

**Vermont Board of Medical Practice  
Minutes of the February 1, 2006 Meeting  
Gifford Medical Center, Randolph, Vermont**

**Approved**

**1. Call to Order; Call the Roll; Acknowledge Guests**

James D. Cahill, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 12:21 p.m., at Gifford Medical Center, Randolph, Vermont.

**Members Present:**

James D. Cahill, MD; David W. Clauss, MD; Richard L. Guerrero, MD; Patricia A. King, MD, PhD; Margaret F. Martin; Sharon L. Nicol; Alexander Northern; Toby Sadkin, MD; Katherine A. Silta, PA-C; William H. Stouch, MD; Peter Thomashow, MD

**Others in Attendance:**

James Arisman, Esq., Assistant Attorney General; Phil Ciotti, Investigator; Phil Cykon, Presiding Officer; Paula DiStabile, Executive Director; Peggy Langlais, Administrative Supervisor; Joseph Winn, Esq., Assistant Attorney General

**2. Public Comment**

None.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the January 4 and January 18, 2006 Board Meetings**

Ms. Martin made a motion to accept the minutes of January 4 and January 18, 2006. Dr. Stouch seconded the motion. The motion passed, opposed: none, abstained: none

**4. Board Matters**

Dr. Cahill said that Commissioner Jarris had been called to the legislature, so he would not be able to attend today's meeting as planned and would not be able to make the March Board meeting date. He is hopeful that perhaps he can attend in April.

Dr. Cahill said that the prescription monitoring bill had passed out of the Senate and has moved into the House, but there is no additional news. Dr. Cahill said that the bill would require the monitoring to be housed in the Vermont Department of Health and that the bill includes the Board of Medical Practice

among others who would participate in an advisory body. He said that we will be looking for Board members to participate if the legislation is enacted.

Dr. Cahill said that the Executive Committee of the Board had held its first meeting and that Ms. DiStabile had minutes for distribution. He said that organizationally, he felt that it would be best for the board to accept the minutes in a formal motion. Ms. Martin moved to accept the minutes. Ms. Nicol seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor. Opposed: none.

Dr. Cahill asked that anyone with questions, comments or criticisms to let him or Ms. DiStabile know. He said that the next meeting would be after the Board meeting in March and the plan is to meet monthly following Board meetings thereafter. Any Board member interested is welcome to stay and participate.

#### **5. Administrative Update (Ms. DiStabile)**

Ms. DiStabile announced that the Board had a new staff member. She said that Lauren West would be replacing Giselle Eldred as the Program Services Clerk at the Board. She said that Ms. West has been working with the Board as a temporary employee and that we are delighted to have her join the Board staff as a permanent employee.

Ms. DiStabile said that she would like to confirm participation in the Vermont Medical Society opiate grand rounds in Bennington and Brattleboro. She said that Dr. Guerrero and Mr. Webber would be attending the Bennington session and that to date there have been no volunteers for the Brattleboro session.

Ms. DiStabile distributed a letter regarding new course offerings available at Case Western.

A draft Report from the Federation of State Medical Boards to the Office for the Advancement of TeleHealth – Multi-State License Portability Projects was provided in the Board packet. Ms. DiStabile said that funding has been allocated for these projects but that it would be a competitive grant process and awards are likely to be made to more than one recipient. She asked Board members to review the draft and provide her with any comments. Ms. DiStabile said that if the Board agreed to participate and if the FSMB project is funded, it is possible that we could receive some of the funds to apply toward our licensing application process.

Ms. DiStabile said that the Board of Medical Practice has been named in a suit by Dr. Lawrence Agee. She said that that Board was one of several named in the suit. The Board is being represented by the Attorney General's Office.

Ms. DiStabile said that she had provided another redraft of opening and closing letters for review and comment. She asked that anyone with comments let her know.

Ms. DiStabile asked Board members what their thoughts were regarding private practice physician and off-hours coverage. She said that an informal survey of other boards revealed that this issue is treated in different ways by different state Boards. Dr. Cahill suggested that this could be an agenda item for the next Executive Committee meeting.

Dr. Cahill said that there was a Federation of State Medical Boards meeting coming up in April. He said the meeting would be in Boston and asked that anyone interested in attending let Ms. DiStabile know. Ms. DiStabile said that she had copies of the draft agenda for the FSMB meeting available.

Mr. Ciotti commented that the third paragraph of the draft opening letter should not say that complainants may be asked to meet with investigative committees. He said that this could raise unrealistic expectations as investigative committees do not have time to meet with complainants as a routine. Ms. DiStabile said that she would accept any and all comments.

#### **6. Presentation of applications**

See Appendix A

#### **7. Recess; Convene Hearing (Mr. Cykon)**

There were no matters to be heard.

#### **8. Executive Session**

Dr. King made a motion to go into executive session to discuss investigative matters. Dr. Stouch seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor, opposed: none, abstained: none.

Executive session began at 12:53 p.m.

#### **9. Break – 2:20 p.m.**

#### **10. Return to Open Session**

Dr. King made a motion to return to open session. The motion was seconded Ms. Silta. The vote was all in favor, opposed: none, abstained: none.

Open session: 3:12 p.m.

Dr. King, North Investigative Committee, moved to close

MPN 123-0804

MPN 56-0405

MPN 173-1105

Seconded: Dr. Sadkin. Passed, opposed: none. Abstained: Dr. Guerrero – MPN 173-1105.

Ms. Silta, South Investigative Committee, moved to close

MPS 125-0805

MPS 180-1105

MPS 188-1105

MPS 165-1105

MPS 172-1105

Seconded: Dr. King. Passed, opposed: none. Abstained: Dr. Clauss – MPS 125-0805.

Dr. Clauss, Central Investigative Committee, moved to close

MPC 187-1105

MPC 197-1205

MPC 167-1105

MPC 174-1105

MPC 49-0601

MPC 69-0702

Seconded: Dr. King. Passed, opposed: none. Abstained: Dr. Sadkin – MPC 49-0601.

Dr. King, Chair, North Investigative Committee made a motion in re: MPN 12-0200, to approve Dr. Robert Robinson as Dr. Williams physician monitor. Dr. Stouch seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor. Opposed: none. Abstained: Dr. Thomashow

## 11. Any Other Business

Dr. Guerrero asked about the role of the Medical Practice Board in disaster response in the state. He said that the Medical Reserve Corps in southern Vermont is working toward supporting mass immunization. He said that it is an enormous job and that there was an enormous need for back-up personnel. Dr. Guerrero said that the Health Department has less than 100 public health nurses. He said that there is a huge need for a contingent of volunteers.

Dr. Guerrero said that the Board could play a role in emergency preparedness by adding a question to the physician licensure application that would ask applicants planning to practice in Vermont if they would be interested in participating in disaster response. He said the target group would be physicians not participating in hospital response, retired or working in private practice. Dr.

Guerrero said some of the factors affecting the volunteer effort are licensure fees, competency requirements and the expense in general.

Ms. Silta said that Dave Cote of the Health Department had addressed a PA meeting about this issue and that she had additional information from a national association.

Ms. DiStabile said that she and Ms. Langlais had been participating in the Health Department's "Emergency System for Advance Registration of Health Professionals" project. The goal of this project, which is federally funded, is to establish a process that would enable prompt identification and credentialing of volunteer professionals in the event of disaster.

It was suggested that this be a future agenda item for the Board's consideration.

#### Next meetings

##### Upcoming meetings

- March 10, 2006, Central Investigative Committee Meeting, 12 p.m., Montpelier
- March 15, 2006, Board meeting on pending applications, 12:10 p.m., Board Office, 101 Cherry Street, Burlington, (and via telephone)
- March 15, 2006, South Investigative Committee Meeting, 12 p.m., Asa Bloomer Building, Rutland
- March 16, 2006, North Investigative Committee Meeting, 12 p.m., Vermont State College, Waterbury

**12. Next Regular Board meetings April 5, 2006, 12 p.m., Gifford Hospital, Randolph, Vermont, April 19, 2006, 12:10 p.m., teleconference meeting, with public access at the Board offices, 101 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont**

#### 13. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Silta, seconded by Dr. King. The vote was all in favor, opposed: none, abstained: none. The meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Peggy Langlais, Administrative Supervisor  
Attachments

## Presentation of Applications

Ms. Silta reported on interviews with

Michelle Machesky, PA

Jennifer Tinsman, PA

Recommended for physician assistant certification

Seconded by Dr. King passed, opposed: none, abstained: none

Dr. King reported on an interview with

Jane Hyland, MD

Recommended for physician licensure

Seconded by Dr. Clauss passed, opposed: none, abstained: none

Dr. Clauss reported on interviews with

Paul Beer, MD

Timothy Dominick, MD

Patricia Hiller, MD

Victoria Champagne, MD

Jonathan Shapir, MD

Sabieli Kabeli, MD – interview conducted by Dr. Murray

Meredith Monahan, MD – interview conducted by Dr. Murray

Recommended for physician licensure

Seconded by Dr. Stouch, passed, opposed: none, abstained: none

Dr. Guerrero reported on interviews with

David Lee, MD

Allison Lindman, MD

Amir Fassihi, MD

Robert Cirelli, MD

Michelle Machesky, PA

Recommended for physician licensure

Seconded by Dr. Stouch, passed, opposed: none, abstained: none

Dr. Stouch reported on interviews with

Wendy Irelan, MD

Martin Johns, MD

John Hammel, MD

Recommended for physician licensure

Seconded by Dr. Thomashow, passed, opposed: none, abstained: none

Dr. Thomashow reported on interviews with

Bruce Andrus, MD

Hans Meier-Ewert, MD

Recommended for physician licensure

Seconded by Dr. Clauss, passed, opposed: none, abstained: none

Dr. Caill reported on interviews with

Mary Kusior, MD

Joseph Ionno, MD

Recommended for physician licensure

Seconded by Dr. Clauss, passed, opposed: none, abstained: none

Dr. Cahill moved on a Limited Temporary License approval

Paul Lobet, MD

Recommended for Limited Temporary License

Seconded: Dr. Clauss, passed, opposed: none, abstained: none