

Part 1 – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The mission of the Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine is to promote the public health, safety and welfare by safeguarding the people and animals of Idaho by establishing and enforcing professional standards in the licensure and regulation of veterinary health professionals.

The Board’s revenues are dedicated funds generated from licensing and certification fees paid by veterinarians, certified veterinary technicians, certified euthanasia technicians, and certified euthanasia agencies. The Board receives sporadic additional revenue in the form of administrative fines and reimbursements for investigatory and legal expenses associated with discipline settlements. These funds are allocated between the Board’s four major areas: 1) Investigation and prosecution of complaints, 2) Veterinary licensing, 3) Veterinary technician certification, 4) Euthanasia technician and euthanasia agency certification.

The Board consists of six members, five veterinarians and one public member, appointed by the Governor from various geographic regions of the state. Veterinary members serve a five year term while the public member serves a three year term. Each of the five veterinary members serves four years as a veterinary board member and a fifth year as liaison officer, reviewing and mediating complaints. The board member serving the fourth year of appointment is the president of the board. The Board’s office is located in Boise in the Idaho State Department of Agriculture headquarters. The Board’s daily business is conducted by a full-time executive director and a full-time technical records specialist I.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

Complaint Investigations/Discipline – safeguard the people of Idaho by initiating and conducting investigations on all matters relating to the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology, and euthanizing of animals, and prosecute violations of the Idaho Veterinary Practice Act. (Title 54, Chapter 21, Idaho Code)

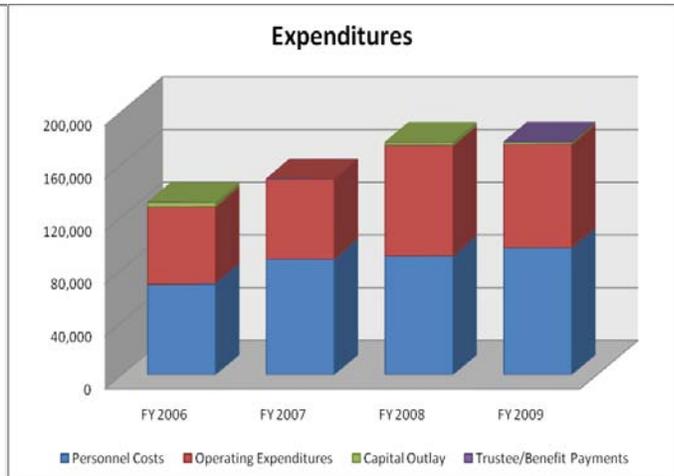
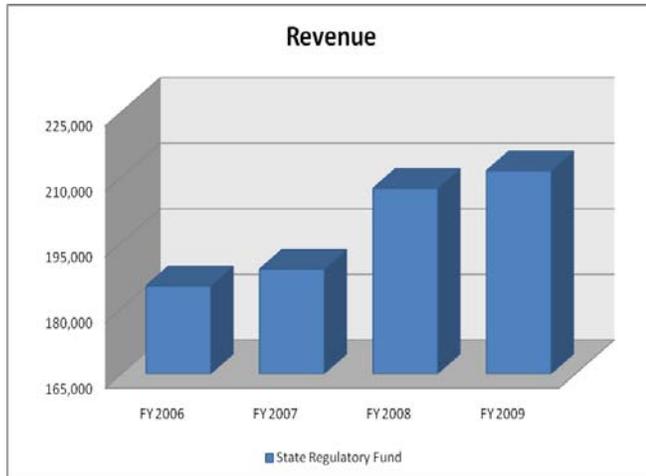
Veterinary Medicine – determine qualifications for issuance and renewal of licenses, set grounds for discipline, establish standards of professional conduct. (Title 54, Chapter 21, Idaho Code)

Veterinary Technology – determine qualifications for issuance and renewal of certifications, set grounds for discipline, and set supervision standards. (Title 54, Chapter 21, Idaho Code)

Certified Euthanasia – appoint Certified Euthanasia Task Force, determine qualifications for certification of euthanasia agencies and euthanasia technicians, grounds for discipline, and provide approved euthanasia training to allow purchase and use of approved drugs by certificants to euthanize animals in a humane manner. (Title 54, Chapter 21, Idaho Code)

Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
State Regulatory Fund	185,100	188,900	207,400	211,400
Total	185,100	188,900	207,400	211,400
Expenditure	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personnel Costs	68,500	87,600	89,900	96,500
Operating Expenditures	58,900	60,800	84,000	78,200
Capital Outlay	3,100	0	2,200	1600
Trustee/Benefit Payments	0	0	0	0
Total	130,500	148,400	176,100	176,300



Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
New Veterinary Licenses Issued	47	63	55	51
New Veterinary Technician Certifications Issued	26	25	17	31
New Euthanasia Technician Certifications Issued	17	15	14	9
New Euthanasia Agency Certifications Issued	1	2	2	0
Veterinary License Renewals	1060	1089	1089	1077
Veterinary Technician Certification Renewals	170	187	182	187
Euthanasia Technician Certification Renewals	75	56*	45	50
Euthanasia Agency Certification Renewals	17	17	17	19
Written Complaints Received	25	20	20	20
Complaints Prosecuted**	8	4	3	6
Warning Letters and Letters of Caution Sent	16	7	6	5

* Due to a statute change in 2007 regarding eligibility of certified euthanasia technicians (CETs), several CETs became ineligible for certification and their certifications were not renewed. This statute change accounts for the lesser number of CETs.

**Due to their legal complexity, complaint prosecutions are usually not completed in the fiscal year the complaint was filed.

Performance Highlights

The Board underwent its triennial financial audit by the Legislative Services Office, Legislative Audits Division for fiscal years 2006, 2007, and 2008. The audit had no findings or recommendations, and did not identify any significant weaknesses in the Board’s administrative and accounting controls.

The Board implemented the use of face-to-face informal settlement conferences in negotiating disciplinary settlements. This action resulted in several contentious disciplinary cases being resolved without the expense of disciplinary hearings. At a minimum, the terms of the disciplinary settlements required each disciplined veterinarian to obtain additional continuing education in their deficient areas, undergo veterinary hospital inspections, and pay back the investigative and prosecution costs incurred by the Board. These actions require the disciplined licensees to raise their level of care to accepted minimum standards, which in turn, protects the public.

In addition, a new veterinary hospital inspection form was created and is in use. The new form was also mailed to all licensees with their annual license renewal form, along with a newsletter including articles recommending that veterinarians implement self-inspections of their practices as a way to prevent problems. The Board received several compliments from its licensees regarding this idea, as the licensees recognized that the Board is trying to keep them informed of its expectations regarding minimum veterinary hospital requirements.

The Certified Euthanasia Task Force (CETF) is continuing to upgrade the Board’s certified euthanasia program. CETF members now perform all required annual Certified Euthanasia Agency inspections, which allows the Board members to focus more attention on other pressing public protection issues. The CETF is in the process of

developing new euthanasia and restraint drug training courses for 2010, and has created a new bound drug log book for use by all Certified Euthanasia Agencies. The new drug log books will make inspections much more efficient due to the standardization of controlled substance drug records between agencies.

In addition, the Board presented legislation that successfully passed and became effective July 1, 2009. Three (3) bills were presented as follows:

- 1) Idaho Code § 54-2108 now requires criminal background checks for all new applicants for veterinary licensure, veterinary technology certification, and euthanasia technology certification. This new statute allows the Board to confirm that new applicants do not have a criminal history that would preclude licensure or certification.
- 2) Idaho Code § 54-2103 (9)(a) was revised to require that all Certified Euthanasia Technicians work for a Certified Euthanasia Agency. This change allows for greater oversight of all Certified Euthanasia Technicians.
- 3) Idaho Code § 54-2101 updated the Board's Declaration of Policy to more accurately state its goals and mission. Based on this statute change, the Board's new mission statement is included in the first paragraph of the agency profile, under Agency Overview.

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2006	2007	2008	2009	Benchmark
1. Review and process new applications from veterinarians and veterinary technicians	73	88	72	82	100 %
2. Review and process renewal applications from veterinarians and certified veterinary technicians	1230	1276	1267	1264	100 %
3. Review and process new applications from euthanasia technicians and euthanasia agencies	18	17	14	9	100 %
4. Review and process renewal applications from euthanasia technicians and euthanasia agencies	92	73	62	69	100 %
5. Triage formal written complaints and send to appropriate person in a timely manner	25	20	20	20	100 %
6. Approve continuing education courses	63	78	70	78	100 %
7. Fulfill requests for license verifications and public record lists of licensees	154	145	140	117*	100 %

Performance Measure Explanatory Note:

*In number 7 above, the number of license verification requests has dropped due to the ability of the public to verify licenses on the Board's website. This new website feature was implemented in FY2008, and the number of license verification requests has been reduced as a result.

For More Information Contact

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