

(FINAL/APPROVED)

VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHARMACY
MINUTES OF DRUG DISPOSAL WORKGROUP

Tuesday, July 21, 2020
Virtual Meeting
3rd Floor

Department of Health Professions
Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Henrico, Virginia 23233-1463

CALL TO ORDER:

A virtual Webex meeting of a drug disposal workgroup convened by the Board of Pharmacy was called to order at 9:00 AM. Due to the COVID-19 declared state of emergency and consistent with Amendment 28 to HB29 (Budget Bill for 2018-2020) and the applicable provisions of § 2.2-3708.2 in the Freedom of Information Act, the workgroup convened a virtual meeting to consider such regulatory and business matters as was presented on the agenda necessary for the board to discharge its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.

PRESIDING:

Cheryl Nelson, *Workgroup Chairman (On-Site)*

**WORKGROUP MEMBERS
PARTICIPATING VIRTUALLY:**

William Lee, *Board Member*
Glenn Bolyard, *Board Member*
Christina Barrille, *Executive Director, Virginia Pharmacists Association*
Nicole Lawter, *representing Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics*
Natalie Nguyen, *representing Virginia Society of Health-System Pharmacists*
Jodi Roth, *representing Virginia Association of Chain Drug Stores*
Justin Wood, *Diversion Program Manager, Washington Field Division, Drug Enforcement Administration*
Jennifer Wicker, *representing Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association*

STAFF PARTICIPATING:

Caroline Juran, *Executive Director (On-Site)*
Elaine Yeatts, *Senior Policy Analyst*
Beth O' Halloran, *Deputy Executive Director*
James Johnson, *Deputy Executive Director*
Ellen Shinaberry, *Deputy Executive Director*
Kiara Christian, *Executive Assistant (On-Site)*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ms. Nelson noted that Mr. Ratliff planned to chair the workgroup meeting, but was unable due to a last-minute conflict.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

As noticed in the agenda, Ms. Nelson invited those persons who had requested to offer comment prior to 8am on July 21, 2020 to offer public comment to the workgroup. Cal Whitehead had contacted Ms. Juran indicating that representatives of Covanta would like to offer comment. Leslie Griffith, Dan Moran, and Rachel Graziotto with Covanta provided a brief overview with slides of the role of Covanta in drug destruction services. No other persons requested to offer or provided public comment.

DISCUSSIONS:

Ms. Juran provided a high level overview of items provided in the agenda packet, including history of past board actions related to drug disposal.

Justin Wood, DEA, provided an update on national drug takeback events and allowances for collection boxes under federal regulation. Mr. Lee and Ms. Nguyen recommended to Mr. Wood that physicians should be authorized to take back unwanted drugs for destruction in addition to pharmacies. Mr. Wood indicated he would share this information with the DEA policy office. He did confirm that such a provision would require amendment to the federal law and/or regulation.

Ms. Barrille inquired on the availability of a website that provides information specific to drug disposal information Virginia and suggested that providing drug destruction guidance in multiple languages may prove to be helpful.

Staff reported that VaAware was a website created in approximately 2015 that included drug disposal information and other substance abuse related information. It was maintained by various state agencies. It was replaced with the Curbthecrisis website that is maintained by DBHDS and focuses more on addiction services.

Mr. Lee suggested that it may be reasonable for the Board to encourage pharmacists to address drug disposal at the time of counseling patient.

Ms. Nguyen emphasized that adding information to the guidance document to assist pharmacists target patients on certain medications may be helpful.

Ms. Lawter commented that public awareness for how to properly dispose of unwanted medications would be important, and asked that the board consider partnering with other agencies to share information.


MOTION:

The workgroup voted unanimously to forward the following recommendations to the full board for its consideration at the next full board meeting scheduled for September 9, 2020:

- **Providing link to DEA and NABP lists of authorized collectors on board website;**
- **Relocating information on website to more prominent location;**
- **Emphasizing to pharmacists and other providers importance of informing patients, at point of receiving new prescriptions, of proper drug disposal;**
- **Recommending to DEA that it consider expanding allowances for prescribers to participate as an authorized drug collector to receive unused medications from patients for destruction;**
- **Recommending standardization of information published by state agencies to improve communication;**
- **Recommending information on proper drug disposal be available in different languages.**
(motion by Bolyard, Second by Lawter)

ADJOURNED:

With all business concluded, the workgroup adjourned the meeting at 3:05 pm.

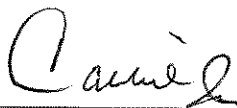


Cheryl Nelson, Chair

KRISTOPHER S. RALIFF

9-9-2020

Date



Caroline Juran, Executive Director

9/9/2020

Date