

MINUTES OF 2015 MALAWI VETERINARY ASSOCIATION AGM

DATE: 28th FEBRUARY, 2015

VENUE: BRIDGE VIEW HOTEL

MEMBERS PRESENT

ID	NAME	ORGANIZATION	POSITION	CELL PHONE	EMAIL
1	Dr Kholiwe Mkandawire	Mudi Pharmacy & Veterinary Clinic	Managing Director	+265999954766	mkandawirek@yahoo.com
2	Dr Poya Njoka	Malawi Government, MoAIWD, DAHLD	Chief Epidemiologist	+265999320530	poyanjoka@gmail.com
3	Dr Danny Chinombo	Free Lancer	Veterinary Surgeon	+265999124779	dchinombo@yahoo.com
4	Dr Bernard Chimera	Malawi Government, MoAIWD, DAHLD	Director	+265999315766	bernard.chimera@com
5	Prof M.W. Mfitlodze	LUANAR	Professor	+265992713430	wffitlodze@gmail.com
6	Prof Melaku Tefera	LUANAR	Professor	+265884803205	melaku22@yahoo.com
7	Dr Patrick Chikungwa	Malawi Government, MoAIWD, DAHLD	Deputy Director	+265888371509	pchikungwa@yahoo.com
8	Dr Gray Matita	NRC	Vice Principal	+265888614534	graymatita@yahoo.com
9	Dr Gilson Njunga	Malawi Government, MoAIWD, DAHLD	Officer-In-Charge at CVL	+265888868354	gilsonnjunga@yahoo.co.uk
10	Dr Julius Chulu	Malawi Government, MoAIWD, DAHLD	Chief Microbiologist	+265991277492	juliuschulu09@gmail.com
11	Dr Letitia Karim	THE VET CLINIC	Private Veterinarian	+265999960041	Animalkingdom.mw@gmail.com
12	Dr Oliver Bakili	LUANAR	Lecturer	+265888343743	obakili@gmail.com
13	Dr Richard Ssuna	LSPCA	Program Director	+265994322996	
14	Dr Amanda Salb	LWT/DNPW-Wildlife Emergency Response Unit	Project Manager/Veterinarian	+265998597938	amaandalee.salb@gmail.com
15	Dr John E. Fiddler	LSPCA	Volunteer Veterinarian		solsou@aol.com
16	Dr Amanda McNabb	LSPCA	Volunteer Veterinarian		Amcnabb1@gmail.com
17	Dr Pat Boland	NRPC	Director	+265995943034	phbolandmail@gmail.com
18	Dr Edwin Nkhulungo	Malawi Government, MoAIWD, BLADD	CAHLDO	+265999923968	nkhulungo@yahoo.com
19	Dr Joseph Nkhoma	Malawi Government, MoAIWD, LLADD	Animal Health Officer	+265884562763	joenkhoma@hotmail.com
20	Dr Felix Jere	PCI		+265994158660	jerefelix@gmail.com

APOLOGIES: Dr Chizonda

1. The AGM started at 14:00 hours on 28th February, 2015. The MVA Patron gave welcoming remarks.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM were reviewed and pertinent issues were discussed from 14:10 hours to 15:00 hours. Some of the issues that were tackled included:

i. MVA Newsletter: MVA will launch a web site and initiate a web-based newsletter to be released twice a year. The editorial team will be led by Dr Pat Bolland and the other members of the editorial team include Drs G. Njunga and O. Bakili.

ii. I2 production: It was noted that the I2 production is not being allocated enough funds. DAHLD was asked to consider improving the allocation to I2 production.

iii. The future of FMD Control: It was suggested that there is a need to draft a proposal that includes risk analysis. It should also propose precautionary measures to be instituted so that the country can start moving animals from the Lower Shire to upland areas for breeding purposes.

iv. Status of the rabies vaccination program: Annual vaccination campaigns are being conducted but the coverage has not improved much. It was suggested that public/private partnerships and collaboration with other government departments and ministries be promoted in the fight against rabies.

v. MVA Fundraising Activities: It was recommended that MVA Chairperson must come up with an MVA Fundraising Committee to explore and decide on MVA fundraising ventures which may include but not restricted to opening of a veterinary clinic and opening of veterinary drug store. DAHLD was requested to provide space for the business.

vi. MVA Annual Subscription: This has been raised from MK10, 000.00 to MK20, 000.00. Students pursuing DVM at LUANAR may be considered to be subscribing at a lower fee.

vii. MVA Office Bearers: The following are the current MVA Executive Members:

1. Chairperson: Dr Kholiwe Mkandawire.
2. Secretary: Dr Poya Njoka.
3. Treasurer: Dr Danny Chinombo.

viii. MVA Account: It was agreed that MVA should open a new account number and the treasurer, Dr D. Chinombo was tasked to facilitate the opening of the new account.

It was also noted that the previous treasurer (Dr Chrissy Mwinyeriwa's) report was still outstanding since she is in Mozambique serving as a high commissioner. Dr J. Nkhoma who took after Dr C. Mwinyeriwa as treasure resigned from the profession's executive. Members unanimously resolved that the MVA NBS savings account number: 0050125174016 which is held at Lilongwe Branch be audited as soon as possible.

ix. MVA Patron: It was agreed that the MVA secretariat must come up with Terms of Reference for MVA's patron and then identify one for the position.

3) During the 2015 AGM members discussed and agreed on a number of issues and notable among them were the followings:

i. It was agreed that there is need for an MVA road map.

ii. Potential sponsors were lost during the floods due to unilateral decisions taken by some MVA members. It was agreed that in future we should be more organized and act as an association and not as individuals.

iii. The inclusion of publications as a requirement for recruitment at the newly opened Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at LUANAR will disadvantage many local veterinarians.

iv. All organisation initiating livestock interventions in the country must register with the Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development (DAHLD).

- v. There is need for introducing a proper breeding policy and a policing committee to control pet breeding and quack professionals.
- vi. LUANAR must approach the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development to formalise the involvement of government veterinarians in part time lecturing at the institution.
- vii. Members agreed that there is need to operationalise the Board of Veterinary Surgery. Currently Prof B. Mfitlodze is serving as the Chairperson and the DAHLD Director, Dr B. Chimera is serving as the Registrar for the interim Board of Veterinary Surgery.
- viii. The Veterinary Governance Project to support the process of operationalising the Board of Veterinary Surgery.
- ix. Members proposed 5 names to be considered for inclusion in the Board of Veterinary Surgery. The proposed names are: Dr Kholiwe Mkandawire, Dr Gray Matita, Dr Oliver Bakili, Dr Gilson Njunga and Dr Felix Jere.
- x. Members agreed that the Director for DAHLD, Dr B. Chimera and the MVA executive (Dr Kholiwe Mkandawire, Dr Poya Njoka and Dr Danny Chinombo) to present the proposed names to the minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development.
- xi. Members agreed that there is a need to form an ethics committee to ensure that members uphold to the tenets of the profession.

- xii. It was also suggested that a veterinary council be formed so that it should be assessing any incoming veterinarians prior to granting them a green light to practice in the country.

- xiii. Members also agreed that signatories to the MVA account be changed so that new MVA executive replaces the former executive.

- xiv. Sponsors of both the AGC and AGM were thanked by the MVA Chairperson during the presentation of the MVA Chairperson's report. The sponsors were: Dr A. Tjolle (£500.00), Dr Letitia Karim (MK50, 000.00), Dr Chrissy Mwinyeria (5 litre wine casket), Dr B. Chimera (goats and drinks), Dr Kholiwe Mkandawire (a bowl of assorted anointed sweets), Dr P. Njoka (a vehicle for a day), Dr J. Nkhoma (fuel).
- xv. Members then received a report from the MVA treasurer in which it was noted that the association has not yet opened a new account and recommended that the account opening process be sped up.
- xvi. The MVA Patron then gave his closing remarks at 16:40 hours in which he invited members to a social evening event which took place at the CTTBD around 18:00 hours of the same day.

DR K. MKANDAWIRE (CHAIRPERSON) DR P. NJOKA (SECRETARY)