

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
FULL BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 17, 2008**

**TIME AND PLACE:** The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 17, 2008, at the Department of Health Professions, The Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 1, Henrico, VA.

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** David R. Boehm, President

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mary Lou Argow, L.P.C.  
Paula H. Boone, O.D.  
Susan G. Chadwick, Au.D.  
Lynn M. Cooper, Citizen Member, Nursing  
Jennifer H. Edwards, Pharm.D  
Meera A. Gokli, D.D.S.  
Damien Howell, P.T.  
Billie W. Hughes, F.S.L.  
Fernando (Marty) Martinez, Citizen Member  
Juan M. Montero, II, M.D.  
Demis L. Stewart, Citizen Member  
Michael Stutts, Ph.D.  
John T. Wise, D.V.M.

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:** Sandra Price-Stroble, Citizen Member  
Wilma Seymour, Citizen Member  
Mary M. Smith, N.H.A.  
Pia Trigiani, Citizen Member

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sandra Ryals, Director  
Emily Wingfield, Chief Deputy Director  
Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D., Executive Director for the Board  
Eric Gregory, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel  
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Regulatory Analyst  
Justin Crow, Research Assistant  
Carol Stamey, Operations Manager

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ray Taurasi, International Association of Healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSMM)  
Lee Germain, VACS  
Lorraine Jenkins, VACS

**QUORUM:** With fourteen (14) members present, a quorum was established.

**AGENDA:** No changes were made to the agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Ray Taurasi, International Association of Healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSMM), presented public comment in favor of mandated certification of Central Service/Sterile Technicians.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Howell moved to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2007 Executive Committee meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ms. Stewart moved to approve the minutes of the full board's September 9, 2008 meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** **Key Performance Measures**  
Ms. Ryals presented an updated overview of the results of the agency's Key Performance Measures for the first quarter of FY 2009. She specifically noted the dramatic improvement in disciplinary case resolution and the clearing of the backlog of old disciplinary cases. Further, Ms. Ryals informed the Board that the agency is in the process of adopting new case measurement standards.

Ms. Cooper reported that the Board of Nursing utilizes agency subordinates to resolve a number of its disciplinary cases. Additionally, she praised the board members and staff for their hard work in clearing the backlog of disciplinary cases.

**Healthcare Workforce Data Center**  
Ms. Ryals informed the Board that the Governor's Health Reform Commission Report recommended the formation of a healthcare workforce data center. This data center is now housed within the Department of Health Professions and is being funded by a \$275,000 grant from the Governor this year. She stated that the Healthcare Workforce Data Center will serve as a repository for supply and demand data and help identify healthcare provider shortages in Virginia. The Data Center's advisory board consists of representatives of various state agencies and constituent organizations. The Center will also coordinate with the Health Department's Emergency Contact Information program.

### **Health Practitioners' Intervention Program (HPIP)**

Ms. Ryals apprised the Board of proposed legislation relating to the HPIP Program and revisions to the agency's participation agreement for impaired practitioners with VCU. She stated that an Internal Task Force had reviewed the HPIP Program and developed the following recommendations:

- 1) continue the program;
- 2) amend fee participation charges;
- 3) extend immunity to other state agencies who may participate with HPIP;
- 4) delete references to intervention and treatment; and
- 5) limit the program to monitoring services.

Further, it was recommended that the name of the program be changed to reflect "Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program."

Dr. Montero moved to support the proposed legislation as presented to include the revised name change. The motion was seconded and carried by majority with Mr. Howell abstaining.

### **Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)**

Ms. Ryals reported that there were proposed legislative changes to the PMP statute. The proposed changes include authorizing the Director to enter into agreements for mutual exchange of information with other states.

### **LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY UPDATE:**

Ms. Yeatts presented an overview of the respective board's proposed regulations.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Regulatory Review Committee**

Dr. Chadwick reported that the Committee had met and received a presentation on emerging professions. After the review and receipt of additional brief public comment, the Committee made the following recommendations to the Board for consideration:

- 1) Orthopedic Technologists and Orthopedic Physician's Assistants should not be regulated by the Commonwealth as professions;
- 2) Podiatrists should also not be regulated; and
- 3) The Committee should continue its study of Orthotists and Prosthetists by extending an invitation for dialog with the professional representatives and constituent groups at the next meeting of the Committee.

She reported further that the Committee took no action on the Central Sterile/Services Technicians.

On properly seconded motion by Dr. Chadwick, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Committee regarding non-regulation of Orthopedic Technologists and Orthopedic Physicians' Assistants.

On properly seconded motion by Dr. Chadwick, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of the Committee regarding non-regulation of Pedorthists and the further study of Orthotists and Prosthetists.

Mr. Howell moved that the Central Sterile/Services Technicians not be regulated. The motion was seconded and carried by majority, with Dr. Montero and Mr. Martinez abstaining.

#### **Nominating Committee**

Dr. Wise reported that the Committee had met and recommended that Mr. Boehm continue to serve as President and Mr. Howell serve as Vice-President.

Dr. Montero moved that the nominations be closed and that the Board accept the recommendations of the Committee as presented. The motion was properly seconded and carried unanimously.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

#### **Sanctions Reference Study (SRS) Update**

Dr. Carter informed the Board that the behavioral science boards had agreed to a unified manual and worksheets which are being adopted by each Board with implementation slated for early 2009. Additionally, the Boards of Physical Therapy, Audiology & Speech Language Pathology and Long-Term Care Administrators are scheduled to review their sanctioning histories along with consideration of other boards' existing Sanction Reference Point Systems.

#### **Budget**

Dr. Carter stated that the Board was operating within its budget.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

#### **2009 Calendar**

Ms. Stamey proposed the following 2009 calendar meeting dates:

February 3, 2009,  
May 12, 2009,  
August 11, 2009,  
November 10, 2009.

Ms. Cooper moved that the 2009 calendar meetings be adopted as presented. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Dr. Montero moved that the Regulatory Research Committee consider the study of surgical assistants as an emerging profession. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Boehm commended staff and board members for their hard work in the processing of old cases and its continued efforts in meeting the 250-day case closure goal.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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David R. Boehm, L.C.S.W.  
Board President

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Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D.  
Executive Director for the Board