



Arizona Medical Board

9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona 85258
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FINAL MINUTES FOR SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Held on Monday, January 27, 2014

9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona

Board Members

Gordi S. Khera, M.D., F.A.C.C., Chair
Jody L. Jenkins, M.D., Vice Chair
Andrea E. Ibáñez, Member At Large
Jodi A. Bain, Esq.
James M. Gillard, M.S., M.D., F.A.C.E.P., F.A.A.E.M.
Ram R. Krishna, M.D.
Douglas D. Lee, M.D.
Richard T. Perry, M.D.
Wanda J. Salter, RN

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Khera called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Board members participated telephonically: Ms. Bain, Dr. Gillard, Ms. Ibáñez, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Khera, Dr. Krishna, Dr. Perry, and Ms. Salter. The following Board member was absent: Dr. Lee.

ALSO PRESENT

Marc Harris, Assistant Attorney General, Legal Advisor, participated telephonically. Also present among Board staff included Patricia E. McSorley, Interim Acting Executive Director, Celina Shepherd, Licensing Office Manager, Evangeline Webster, Support Services Manager, James Gentile, Chief Information Officer, Mary Bober, Board Operations Manager, Amanda Schwabe, Board Coordinator, and Andrea Cisneros, SIRC Coordinator.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No individuals addressed the Board during the Call to the Public.

NON-TIME SPECIFIC ITEMS

I. Outsourcing of Licensing

Board members spoke in opposition to outsourcing of licensing, with the exception of the internal review of licenses issued per the recommendations made in the Ombudsman's Report. Board members noted that outsourcing this responsibility involved additional costs and possible staff layoffs. The Board stated that as a licensing and regulatory agency, this responsibility should not be abdicated to an outside agency and should remain with the Board.

MOTION: Dr. Krishna moved for the Board to advise the various branches of government that the Board opposes any attempt to outsource the Board's licensing responsibility.

SECOND: Dr. Jenkins

ROLL CALL VOTE: Roll call vote was taken and the following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Bain, Dr. Gillard, Ms. Ibáñez, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Khera, Dr. Krishna, Dr. Perry, and Ms. Salter. The following Board member was absent: Dr. Lee.

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 1-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

II. Formation of a Joint Executive Committee Consisting of Members of Both the Arizona Medical Board and the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants (ARBoPA) to Discuss and Make Decisions Regarding the Administration of the Agencies

Dr. Khera stated that the issues surrounding the ARBoPA's participation in the AMB's firing and hiring of the Executive Director has previously been addressed by the AMB, and that it was unanimously voted by the Board that one non-voting member of the ARBoPA may participate in the Executive Director selection, which has been the Board's practice historically. Dr. Khera explained that the Senator has proposed the formation of a Joint Committee consisting of ten AMB members and two ARBoPA members for the purposes of hiring and firing of the Executive Director and Board staff. Board members spoke against micromanaging Board staff as the Executive Director has been delegated the authority to do so. The Board discussed the monetary contribution of the ARBoPA to the Agency versus the percentage of resources utilized by the ARBoPA to carry out its functions. Board members were unclear as to the purpose of the proposed Joint Committee, and noted that the current process in hiring an Executive Director includes one non-voting member from the ARBoPA. The Board recognized that the majority of work performed by Board staff is to carry out the functions of the AMB.

Mr. Harris advised the Board that the proposal to form a Joint Committee would require a statutory change. He stated that current statutes do not give participatory authority to the ARBoPA in the hiring and firing of the Executive Director. Board members expressed that the Board does not desire any changes to existing statutes and believes that the hiring and firing of the Executive Director is solely a function of the AMB.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved for the Board to affirm the existing relationship with the ARBoPA as it relates to the AMB's authority with respect to appointing an Executive Director and the Board does not desire or see a need to change current statutes.

SECOND: Ms. Salter

ROLL CALL VOTE: Roll call vote was taken and the following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Ms. Bain, Dr. Gillard, Ms. Ibáñez, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Khera, Dr. Krishna, Dr. Perry, and Ms. Salter. The following Board member was absent: Dr. Lee.

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 1-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

III. Confidentiality of the Proposed Joint Executive Committee Executive Session Minutes

Mr. Harris informed the Board that the proposal to form a Joint Committee also includes a provision that would make the Executive Session Minutes of the Joint Committee available to the ARBoPA. Mr. Harris noted that this portion of the proposal appeared to conflict with the Arizona Open Meeting Laws as it relates to accessibility of Executive Session Minutes. Board members instructed Mr. Harris to draft a response letter highlighting the Board's legal concerns regarding the proposal.

IV. Discussion and Update on the Internal Review Recommended by the Ombudsman and Funding of the Review

Ms. McSorley reported that Board staff is working with the various branches of government in an effort to coordinate the process and keep everyone updated on the Board's progress relating to the internal review. She stated that a portion of the licensing manual has been formulated, which forms the basis of the scope of work, and that the process has been moving along towards an end product. Board members discussed that the Auditor General's Office has been involved in determining the end date in which the internal review will be conducted concerning the licenses issued during the period of time identified by the Ombudsman's Report. Ms. McSorley further reported that supplemental appropriation will be requested, and that the process of requesting bids from different vendors has yet to begun. She stated that the Board staff has consulted with a credentialing agency to get an idea as to cost associated with conducting the review.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.



Patricia E. McSorley
Patricia E. McSorley, Interim Acting Executive Director