

Executive Board Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date	19 February 2026
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Participant	Position
Jim Berry	Meeting Chair, President
Ellen van Nierop	Immediate Past President
Jerzy Gawor	President Elect
Oscar Umana	Treasurer
Julie Stafford	Ordinary Board Member
Natasha Lee	Ordinary Board Member
Nalinika Obeyesekere	Ordinary Board Member
Veronica Leibaschoff	Ordinary Board Member
Derick Chibeu	Ordinary Board Member
Richard Casey	Executive Director
Liat Geller	Chief Community Officer
Debbie Gray	Chief Learning & Development Officer
Cecilia Westerdahl	Chief Communications Officer
Joyce Dao	Finance Officer
Lolita Bizune	Chief Partnerships Officer
Ernie Ward	Chair, Strategic Advisory Committee

Consent	
C1	WSAVA Executive Board Meeting Minutes – January 2026
C2	January Congress Status Meeting Update
C3	End of Year 2025 Partner Status Reports
C4	Amendment to Interim Liquidity Policy

Strategy	
S1 WSAVA Data and Research Survey	RC/EW
RC presented the survey question set, which had already been through extensive iterations with the project team. The EB discussed a range of refinements including the separation of combined regions for more meaningful demographic analysis, the inclusion of a self-perceived practice level question, and the addition of a question on accessibility of continuing education. The rationale for One Health featuring as a dedicated thematic area was clarified as reflecting pre-strategy priorities. Motion to ratify the question set and go forward with the questions as modified. All in favor. Motion has passed.	
S2 Crisis Response Plan	EW
EW presented the WSAVA Crisis Response Plan (CRP), an 88-page communications framework developed by the SAC, drawing on CDC, Red Cross and AVMA guidance. The document is designed to help WSAVA and its member organisations - particularly those in emerging regions with no existing crisis infrastructure - assess and respond to crises affecting companion animal health, veterinary service delivery, or organisational reputation. It operates through a tiered activation system (Levels 1-3), with the SAC screening issues and the EB retaining sole decision-making authority. The EB discussed the importance of appropriate oversight of any statements issued on WSAVA's behalf, the need to fill gaps in the regional partner contact list, and the potential value of a simplified template version that member associations could adapt for their own use. The question of whether the document should be open access or member-only was noted as a decision for the board in due course.	
S3 Manila Strategy Workshop	RC/LG
RC and LG covered all pre-reads and preparation for the Manila summit, as well as logistical highlights and points of attention.	

Governance	
G1 Interim Full Year 2025 Accounts	RC
RC presented the 2025 interim financial position. Against a budgeted deficit of approximately \$219,000, the anticipated final outcome is a deficit of \$36,000-\$50,000 - a materially better result - once the Congress	

account and remaining late expenditure are factored in. Key variances included shortfalls in sponsorship and Congress income, overspends in data and research, salaries, and legal costs, partially offset by underspends in education and committees.

The EB discussed the reserves position, noting a significant gap between reserves levels and expenditure. The Financial Advisory Committee is meeting that evening with the reserves policy on its agenda, and recommendations are expected in the coming months. RC noted the view that the gap reflects under-spending on mission-aligned activity rather than a need to cut costs.

Partnerships

P1 **World Veterinary Environmental Alliance**

JB/OW

The EB received an update on a proposed support partnership with the World Veterinary Environmental Alliance (WVEA). Following earlier board queries about the nature of the commitment, it was confirmed that no financial contribution is involved - the arrangement consists of mutual logo placement and potential future collaboration on education, One Health, and hospital standards projects. Other veterinary organisations including WVA, SVE, and the Australian Veterinary Association are already listed as supporters.

Motion to approve the letter of support for the World Veterinary Environmental Alliance with the clarity that this represents support only and not financial membership.

All in Favor

Motion has passed.

P2 **Proposed Travel Policy for Warsaw**

LG

LG presented a temporary travel policy for committee members attending Warsaw Congress to participate in committee meetings.

Motion to approve the temporary travel policy for Warsaw Congress.

All in Favor

Motion has passed.

Consent Agenda ratified unanimously.