccination series, and revised guidance on the administration of leptospirosis and Lyme disease vaccines. It will also explore the indications and interpretation of antibody testing, including patient management recommendations based on test results. You’ll leave with a thorough understanding of current vaccine and vaccination recommendations

Sunday Morning:

Josh Vaisman

ROCKSTAR RESILIENCE SKILLS FOR THE VETERINARY PROFESSIONAL: What does it mean to be thriving in life and work? What does “well-being” mean to you? This course explores the science of positive psychology and introduces the PERMA (positive emotion, engagement, relationships, meaning, and achievement) theory of well-being. We’ll examine the role negative emotions play in well-being as well as the advantages of high levels of well-being for both you and those

around you. We'll also delve into ways to increase your well-being by building your psychological resilience resources, which will benefit you both personally and professionally

POSITIVE PERSEVERANCE: LEADING RESILIENT TEAMS: Having psychological resilience doesn't mean being happy all the time. The most resilient people (and leaders) became that way in part because they were challenged by adversity and developed the ability to overcome it. This session will focus on understanding what resilience means, how to develop skills associated with resilience, and how to use resilience to respond productively to challenges or crises. It will also examine how resilient leaders react to and grow from adverse situations and how their positive orientation bias can help build more resilient teams. You'll walk away with tips and tools on how to develop these characteristics in your own team, maximizing their resilience, so you and your team both thrive

A HUGE THANK YOU to Boehringer Inggram for stepping up to sponsor ALL of our Speakers this year!

NAVTA Representative

Kelly Ferguson, CVT; NAVTARep@wyvta.org

National Veterinary Technician Week: October 16 – 22nd, 2022

**Become involved in Title Protection for our profession as Credentialed Veterinary Technicians.

According to a recent report published by NAVTA (National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America), **“31 states and jurisdictions have no title protection for ‘Veterinary Technician’ within their veterinary practice acts, while another 10 states have limited title protection.”** [Visit navt.net](http://navt.net) to learn more about the importance of Title Protection for veterinary professionals and their patients

Treasurer Report

Jackie Breed, CVT; Treasurer@wyvta.org

minutes of the additional Treasurer

Please see the monthly meetings for information.

Beginning Balance		\$30,748.31
Income	Memberships/Certifications	\$622.13
Expenses	eVetSites Annual	(\$ 745.00)
	Computers (Pres & Treas)	(\$2686.24)
Ending Balance		\$27,939.20

On the Non-Profit side we will be adding to our SWAG in 2022 and coming up with ways to get the WyVTA and CVT names out into the public so you can open up discussion about the various parts of the veterinary health care team to everyone. Portions of funds from that SWAG will be donated to a Wyoming based animal related non-profit. If you have ideas for items you'd like to see for SWAG (i.e. we have t-shirts, stickers, and possibly the iron buffalo logos) please send those to VicePres@wyvta.org or President@wyvta.org.

Membership/Certification

Jackie Van Noy CVT; CVT_Members@wyvta.org

As of January 10, 2022, renewals are considered late and will require an additional \$10 fee for renewal.

We should be all caught up on membership and certification renewals now. If you have not heard from me or are missing something, please let me know by email (above).

Scholarship Update

The scholarship committee will be taking time to review the wording and process to see where we can improve it. If you have any suggestions, please send them to me at PastPres@wyvta.org

If you know of a student that is working with an online program, or attending a traditional brick and mortar, let them know of this opportunity.

JOB BOARD:

Altitude Veterinary Hospital in Casper, WY is looking for a Full-Time Certified Vet Technician to join our team! As an AAHA accredited practice, we are seeking individuals who share our passion for excellent care and customer service! About Altitude Veterinary Hospital: Altitude Veterinary Hospital provides a high level of care for small pets. At Altitude we understand that our pets are more than just pets, they are family. In addition to being AAHA accredited, we provide a wide range of services including specialty services such as acupuncture and TPLO surgery. Our team consists of 6 Doctors, 5 Technicians and 10 Assistants. Along with these services we also offer boarding and grooming services. We are proud to work together to provide the highest quality of care to our patients and extraordinary service to our clients. We consider our employees our most valuable asset and strive to provide a fun, challenging and positive work environment!

- **Some of the responsibilities of a CVT are:**

- Review vaccination records and prepare vaccines according to our vaccine protocol
- Assist veterinarian in medical procedures using proper restraint; know how to restrain fractious patients
- Assist veterinarian in surgical procedures using proper aseptic technique
- Maintain and use medical equipment such as IDEXX lab, autoclave (gas and steam), CO2 laser, dental, digital radiography, and anesthetic
- Perform routine laboratory procedures and analyses in hematology, microbiology, urinalysis, and serology
- Prepare samples for outside laboratory analysis
- Monitor patients under anesthesia
- Induce anesthesia and intubate patient
- Administer treatments and injections following the instructions of a doctor or a treatment form
- Initiate emergency procedures
- Maintain pharmacy, controlled substances, and anesthesia records
- Take radiographs
- Take vital signs of animals including temperature, pulse, and respiration
- Perform dental cleanings
- Perform and analyze skin and ear cytology's
- Perform catheterization- urinary and venous
- Perform other duties as assigned

- **The CVT will work under medical guidance from the Hospital Director. Certification is required. Our ideal candidate for this position will have the following traits:**

- An outgoing, and consistently positive personality to match our current culture and provide the level of service we want for our clients and team members
- Self-motivated and interested in continually improving skills and knowledge
- Able to work both independently (self-starter) and as a team player
- Follows direction but also able to think outside of the box and propose new ideas
- Flexible and excited about change and growth in pursuit of a higher level of care
- Detail-oriented, focused and diligent

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

We offer a competitive wage and benefit package. Please send resume to Rschwahn@altitudevet.com. (2nd posting)

Would you like to post your job listings in our newsletter or ONLINE at our website or on our Facebook page? Please email the Secretary@wyvta.org for assistance. You may also refer to our social media policy posting at our website www.wyvta.org > About Us > Constitution and Bylaws > Policies: Facebook page.

Minutes – PLEASE take the time to review the minutes – a lot going on in our little association and big state!

ZOOM WyVTA Membership Meeting February 13, 2022

Attendance: Deana Baker (Secretary), Melanie Beardsley (President – on call), Jackie Breed (Treasurer), Taeha Collins (Member-at-Large), Kelly Ferguson (NAVTA Representative), Tom Page (Vice President/Past President-interim meeting facilitator), Jackie Van Noy (Membership/Certification), Nanette Walker Smith (interim meeting facilitator), Beth Zima (Member-at-Large)

Board & Committee Reports

Eastern Wyoming College:

1. Deana Baker was unable to contact anyone at EWC nor was Taeha Collins (email/phone).
 - a. Assigned to Tom Page to contact Dr. Walker and the school.
 - i. Need to renew their membership (\$50) – annual - overdue; currently the students and teachers are not members and anyone certified under that school's blanket is no longer certified.
2. Scholarship – report under Past President

Member at Large: Beth Zima & Taeha Collins

1. Requesting hospital cohorts to turn in memberships

NAVTA Report: Kelly Ferguson

1. NAVTA Leadership Summit: Saturday, February 5th, 2022, Virtual Zoom Meeting. On the NAVTA YouTube channel if you missed it! NAVTA's 2022 Leadership Summit (there are 4 titles to watch here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZ9AVzBnJJu3V7_J5bqjeRw/videos)
2. Kelly will try to contact NAVTA District Rep again re NVTW packet – no reply yet. Nanette Walker Smith recommended to also cc the ED of NAVTA (info@navta.net)
3. Kelly's working on possible Wyoming state-wide media contacts to help us with National Veterinary Technician Week and maybe even with our conference!
 - a. Russell at Cheyenne paper is working with Kelly with print ideas and contacts
 - b. Dawn Brandt, marketing consultant
 - c. Townsquare Media in Casper
 - d. Kelly reminded board she can do the photo editing
 - e. Social Media was discussed:
 - 1) Nanette Walker Smith runs the Facebook page for the Association, we have been upgraded to a business page that has not been utilized much yet. Has boost ads we can do and other features.
 - 2) Beth Zima has contacts with Instagram and help for Twitter for the media reach out if needed.
 - 3) Taeha Collins offered promotion (media) on hospital website; can be used as example; will check with her DVM.
 - 4) Melanie offered her previous employer in Laramie as a possible interviewee for NVTW.
 - f. Suggested we all get more information/options with costs for next meeting

Melanie Beardsley, President, created a Media Committee for 2022 consisting of the 2 Member-at-Large and NAVTA Representative positions with the goal to explore, contact, price, and report to the Board information about getting the word out about our events (CE and NVTW and potentially others) for this year.

Membership/Certification: Jackie Van Noy

1. Working on some stragglers, still have a few in the match up of applications to funds
2. Need to get together with Nanette about emails in CheckmyMail at some point after I get caught up with the applications.

Secretary: Deana Baker

1. Motion to accept the December 2021 and January 2022 minutes, 2nd by Nanette Walker Smith. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer: Jackie Breed

1. Vote to reimburse Jackie Van Noy \$30 for postage costs.
 - a. Taeha Collins motioned to approve reimbursement for Jackie Van Noy for postage \$30 for Membership/Certification mailing, 2nd by Nanette Walker Smith. Unanimously approved.
2. Vote to reimburse Nanette Walker Smith for \$52.50 (see below-#2 on her list)
 - a. Taeha Collins motioned to approve reimbursement for Nanette Walker Smith for \$52.50 for testing of the WyVTA Application system, 2nd by Kelly Ferguson. Unanimously approved.
3. Vote to amend/approve Nov 2021 spreadsheet from the audit. A membership square payment was not logged.
 - a. Taeha Collins motioned to accept the amended November 2021 Treasurer's Report, 2nd by Nanette Walker Smith. November 2021 Treasurer's Report amended unanimously approved.
4. Vote to approve Dec 2021 treasurer report.
 - a. Nanette Walker Smith motioned to accept the amended December 2021 Treasurer's Report, 2nd by Taeha Collins. December 2021 Treasurer's Report amended unanimously approved.

Vice President: Tom Page

1. FALL CE: Working with Dr. Wells to create the speaker and topic list together with availability. Right now we are still looking at
 - a. Saturday morning -- Cardiology.
 - b. Saturday afternoon -- Vaccinations.

c. Sunday morning -- Josh Viessman - Rockstar Resilience for the Veterinary Professional, The 4P's of Positive Leadership.

2. Currently we are working to set speakers for in person.

Past President: Tom Page

1. Tom will reach out to EWC regarding Student Representatives, the Scholarship, and EWC renewal for school membership.
2. Kelly Ferguson posted info on scholarship to Penn Foster – no responses.
3. Nanette Walker Smith can request AVTE to post out to the educators about the scholarship again once the Scholarship Committee confirms the information is ready to post – they'd be happy to.
4. Wondering if the distance education schools would specifically get info to the Wyoming residents they have, if any?

Admin-Nanette

Announcement: Huge opportunities for those wishing to get involved at the AVMA – American Veterinary Medical Association level. These are voluntary, but please link to see more information because to have a call for credentialed veterinary technicians in these positions is an incredible opportunity to forward the profession and have an impact on veterinarians making decisions on their futures and ours:

<https://www.avma.org/membership/volunteering-avma/avma-volunteer-opportunities-vacancies?fbclid=IwAR2EYhAdTyMSrV0lacQhctc-CWAOkam3hdZM3uGIPST59knC5YXvMQdTiW>

1. **Job Posts** will now all come to wyvta@wyvta.org
 - a. MUST INCLUDE: Clinic/Work name, website and/or phone number, email contact, and contact name. They will be proofed, formatted, and sent to the secretary for the upcoming newsletter (at the top of the job list). Listings will run for 2 newsletters.
 - b. Nanette will post the job listing to the Facebook page and reboot the post after 30 days. The new business page of Facebook is posting job posts as if from the WyVTA office which is causing a little confusion, but Nanette's posting anyway and encouraging people to contact hospitals directly.
2. **Website:** move to new web design template
 - a. We updated the CE page (2022 dates, place, info coming) and removed the 2021 registration. We will have to build the 2022 registration page first before that part becomes live.
 - b. We removed the 'other CE links' feature - place to list other places for CE until more important items get taken care of.
 - c. Once the combo application is finished - I'd like to add the pics from Fall CE 2021.
 - d. Need to check that Kelly Ferguson's bio has been added to the NAVTA Representative position.
 - e. Bios are also needed from Beth Zima and Taeha Collins with a picture (head shot with or without a pet) - asap.
3. **WyVTA Computers/Devices:** I need to ensure signed copies of the computer use/care/property documents are in my hands.
 - a. I need the Secretary's and President's. I have received Treasurer's (both) and Membership's (last year).
 - b. *Question:* Do you all think we need to re-sign the contracts annually for the computers and accessories (Square unit)? They cover care, use, and property of WyVTA, home insurance, and safety/security.
 - 1) Discussion > decided Nanette would create an **equipment check document** that will go to all WyVTA computer/device users at the Fall CE to **complete and return to Administration by November 30. New contracts will go out with computer/device changeovers to new office holders for signature.**
4. Nanette's in the process of putting all the Treasurer Reports from Oct 2019 - Dec 2021 together in one readable format now that they are all approved.
 - a. These will be put in the newsletter, so they've been published. I'll work with the Treasurer to figure out the best method.
 - b. The Treasurer's also agreed that creating an expense report that everyone will complete in order to submit request for funds spent on behalf of the association PLUS the receipts.
 - 1) Will include when the approval was submitted and approved by the board to spend those funds, when they were spent, and when they were reimbursed.
 - 2) Easier to account and find things when needed - checks and balances.
 - 3) Also easier to separate finances into the correct expense columns.
5. The NAVTA Leadership Sessions were FABULOUS once again and FREE. Please follow the link in NAVTA Rep. Report to watch all 4 of the sessions. I'll try to do some articles for the newsletter in the coming months.
6. **Notebook update:** After discussion with Melanie, we've decided to have all board members have the entire Notebook in their folder - hard copy to make notes on and a zipped soft copy annually that can be downloaded to the computers.
 - a. This will enable all board members to review every board position if they are interested in another position, cross check duties, make notes on the hard copy for any changes/questions/corrections.
 - 1) At the Fall CE, I will collect any hard copies with notes on them and get them updated asap, by the end of the year so by the new year the Notebook is fresh and updated for the next year.
 - 2) Hoping this makes the updates go more quickly.

President: Melanie Beardsley

1. Dates for **National Veterinary Technician Week are October 16-22, 2022.** I will ask for proclamation for this year before we get wrapped up in the CE meeting and are too late again. Also, should put this in President's Notebook to do early in the year – by March? The Promo Kit should have everything we need to add our logo to and use to get out to public, media, etc. Need to remember to get specific details from media of what they need: videos or posters we could add our logo to and use in advertisements/social media/billboards, etc.
2. **Jackets @ Pedens:** E-mail out (sent 2/13/22) with websites for us to browse. Call Peden's direct for prices, but most of the light to medium jackets are going to run around \$70.

2021 Board, get your order to me and I will place one large order. Please let me know if you did not receive the e-mail with details
3. **Amendment or Policy for donations out to deserving groups:** the who, what, why, where, when, and how.
 - a. DISCUSSION – amendment or policy, determining how much, how do we find the places of interest to donate to?, etc. A policy was determined to be best at this time. We can test and mold and if it deems appropriate down the road we can upgrade to an amendment with a member vote.
 - b. **“The WyVTA will strive annually to donate funds and/or support to a Wyoming based effort that serves animal welfare, the Human-Animal Bond, decreasing Fear, Anxiety, and Stress in animal patients, compassion fatigue for veterinary staff, etc. as determined by nomination by the membership at the annual meeting of the prior year (for planning purposes). The Treasurer and Past President will co-chair the committee made up of current members in good standing to review submissions for the/these endeavors on behalf of the Association. The Committee will present its recommendations for amount and organization(s) to which to donate for that year. The Active Membership at the Annual Meeting will have the final vote after discussion for the chosen winner(s).”**
 - c. **Deana Baker motioned for the following to become an official policy of the WyVTA: 2nd by Nanette Walker Smith, Unanimously approved.**

4. Below are the upcoming meeting dates.
- Tom, do you think you'll have the speakers and topics set by the March 6 meeting so they can be posted in the March newsletter as a teaser for Fall CE?
 - Tom Page agreed that is the plan for Fall CE. Dates are already chosen and published on the website.
 - March 6 ++
 - April 3
 - May 1++
 - June 5
 - July 10 (due to 4th of July holiday) ++
 - August 7
 - August 28 (board only final prep for Fall CE the following weekend)++
 - September 10/11-CE (general membership meeting Sat 10th over lunch)
 - October 2 (2022-23 board)++
 - November 6 (2022-23 board) (2023 Membership/Certification renewals go out)
 - December 4 (2022-23 board; official changeover to 2023 board) ++
 - ++ = Newsletter due OUT by these months indicated by mid-month (thus articles/reports due by the meeting to secretary@wyvta.org - NO EXCUSES)

Motion to adjourn by Nanette Walker Smith, 2nd by Taeha Collins. Unanimously approved, meeting adjourned at 9:42pm.

ZOOM WyVTA March 6, 2022, WyVTA Membership Meeting

Attendance: Melanie Beardsley (President), Jackie Breed (Treasurer), Kelly Ferguson (NAVTA Representative), Tom Page (Vice President/Past President), Jackie Van Noy (Membership/Certification), Taeha Collins (Member-at-Large)-last half on call, Beth Zima (Member-at-Large), Nanette Walker Smith (Webmaster)
Absent: Deana Baker (Secretary)

Call to Order: 7:15pm by President Melanie Beardsley

Eastern Wyoming College:

- Both Taeha and Tom attempted to contact the school by phone and email and no contact was returned.
- Nanette gave the AVMA CVTEA URL which is the most current contact list for any accredited program by the AVMA: <https://www.avma.org/education/center-for-veterinary-accreditation/veterinary-technology-programs-accredited-avma-cvtea> noted there is a new program director listed for EWC which may be why we aren't getting responses. Tom will contact this week and follow up regarding 1st and 2nd year reps and scholarship offering (more under Past President about scholarship)

Board & Committee Reports

NAVTA Report: Kelly Ferguson

- NAVTA District Rep / NAVTA Ex Dir (info@navta.net) re NVTW packet <https://www.navta.net/national-veterinary-technician-week/> (not updated yet from 2021). Kelly has pinged our district rep twice with no response.
 - NVTW Dates for 2022: October 16-22**
 - Melanie will start working on the Governor's proclamation since Wyoming requires information submission several weeks ahead of the desired dates
- NEWS PLEASE READ:** Title Protection Report NEW as of 2/17/22: <https://www.navta.net/news/navta-report-shows-title-protection-for-veterinary-technician-is-needed-and-desired-but-absent-and-misunderstood-in-most-states/>

MEDIA COMMITTEE: (Kelly Ferguson NAVTA Rep; Taeha Collins and Beth Zima Members-at-Large)

- Wyoming state-wide media contacts to help us with National Veterinary Technician Week and maybe even with our conference!
 - Russell at Cheyenne paper - print ideas and contacts (no report)
 - Dawn Brandt, marketing consultant (no report)
 - Kelly - can do the photo editing
 - Social Media:
 - WyVTA Facebook page for the Association upgraded to a business page that has not been utilized much yet. Has boost ads (\$5+) and other features. (Nanette is still working on this feature – *please email any thoughts on what you see on YOUR side to wyvta@wyvta.org*)
 - Beth Zima has contacts with Instagram and help for Twitter if needed.
 - Taeha Collins reported that Dr. Amy would like to see content regarding WyVTA and NVTW before it goes up on the StockDoc website. Media committee will continue to work on that.

Membership/Certification: Jackie Van Noy

- Membership cut off for 2021 was January 10, 2022. Memberships are taken year around but are calendar year (Jan 1 – Dec 31) so now a late fee is due for renewal of certifications.
- We did lose membership this year from UT since Utah finally got legislation for licensure through and the state will be keeping tabs on their credentials now. So, good for them, loss for us, still a good win.
- CheckmyMail will be updated for Secretary by Nanette Walker Smith as soon as updated membership list is sent to Nanette by Jackie Van Noy. As membership changes the rest of the year Jackie/Deana/Nanette will have a plan to update the Secretary's email to ensure its current monthly.
- The online application for membership and/or certification still has a couple glitches. Folks can still download the paper docs and send in. Online payment IS WORKING. You can always follow up with an email to Jackie Van Noy (CVT_members@wyvta.org) to have her check.

Secretary: Deana Baker (Nanette Walker Smith presented due to Deana's absence)

- Agenda changes:** Mostly to the Board, in an effort to help us process minutes easier and have a set order to the agenda (Thanks Tom for starting that), the Secretary or Administrator will update the draft agenda to an 'informed agenda' with everyone's reports and resources included already. This is why the agenda call means all board members need to get information to the president a few days AHEAD of the meeting so it can be put into the agenda and sent out and reviewed by everyone before the meeting. The idea is to have the meetings move more quickly as well but minimize the typing time/discussion/thinking because the board is more prepared. This lessens the time for the secretary to pull minutes and ensure resources are there. Secretary can then get minutes done within the week following the meeting and back to the board to follow up on any TO DO items BEFORE the next meeting – we can then progress a little faster/be more organized.
- Kelly Ferguson motioned to accept the Minutes from February 13, 2022, WyVTA Meeting 2nd Edition, 2nd by Taeha Collins; Unanimously approved.**
- Newsletter items – Board members** must have something into Deana by THIS FRIDAY March 11 (look to future including next year, a cartoon, a quote, etc.)

4. *Reminder to anyone submitting to the Secretary* – please submit items in WORD format in Calibri Font 11. That allows us the fastest change over. It's the default font and size for word docs.

Treasurer: Jackie Breed

1. Payouts: Reimbursements
 - a. **Motion by Nanette Walker Smith to reimburse Jackie Breed for the \$40 fee for filing the IRS nonprofit n990 filing. 2nd by Taeha Collins. Unanimously approved.**
 - b. **Treasurer's Report**
 - c.

January 2022:

Beginning Balance		\$30,748.31
Income	Memberships/Certifications	\$622.13
Expenses	eVetSites Annual	(\$ 745.00)
	Computers (Pres & Treas)	(\$2686.24)
Ending Balance		\$27,939.20

- d. Melanie wanted to remind everyone that the current bank posts its monthly statements mid-month, so our banking runs from the 15th to the 15th each month.
- d. Nanette reminded everyone that for the posted Treasurer's Report in the minutes only the basic information will be included. No names of members due to privacy. Businesses will be listed if vendors or sponsors or donations (income or expense) and other items will be listed in categories such as assets of the association. Further information is kept in the recordkeeping especially financial and membership.
- e. **Nanette Walker Smith motioned to accept the January 2022 Treasurer's Report as shown during the Zoom meeting (abbreviated version above). Jackie Breed will include the corresponding names for the income fields for membership and certification on the Treasurer's copy to complete the ability to crosscheck with Membership/CVT. Kelly Ferguson 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.**
2. The Oct 2019 – Dec 2021 internal audit Treasurer's report finalized and approved by vote on December 5, 2021, January 9, 2022, and February 13, 2022, will be posted in its entirety in the March 2022 Newsletter
3. EWC VTP renewal of WyVTA Membership for the students and staff (\$50) has not been sent yet because we don't have a connection as of yet. Tom will include this in his list as he reaches out to the new director.

Vice President: Tom Page

1. **FALL CE:** Unable to connect with Dr. Wells to finalize the speaker and topic list for Fall CE this past 2 weeks.
 - a. Saturday morning -- Cardiology.
 - b. Saturday afternoon -- Vaccinations.
 - c. Sunday morning -- Josh Vaisman - Rockstar Resilience for the Veterinary Professional, The 4P's of Positive Leadership.
2. Currently we are working to set speakers for in person (preferred) or virtual
 - a. Tom stated he will send out to the board the list of speakers/topics, in person/virtual, etc. as soon as he and Dr. Wells finalize the draft, and the board can email discuss and hopefully vote to move forward. At that time we will discuss registration cost, Ramkota room cost, food (should be similar to last year), announcements and registration applications. Hopefully all will be ready by April. At least by April we should be able to have enough information for a Save the Date and set topics.
3. Speaker gifts: Card, Certificate, Buffalo
4. Vendors/Sponsors:
 - a. Linda Mueller and Hills have committed to a donation. Approved, Paperwork in process.
 - b. Covetrus/Elanco have both started their joint paperwork early.
 - c. I have contacted others and started the process: Zoetis, Idexx, Nutramax.
 - d. I will be starting on others on my list
 - e. If you have other companies (any type-preferably veterinary related) please let me know
 - f. Vendor Gift: Card, Certificate
 - g. Taeha asked if we were reaching out to Royal Canin, she said she'd reach out to Monica – they are always great for SWAG
 - h. Melanie said she would check with Ron at Patterson
 - i. Nanette said she could order Fear Free items, but it would be name only as sponsorships are for speakers
 - j. MWI was added to the list of vendors to contact – need a rep if anyone has one that responds.
 - k. Nanette reminded Tom to get logos sooner rather than later from any vendors contracted so we can sport them on the website and in newsletter asap based on what their contract is – more recognition!

Past President: Tom Page

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: (Tom Page, Cambria Harmon, Taeha Collins)

1. Committee need to reconvene this month and review application and wording regarding various programs
 - a. 2-year AS or AAS degrees, 18-month programs {may be an AS degree}, online/distance education which may vary in years, comprehensive testing, multiple start dates for VT program, etc.
 - b. Define 'enrolled in 2nd year-when that occurs, must be actively taking 2nd year classes, where does that fall if not a traditional 2-year school, who will verify?
 - c. Strictly open to Wyoming residents only; how will this be verified?
 - d. Transcripts to be sent
2. Tom will reach out to EWC regarding the Scholarship.
 - a. New Contact at EWC: Dr. Colleen Mitchell; colleen.mitchell@ewc.wy.edu
 - 1) Review of Program for them and us.
 - 2) Opportunity to Excel going forward for both of us
 - 3) Programs at EWC that can involve the WyVTA:
 - a) Student Reps
 - b) Events for students
3. Distance Education/Online Programs-Wyoming residents.
4. Nanette will send a request to AVTE to post out to the educators about the scholarship again once the Scholarship Committee confirms the information is ready to post.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: (Tom Page, Jackie Van Noy, Deana Baker)

1. Nanette forwarded NAVTA's Ex Director's list of Veterinary Professionals in Politics listed by state and legislative office to this Committee at the end of February
2. Report on Wy State Board of Vet Med – None as Tom was unable to get to that meeting. He will follow up to ensure that he gets notified/invited to the next state veterinary board meeting.
3. WyVMA – Tom has an email ready to send to them about meetings.

Admin-Webmaster: Nanette Walker Smith

1. **Job Posts** wyvta@wyvta.org
 - a. **MUST INCLUDE: Clinic/Work name, website and/or phone number, email contact, and contact name. They will be proofed, formatted, and sent to the secretary for the upcoming newsletter (at the top of the job list). Listings will run for 2 newsletters.**
 - b. **Nanette will post the job listing to the Facebook page and reboot the post after 30 days.**
 - c. Facebook Business Suite is new, and Nanette will investigate to see how this can work FOR us
2. **Website:**
 - a. Application (Membership +/- Certification) is in its final revision stage. Just two little fixes, but all the payments and new check boxes are working.
 - b. **Kelly Ferguson's bio (NAVTA Rep) is up:** <https://www.wyvta.org/kelly-ferguson.pml>
 - c. Still looking for **Beth Zima and Taeha Collins bios and pics.**
 - d. Fall 2021 CE pictures need to be loaded
3. Board member Notebooks:
 - a. Still in progress. Have updated several pages overdue. All board members will get the entire Notebook for reference for themselves as well as any member interested in finding out about any board member positions.
 - b. Will be contacting each board member to finalize any updates prior to finishing and ensure everyone has their copies.
4. Computers/Devices/Supplies:
 - a. Need to ensure signed copies of the computer use/care/property documents are in my hands for each computer. (Melanie Beardsley & Deana Baker)
 - b. Received one more via mail and another contract via mail; I'll double check these and call anyone if missing anything else.
5. I'm creating an expense report that everyone will complete in order to submit request for funds spent on behalf of the association PLUS the receipts. The idea with this will be to include when the approval was submitted and approved by the board to spend those funds, when they were spent, and when they were reimbursed. All of this the 'good' part of the internal audit of the finances. Easier to account and find things when needed - checks and balances.

President: Melanie Beardsley

5. Reminder to add NVTW proclamation to do list to President's calendar as soon as we know when the NVTW packets will be ready each year.
6. Pedens: Jacket orders still needed for 2021 board members from: Jackie Breed, Nanette, and me. I will Place the order on Friday next. If you were on the 2021 board, you will have to get your order to me immediately. Nanette said it's easy to filter to narrow your search, i.e. SEARCH 'men's hoodie XLT' gives you only those companies that have men's hoodies in size XL Tall. It won't show any others. Also pop up the colors, what they call fall red may look orange to you. Measure yourself and be sure to check the company's sizing charts before you order.

NEW BUSINESS: Where we are and what we need to do next!

1. The Association has done very well for over 20 years now and consistently continued to increase our funds to now be able to fully fund a CE Event and Annual Meeting without help should we ever need to. We have added assets to our Association to help us to run the Association more efficiently. 4 Board members are now provided with laptop computer devices to help keep us current and moving forward. 2 of them also have printers so we may do our own printing of black and white documents. We added a Square machine which enables us to take funds for memberships, certifications, registrations for CE, sponsorships, donations, and even monies for a small SWAG store started last year. While this is all very good and promising and we could not have done this without a very hard-working volunteer team, it is time to take the next step as a 501c3/501c6 not for profit organization.
2. For years the plight of the credentialed veterinary technician has been revolving around the same key points: licensure, living wages, utilization, recognition, etc. Wyoming does not require credentialing of its veterinary technicians or even recognize this important part of the veterinary health care team in their state's Veterinary Practice Act! Your Wyoming Veterinary Technician Association has credentialed the veterinary technicians in the state for over 20 years and kept its not-for-profit membership going. Membership of Certified Veterinary Technicians (CVT) has held strong at approximately 100 CVTs for the past several years. Graduation from an American Veterinary Medical Association accredited veterinary technology program, passage of the Veterinary Technician National Exam monitored by the Association of Veterinary State Boards, and biannual 10 hours of continual education tracking are required along with biannual membership in the WyVTA to keep certification current. Nearby neighbors such as Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, Utah, and Idaho have recently started the processes to or been placed under their state's Board of Veterinary Medicine - State Practice Act which puts the laws of what veterinary technicians can and cannot do (even what they can and cannot be called) into lawmakers' hands. More importantly these Acts takes specific tasks OUT of the hands of the unskilled, uncertified many such as induction of anesthesia, suturing skin wounds, giving vaccinations, performing dental procedures that may include nerve blocks, ultrasonic cleaning, or even tooth extraction. These tasks vary from state to state but are tasks that require education and understanding due to health implications to the patient and/or the veterinary staff or even the owner.
3. **The WyVTA has been discussing what we could do to help us get our voices heard, our numbers recognized a little more by the communities we serve. In a state with such a minimal population this is a difficult process. The Board has decided we would like to donate a decent amount of funds to a group or organization that the membership feels represents an official importance to CVTs and to the community.** Factors we need to include in this discussion are:
 - a. Amount to be given out (total) – may be split up between 2 or more groups or given in total to one
 - 1) Will be discussed at Annual Mtg. We will need complete information for all nominees to get out to members prior to the meeting so they have knowledge prior to vote and to determine amount to consider.
 - 2) Who will qualify? Nonprofits only? Veterinary related or Animal related? Utilization of CVTs? Raising awareness of veterinary technicians? Wyoming based?
 - 3) When will we accept nominees?
 - b. Examples discussed might include:
 - 1) Reach4AStar Therapeutic Riding Center here in Casper was my first thought. We could even donate it toward veterinary care. Say we donate \$X dollars to the therapeutic riding center for them to use toward veterinary care of their animals. They will think of the tech association whenever those funds are used.
 - a) Dennis Murphy is the person that does the reach4Astar donation. She puts on the Trail Mix Run in May. All of the proceeds go to them.

- b) Maybe engage in discussions about technicians as they are thinking about us and getting their animals seen by a vet?
 - c) Reach 4A Star Riding Academy is a 501(c)3 non-profit PATH Premier accredited therapeutic riding center located on 45 acres in Casper, Wyoming that was founded in 2004 and has been serving the community since 2005. Instructors at Reach 4A Star enjoy an empowering culture where inclusion & deep respect are prioritized. Staff are encouraged to think creatively to contribute to a diverse environment, building on their knowledge and strengths. The facility includes an office, conference room, kitchen, reception area, upstairs viewing area for spectators, tack room, large heated indoor arena with a handicap ramp and wheelchair assistance electronic mounting lift, outdoor arena, barn with stalls and corrals. An outdoor sensory trail is in progress. The Academy serves approximately 250 people in the community each year with a diverse staff of 5, including 3 therapists utilizing about 50 volunteers annually. Right now, riders range in age from 3 to 93 years old. I worked with them several years ago as a volunteer with kids with Down’s Syndrome and then show during their winter games event.
 - d) I feel these guys to a good job and are well established at this point which is why I brought them up initially. They are very active in the community, supportive of Special Olympics, etc.
- 2) I also had the thought of donating cash to some Animal Control facilities. (Even some Fear Free type training or something?)
- c. **Members – there is a lot of discussion here.** The board is going to explore more but **we WANT YOU to email in YOUR SUGGESTIONS** to WYVTA@WYVTA.org before March 31. If you can give a little background, a web address, contact person, personal experience, anything you believe makes your group worth while to receive a gift from YOUR Wyoming Veterinary Technician Association because it deserves it because of what it does for your community, your profession, etc.

Motion to adjourn by Nanette Walker Smith, 2nd by Tom Page. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:44pm.

WyVTA 2022 Executive Board



2022 Executive Board Left to Right:

Taeha Collins, CVT (Riverton) Member-at-Large;
 Kelly Ferguson, CVT (Casper) NAVTA Representative;
 Jackie Van Noy, CVT (Cody) CVT/Membership;
 Tom Page, CVT (Casper) Past President & Vice President;
 Melanie Beardsley, CVT (Casper) President; Deana Baker, CVT (Cody) Secretary;
 Jackie Breed, CVT (Evansville/Casper) Treasurer;
 Nanette Walker Smith, CVT (Monument, CO) webmaster/advisor;
 Beth Zima, CVT (Casper) Member-at-Large

Wyoming Veterinary Technician Association 2022 Executive Board			
2022 Position	First	Last	WyVTA Email Address
President	Melanie	Beardsley, CVT	President@wyvta.org
Past President; Scholarship Cmte Chair	Tom	Page, CVT	PastPres@wyvta.org
Vice President; Fall CE Chair	Tom	Page, CVT	VicePres@wyvta.org
Treasurer	Jackie	Breed, CVT	
Secretary; Newsletter	Deana	Baker, CVT	Secretary@wyvta.org
Membership & Certification	Jackie	Van Noy, CVT	CVT_Members@wyvta.org
NAVTA Rep	Kelly	Ferguson, CVT	NAVTARep@wyvta.org
Member-At-Large	Beth	Zima, CVT	b2czima@gmail.com
Member-At-Large	Taeha	Collins, CVT	elksage@gmail.com
Webmaster, Advisor	Nanette	Walker Smith, CVT	wyvta@wyvta.org