



## Arizona Medical Board

9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona 85258  
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### **DRAFT MINUTES FOR ANNUAL AGENCY PLANNING MEETING Held on Thursday, February 2, 2017 9535 E. Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona**

#### ***Board Members***

James M. Gillard, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.E.P., F.A.A.E.M., Chair  
R. Screven Farmer, M.D., Vice-Chair  
Jodi A. Bain, Esq., Secretary  
Marc D. Berg, M.D.  
Teresa L. Connolly, D.N.P., R.N., N.E.A.-B.C.  
Gary R. Figge, M.D.  
Pamela E. Jones  
Lois E. Krahn, M.D.  
Edward G. Paul, M.D.  
Wanda J. Salter, R.N.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

##### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Gillard called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

##### **B. ROLL CALL**

The following Board members were present: Dr. Gillard, Dr. Farmer, Ms. Bain, Dr. Connolly, Dr. Figge, Ms. Jones, Dr. Krahn, Dr. Paul and Ms. Salter.

The following Board members were absent: Dr. Berg.

##### **ALSO PRESENT**

Present among Board staff include: Carrie Smith, Assistant Attorney General ("AAG"); Anne Froedge, AAG, Patricia E. McSorley, Executive Director; Kristina Fredericksen, Deputy Director; William Wolf, M.D., Chief Medical Consultant; Andrea Cisneros, Staff Investigational Review Committee ("SIRC") Coordinator, Raquel Rivera, Investigations Manager; Mary Bober, Board Operations Manager; and Michelle Robles, Board Coordinator.

##### **C. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

No individuals addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

##### **D. BOARD MEMBER TRAINING REGARDING STATUTES, RULE AND SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT**

Ms. Smith provided the Board with a brief overview of the Arizona Revised Statutes, the Arizona Administrative Code and the Board Substantive Policy Statements, and how each may be applied when conducting Board business.

##### **E. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Ms. Bain informed the Board of the various changes in HB 2195 that the Board is attempting to have passed in the current legislative session. Board members and Board staff discussed the need for a language change regarding Board member compensation.

Dr. Gillard appointed Dr. Paul to be a member of the Joint Legislative Rules Committee.

Ms. McSorley updated the Board regarding the changes to SB1452 proposed by Senator Barto for Advisory Letters. Ms. McSorley also informed the Board that the bill changes the statute of limitations for Board investigations. Board members discussed the significance of having the Advisory Letters remain off the website due to the negative effect it may have on a licensee and the various purposes that an Advisory Letter serves.

Ms. McSorley updated the Board on the Pharmacy Board's Bills. She stated that the Pharmacy Board is trying to obtain funds to update their computer system to allow physicians to use the CSPMP more efficiently. It will also require the Arizona Medical Board to provide to the Pharmacy Board information regarding the licensees who have renewed and the need to register for the CSPMP. Another Pharmacy Bill before the legislature will require pharmacies to report the controlled substances to the CSPMP.

- See Appendix A for list of pending legislation

## **F. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING OPIOID PRESCRIBING**

Dr. Farmer discussed the seriousness of opioid prescribing in Arizona and that opioid deaths now account for more deaths in Arizona than automobile deaths. Dr. Farmer commented on various facets of the issue to include abusive physicians, habitual over prescribing and physicians not understanding the risks of prescribing.

- Implementation of the Governor's Request for Continuing Medical Education (CME) (Presentation Regarding Opioid Prescribing CME Required by Other States)

Dr. Farmer reported that the Governor issued a letter to the Board asking that one unit of the Board's CME requirement address safe opioid prescribing. Dr. Farmer noted that there are specialties that are more impacted by opioid prescribing, however; all physicians should be aware of this issue. Board members discussed the need for studies and statistics to establish the best way to implement an appropriate CME requirement and the impact this requirement may have on the epidemic. Board members further discussed the need for education on alternative programs and therapies to treat pain.

- Legislation passed in other states to address "pill mills" (presented by Carol Peairs, M.D)

Dr. Peairs presented a report on national legislative trends for regarding opioid prescribing. Dr. Peairs informed the Board that there are a dozen states that have passed legislation that require pain clinics to register with the state programs. She stated that Florida was the first state to demonstrate a drastic reduction in prescribing however, in some states the laws may be so stringent that there may be negative consequences to clinics being able to provide adequate health care.

Board members discussed that this is a complex issue of not just addiction and overdose but also the many various negative side effects associated with long term opioid use and there is no simple answer on how best to approach a solution. Board members discussed that to date there is no empirical evidence to show an effective approach; however, requiring the CME it is a step forward towards a solution. Dr. Peairs opined that an important aspect is to educate the physician who in turn should educate the patient along with public awareness.

Dr. Peairs noted the various costs associated with combating side effects of opioids and the importance of the medical board agencies and committees collaborating on an effective solution.

- Statistics of Opioid Use and Deaths in Arizona
- Review of the Pharmacy Board's Current Policy re: Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program (CSPMP) and Changes Ahead

## **G. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. McSorley commented on the mandated use of the CSPMP in 2017 with future updates in the Board's Newsletter.

- Discussion regarding Executive Director strategic goals for 2017

Ms. McSorley informed the Board of the 2017 goals which is to expand upon her role as a lobbyist and meet with different representatives and senators to build on those relationships. Ms. McSorley reported that other goals for this year is to identify ways to improve the PHP program and develop a new PHP contract, as well as implementing last year's legislation requiring issuance of temporary license starting in July and the Medical Licensure Compact.

Ms. McSorley reported that the building's remodeling completion date is set for November and boards will begin relocating in December.

- Annual Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Meeting

Ms. McSorley noted that Dr. Gillard will be attending the meeting as a voting delegate and Ms. Bain will be attending as a public member. Dr. Gillard commented that this meeting is very informative with regard to various national boards, rules and regulations.

- Update on Sunset Review Audit

Ms. McSorley informed the Board that we are continuing to undergo the audit and the estimated completion date is July with the report being finalized in September.

## **H. UPDATE ON THE PHYSICIAN HEALTH PROGRAM (PHP) COMMITTEE**

Dr. Krahn reported regarding the PHP Committee's recent meetings and plan for moving forward.

Dr. Krahn also reported that the PHP Committee was discussing changing the Board's policy with regard whether assessments should be required for first time DUIs. Board members discussed the importance of protecting the public health, safety and welfare.

Dr. Krahn commented that the Committee is also discussing increasing the number of providers for initial assessments.

- Report on future Committee meetings

The next meeting will be held on February 23, 2017. Future topics will include the proposed DUI policy, the monitoring portion of the PHP program and the cost and nature of the program.

## **I. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING UPDATE ON THE INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT**

Ms. McSorley reported that the Compact is planning a soft launch later this month but until the FBI fingerprint solution is resolved the agency will likely not be taking part.

- Update on Compact implementation including potential deadlines for license issuance
- Update on communications with FBI about use of fingerprint database for Compact purposes

## **J. INTRODUCTION OF THE UPDATED PUBLIC FACING AMB WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER**

Ms. Frederickson reported that Board staff has worked to update the Board's current website to be more user friendly and informative. Ms. Frederickson gave a demonstration of the new website. Ms. Frederickson also presented a draft of a Board Newsletter that will provide new and relevant information to physicians and will be sent out quarterly.

## **K. UPDATE ON SECURITY OF THE CURRENT AMB DATABASE, POTENTIAL FOR MOVING TO VERSION 6 AND UPDATE REGARDING ADOA'S POSSIBLE PROCUREMENT OF A NEW E-LICENSING SYSTEM**

Mr. Gentile reported that the goal is information security and to protect the Agency.

Mr. Gentile reported regarding Board staff's activities to assess website security vulnerabilities. Mr. Gentile explained that the IT office is constantly working toward enhancing the infrastructure and routinely runs internal scans to assess for problems in compliance with State policies and procedures.

Mr. Gentile reported regarding his recommendations for updating the Board's operating system.

Mr. Gentile discussed the impact that the move to the new building will have on current IT projects.

Mr. Gentile also discussed that ADOA is assessing creation of a statewide e-licensing system. At the end of November, 2016 the E-Licensing Evaluation Committee narrowed potential providers down to two vendors and is currently in the negotiation phase regarding price.

Mr. Gentile recommended that Board members use their Board email when sending confidential information.

#### **L. BOARD MEMBER TRAINING REGARDING TELEMEDICINE STATUTES**

Board members reviewed the Arizona Revised Statutes relating to telemedicine and discussed the different mechanisms used by healthcare providers in the field of telemedicine.

**MOTION: Dr. Krahn moved to adjourn the meeting.**

**SECOND: Dr. Farmer.**

**VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 2-absent.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.



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Patricia E. McSorley, Executive Director