

---FINAL APPROVED---

**Advisory Board on Respiratory Therapy
Minutes
May 21, 2019**

The Advisory Board on Respiratory Therapy met on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland, Suite 201, Drive, Henrico, VA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shari Toomey, RRT, Chair
Daniel Gochenour, RRT, Vice Chair
Bruce Rubin, MD
Santiera Brown, RRT

MEMBERS ABSENT: Denver Supinger

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director
Elaine Yeatts, DHP Senior Policy Analyst
Colanthia Morton Opher, Deputy for Administration

GUESTS PRESENT: Yetty Shobo, PhD, Healthcare Workforce Data Center
Mark Hickman, CSG

Call TO ORDER

Ms. Toomey called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES

Dr. Harp announced the emergency egress procedures.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Opher called the roll, and a quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2, 2018

Mr. Gouchenour moved to approve the minutes of October 2, 2018. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Gouchenour moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Report from the 2019 General Assembly

Dr. Brown reported on the 2019 General Assembly and provided historical background on the bills that were of interest to the members.

Dr. Harp provided a brief update on the status of the Board's emergency regulations, APA regulatory actions, and future policy actions.

Both of these reports were for information only and did not require any action.

2. NBRC Specialty Exam Counting as Continuing Education Hours

The FAQ's from the American Association of Respiratory Care website were reviewed. Ms. Toomey spoke to question #6, "How many hours do I need to renew my AE-C credential with the National Asthma Educator Certification Board (NAECB)?" and to question # 15, "I took this course last year. Can I take it again for credit?" She asked if this is acceptable for meeting the continuing education requirements for license renewal.

Dr. Harp said the FAQ's did not provide any information about accepting passage of an NBRC specialty examination as CE hours.

MOTION: After some discussion, the members asked that the Board consider amending 18VAC85-40-66. Continuing Education Requirements to include the following:

4. Passage of a National Board of Respiratory Care specialty exam shall be counted as 20 hours.

3. Tracking of RT's Credentialed after July 1, 2002 for Maintenance of NBRC

Ms. Toomey provided the members with NBRC's maintenance requirements prior to and after 2002. She stated that if the required documentation is not submitted, the individual would lose their certification. Dr. Harp pointed out that the Board does not require most professions to maintain membership in national organizations or credentialing bodies, but rather it requires that licensees obtain the same number of continuing education credits as do the national organizations or credentialing bodies.

4. Employment Under a Temporary License Until a Full License is Issued.

.The members reviewed the following regulations that represent the array of options for practice prior to the issuance of a full license.

- 18VAC-120-75. Temporary Authorization to Practice
- 18VAC 85-120-80. Provisional Licensure
- 18VAC85-80-45. Practice by a Graduate Awaiting Examination Results

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- 18VAC85-140-45. Practice As a Student or Trainee
- 18VAC85-50-55. Provisional Licensure
- 18VAC85-170-60. Licensure Requirements

Dr. Harp said he was in favor of some accommodation for all the allied professions, and that if possible, have the exemptions be as uniform as possible.

MOTION: After further discussion, Ms. Toomey moved to recommend to the Board that the language of the Occupational Therapy regulations be adopted in the regulations of Respiratory Therapy. The OT regulations are based on the following statutory language.

§ 54.1-2956.5. Unlawful to practice occupational therapy without license

B. However, a person who has graduated from a duly accredited occupational therapy assistant education program may practice with the title "Occupational Therapy Assistant, License Applicant" or "O.T.A.-Applicant" until he has received a failing score on any examination required by the Board or until six months from the date of graduation, whichever occurs sooner.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Opher provided a report on the processing days for licensure.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

October 1, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

William L. Harp, MD
Executive Director