

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ACUPUNCTURE
MINUTES

Date: September 28, 2010

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Poplar Conference Room
227 French Landing
Heritage Place MetroCenter
Nashville, TN 37243

Members Present: Jill Kelly, LAC
Serina Scott, LAC
Jane Abraham, ADS
Peggy Watson, LAC, Co Chairman

Member Absent: Mary Anne Johnson, Consumer, Chairman

Staff Present: Marsha Arnold, Unit Manager
Maryam Kassae, OGC Attorney
Rosemarie Otto, Executive Director
Elizabeth Miller, HRB Director

A quorum being present, Ms. Watson called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

After reviewing the minutes from the February 9, 2010 meeting as presented, Ms. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Election of Officers

Ms. Scott made motion and Ms. Abraham seconded the motion to elect Ms. Kelly as chairman of the Committee. The vote was unanimous. Ms. Kelly made the motion to elect Ms. Scott as co-chairman and Ms. Abraham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TSAC Discussion

Alison Cleaves, Deputy General Counsel, discussed with the Committee issues relative to delinquent student loans and the Tennessee Student Assistant Corporation (TSAC). There is statutory authority (TCA 63-1-141) for the Committee/Board to suspend a license for the failure to pay student loans. Ms. Kelly made a motion to approve suspending licenses of practitioners who have outstanding student loans after notification by TSAC of the delinquency. Ms. Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ms. Abraham wished to be placed in the minutes that ethics would be a better way to accomplish payment.

Office of General Counsel

Ms. Maryam Kassae, advisory attorney, reported there were three cases open in their office. She went on to say that if the cases were going to be litigated, they would come before the Committee at the next meeting.

Manager's Report

Ms. Arnold, Unit Manager, reviewed the Manager's report with the members present. Ms. Arnold reported that between February 1, 2010 and September 27, 2010 the office had received 19 new applications and issued 13 new licenses. She reported that the total number of active acupuncturists is 106 and active ADS is 13.

Bureau Office

Ms. Miller, Director of Health Related Boards, provided the Committee a copy of their financial report for direct expenditures for 2009 through June 30, 2010 and total revenue collections as of September 2, 2010. She stated that revenue from acupuncturists has increased compared to the 2009 report. The panel discussed direct and indirect expenditures as well. They concurred that the findings of the report reveals their revenues and expenses are stable. A discussion was led by Ms. Arnold concerning the reduction of fees. After reviewing a table with suggested changes in renewal fees, Ms. Watson made the motion to lower the renewal fees from \$500 to \$400 and Ms. Watson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Kassae stated she would have a rule ready for a Rule Making Hearing at the February, 2011 meeting. Committee members agreed that the fees for ADS do not need to be adjusted.

Division of Investigations

Ms. Juanita Stone reported for the Division of Investigations that only one open complaint was in the Office of Investigations.

Disciplinary Coordinator

Ms. Juanita Stone, Disciplinary Coordinator, reported that there were no acupuncturists currently being monitored in the Disciplinary Coordinator's office.

CME – Continuing Medical Education Audit

Ms. Otto reported that the committee's licensees were in compliance in the upper 90 percentile and the CME audit unit should have a year end report for them when they meet next in February, 2011.

Legislation

Ms. Otto stated that the Committee's sunset bill was reviewed by the Legislature, and the Committee was approved to operate until the year 2013.

File Review and Approval of Applications

Ms. Scott made a motion to approve the list of new applications for licensure as presented and Ms. Watson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The following people were approved for licensure: Debra Dawn Antoine, Damiana Corca, Sharma S. Edwards, Sumalee T. Griffith, Zion H. Chen Huang, Christine Kay Krause, Susan Marie Skolfield Orr, Lyle Cates Pannell, Margie J. Wesley, Yolanda Taylor, Vidrel Iliescu, Elaine Orland, and Steven Schwartz. The list will be presented to the Board of Medical Examiners for ratification at their November 16, 2010 meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting for the Committee is scheduled for February 8, 2011 in the Poplar Room at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Ratified at the February 8, 2011 meeting.