

**ADVISORY BOARD ON PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS
MINUTES**

February 7, 2013

The Advisory Board on Physician Assistants met Thursday, February 7, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia. Rachel Carlson, PA-C, Chair, called the meeting to order. A quorum was declared.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rachel Carlson, PA-C, Chair
Thomas Parish, PA-C, Vice-Chair
Paul Marino, PA-C
James Potter, MD

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kishore Thota

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director
Alan Heaberlin, Deputy Executive Director, Licensure
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Regulatory Analyst
ShaRon Clanton, Licensing Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT: David Falkenstein, VAPA

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Carlson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES

Ms. Carlson announced the Emergency Egress Procedures.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED JUNE 28, 2012 AND DECEMBER 6, 2012

Ms. Carlson moved to approve the minutes dated June 28, 2012 and December 6, 2012. The motion was seconded and carried.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Marino moved to approve the adoption of the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Falkenstein representing VAPA requested an update from the Board regarding the requirements for approval of fluoroscopy for PA's. Ms. Yeatts informed him she would provide an update during her legislative report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Health Practitioners Survey-Dr. Elizabeth Carter

Dr. Carter submitted a survey entitled, "Virginia's Physician Assistant Workforce: 2010-2011" to the Advisory Board. She reviewed the highlights of the survey and requested that the Advisory Board members review the document and provide any feedback to Dr. Harp by February 28, 2013.

2. Legislative Report-Elaine Yeatts

Ms. Yeatts informed the Advisory Board of bills of interest in the 2013 Session of the General Assembly. She informed the Board that the regulations regarding the qualifications needed for physician assistants to perform fluoroscopy are at the Secretary's office awaiting approval. Lastly, she advised that the regulation to eliminate the specific requirement for the supervising physician to see patients at least every 4th visit would be adopted as a final regulation at the full Board of Medicine Meeting scheduled for February 21, 2013. No action was required from the Advisory Board.

3. Review of Regulatory Revisions-Elaine Yeatts

As part of the Governor's Regulatory Reform Project, Ms. Yeatts reviewed the regulations governing the practice of physician assistants with the Advisory Board to determine if any regulations could be revised or repealed. Ms. Yeatts reviewed and discussed with the Advisory Board the following changes recommended by Board staff:

- The term "protocol" is changed to "practice agreement" and "set of directions" would be changed to "written agreement" throughout the regulations.
- The definition of "Practice agreement" is amended to include "and the physician assistant" in the development of the written agreement by the supervising physician and "the prescriptive authority of the physician assistant" is included as part of the definition of the supervisory relationship between the physician assistant and the physician.

- Section 18VAC85-50-150 “Protocol regarding prescriptive authority” will be repealed. Language from this repealed regulation will be added as new section “D” to 18VAC85-50-101.

Mr. Parish moved for fast-track action to amend the regulations governing the practice of physician assistants as recommended by Board staff. The motion was seconded and carried.

4. 2013 Meeting Calendar

The Advisory Board approved by acclamation the 2013 meeting calendar.

5. Election of Officers

The Advisory Board voted by acclamation for Rachel Carlson, PA-C to remain as Chair and for Thomas Parish, PA-C, to remain as Vice-Chair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Parish announced the possible startup of 5 new physician assistant programs in Virginia within the next 3-4 years.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

June 6, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Carlson moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:14 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rachel Carlson, PA-C, Chair

William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director

ShaRon Clanton, Licensing Specialist