

FINAL APPROVED

ADVISORY BOARD ON RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Minutes

September 20, 2022

The Advisory Board on Respiratory Therapy met on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Denver Supinger, Citizen Member

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, MD - Executive Director
Erin Barrett, JD – DHP Senior Policy Analyst
Michael Sobowale, LL.M - Deputy Director for Licensure
Colanthia Opher - Deputy Director for Administration
Delores Cousins - Licensure Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER

Santiera Brown-Yearling called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES

Dr. Harp announced the emergency egress procedures.

ROLL CALL

Delores Cousins called the roll. A quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 24, 2022

Shari Toomey moved to approve the minutes from the May 24, 2022 meeting. Daniel Gochenour seconded. The motion passed.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Shari Toomey moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Bruce Rubin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

New Business

1. Periodic Review of Regulations Governing The Practice of Respiratory Therapy

Erin Barrett led the discussion. She presented her recommendations to retain or amend current provisions with suggested changes in 18VAC85-40-10, 18VAC85-40-20, 18VAC85-40-30, 18VAC85-40-55 (4), 18VAC85-40-70, 18VAC85-40-86(E) (2), (3), 18VAC85-40-87(B), and 18VAC85-40-89. Some of these provisions are in the law; therefore, it is unnecessary to repeat them in regulation. Members discussed retaining the current language in 18VAC85-40-86(E) as respiratory therapists can be self-employed, and also, 18VAC85-40-87(B) given the discussion surrounding advanced level respiratory therapy practice in the future.

Daniel Gochenour made a motion to retain and amend Chapter 40 with the suggested changes discussed. Shari Toomey seconded. The motion passed

2. Review of Bylaws for the Advisory Boards

Erin Barrett presented the uniform Bylaws for all Advisory Boards that the full Board approved at its June meeting. Since the Bylaws are slated to become effective on September 29, 2022, this was for information only.

3. Discussion of Contiguous State Licensure

Shari Toomey stated that the American Association for Respiratory Care has had some discussions about developing a respiratory therapy licensure compact. Since Virginia does not have reciprocal licensing, she suggested that developing such a licensure pathway might make it more convenient for respiratory therapists living in contiguous states to work in Virginia. A compact would make licensure more expeditious and convenient for eligible applicants. Erin Barrett stated that compacts are created by state legislatures in the various states that agree to form a compact. There is no true reciprocity in other states and across the healthcare professions in general.

4. APPROVAL OF 2023 MEETING CALENDAR

Shari Toomey moved to adopt the 2023 meeting calendar. Daniel Gochenour seconded. The motion passed.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Dr. Rubin made a motion to retain the current officers. Santiera Brown-Yearling and Shari Toomey, for second terms. Daniel Gochenour seconded. The motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

License Statistics

Delores Cousins provided the license statistics report. There are a total of 4,428 respiratory therapists. 3,051 are current active in Virginia with 83 current inactive. 1,268 are current active out-of-state with 25 are current inactive out-of-state. 1 is current active on probation.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

The next scheduled meeting date is February 7, 2023 @ 1pm.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director