

Minutes of the teleconference meeting (TC) of the WSAVA Executive Board (EB)

Jue 27th, 2024

The meeting was held via Teams with Ellen Van Nierop as Chair.

Present

Ellen van Nierop (EvN)	President
Jim Berry (JB)	President Elect
Jerzy Gawor (JG)	Board Member
Oscar Umana (OU)	Treasurer
Siraya Chunekamrai	Past President
Richard Casey (RC)	WSAVA Secretariat
Liat Geller (LG)	WSAVA Secretariat
Debbie Gray (DG)	WSAVA Secretariat

Consent agenda

- C1 May Report from Suzhou PCO
- C2 Minutes of the May EB Meeting
- C3 Response from APMVEAC Following Decision on Payment of Congress Expenses
- C4 January to May 2024 Management Accounts
- C5 IVSA Student Membership on Committees – Ratification of Choices
- C6 EvN report from attending WVA Congress – Cape Town
- C7 JB report from attending WOAHA General Session - Paris
- C8 LG report from attending The Meeting Show - London
- C9 Nominations for the Executive Board 2024 (not yet reviewed by MNC)

- S1 Transitioning the WSAVA Academy to a New Online Learning Management System DG

DG reviewed a proposed move to a new LMS (Learning Management System) including benefits, disadvantages and costs associated with the move. Two platforms were reviewed with one – Absorb – as the recommended future house of the academy. The EB requested that attention be given to case studies from users of the platform. The EB further requested to review the proposed migrated content. DG additionally shared information about the new education support admin hired, Barun Mohanty – his qualifications, responsibilities and added value as IT support to the organization.

Motion to audit and migrate current content to a new LMS platform

All in favor.

The motion has passed.

Motion to investigate the Absorb platform based on a fixed fee for the first year to allow analysis user data

All in favor

The motion has passed.

Standing items

ST2 Suzhou Congress

DG/LG

DG and LG updated the EB on the progress of congress preparation.

ST2 Rio Congress

EvN

EvN updated the EB on the progress of congress preparation.

ST3 Warsaw Congress

EvN/RC

The EB discussed a proposed MoU template for cooperation with the local associations for world congress. EvN advised that there is an upcoming meeting with the PSAVA board on the 9th of July, where the proposed MoU will be discussed. JG advised that PSAVA are inquiring why the change from LHC to CAG and the division of responsibilities around it. The EB reviewed several proposals for rewording of the MoU so it reflects further the WSAVA values.

Motion to send the MoU draft to the PSAVA board prior to the meeting on July 9th

All in favor

The Motion has passed

Operations

O1 Membership Dues

RC/LG/OU

The EB reviewed all pending payments for membership with remarks regarding several associations:

Cuba

OU updated that the political situation is having a big impact on the wellbeing of the association there with a split between government and private sector. That being said, the association are willing to pay to become full members. The EB highlighted that the assembly granted Cuba one further year of associate status and so Cuba needs to either apply for full membership or terminate their membership as no alternative is available.

Paraguay

Due to a current internal Paraguayan legal matter, the association isn't able to access their funds and are unable to currently pay their membership dues. The EB confirmed that the association has to submit a formal request to the WSAVA in this matter, which at this point they have not.

Thailand

Thailand submitted a request for a discount in membership dues, based on in-kind services to the WSAVA. The EB discussed the previous discount provided and the services provided in return (translations and CE event).

The EB further discussed the need for FAC to review the membership fees structure and provide a strategic plan to address this.

Motion to approve an exceptional discount of 30% to VPAT for 2025 membership fees, pending on them providing a full breakdown of WSAVA related activities and actions

All in favor

The motion has passed

Argentina

Has requested to pay in cash. The EB confirmed this is acceptable and will be delivered to the WSAVA via Cecilia prior to congress.

Lebanon

Has requested to pay via Western Union, EB confirmed that is acceptable.

Colombia

Have not paid membership dues for 3 years, however, they are also owed CE reimbursements. The EB confirmed that this must be concluded this year.

Denmark

Denmark have advised that they will be terminating their membership due to not being able to financially cover payment. LG is in touch with them to see how this can be worked out.

O2 Agenda draft for Suzhou general assembly

RC

The EB reviewed the agenda draft for Suzhou general assembly, including proposed discussion topics for the members forum. EvN highlighted that there will be a discussion on congress regions, but vote can take place up to and including on Rio.

The votes for Executive Board members will take place prior to the general assembly meeting via an online vote using the ElectionBuddy system. All candidates will have an opportunity to share videos with the assembly, and an online Q&A session will take place prior the voting. The vote (one or more depending on the region) will take place online on August 14.

The reports will be voted on at the assembly meeting and online following that meeting if necessary.

Motion to approve the general assembly agenda as presented to the Executive Board

All in favor

The motion has passed

O3 Introduction to Veterinary Business Management Online Course (including association management module)

DG/RC

DG presented the online course pathway and learning modules. The EB reviewed the designated learning outcomes, structure and future opportunities upon completion. Translation is also planned but will be done as a 2nd phase post launch and initial feedback.

The learning content will be designed by RC and the course development will be made by 3rd Term Learning.

The EB highlighted the need to advertise this course and supervise who are the registrants so the discounted / free version is done by relevant associations only.

O4 Operations and membership update

LG

LG reviewed the updated role and responsibilities of the Operations manager. Additionally the EB viewed the list of associations that have expressed interest in joining the WSAVA. the EB discussed the future need to review the current membership strategy in terms of number of associations per country.

AOB

1. Ratification of student members for the Oncology committee

Motion to ratify the request for two student ambassadors for the Oncology committee

All in favor

The Motion has passed.

2. RC updated the EB that he will be writing Committee chairs with information about ELC agenda for Suzhou and budget planning for 2025.

Consent agenda approved