



Arizona Medical Board

9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

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Telephone (480) 551-2700 • Fax (480) 551-2705 • In-State Toll Free (877) 255-2212

FINAL MINUTES FOR THE PHYSICIAN HEALTH PROGRAM COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE Held on Monday, May 1, 2017 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona

Committee Members

Lois E. Krahn, Chair

Jodi A. Bain, Esq.

R. Screven Farmer, M.D.

Myles A. Whitfield, P.A.-C

A. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Krahn called the meeting to order at 3:14 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

The following Committee members participated: Dr. Krahn, Ms. Bain, Dr. Farmer and PA Whitfield.

ALSO PRESENT

Present among Board staff include: Carrie Smith, Assistant Attorney General ("AAG"); Patricia E. McSorley, Executive Director, telephonically ; Kristina Fredericksen, Deputy Director; Danielle Steger, Physician Health Program Coordinator; Mary Bober, Board Operations Manager; and Michelle Robles, Board Coordinator.

C. GENERAL CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Dr. Schulte addressed the Committee during the Public Statements Portion of the agenda.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Dr. Farmer moved to approve the March 20, 2017 Physician Health Program Committee Meeting minutes.

SECOND: Ms. Bain.

VOTE: 2-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 1-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

E. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CREATION OF AN EXTERNAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE AMB PHYSICIAN HEALTH COMMITTEE

Committee members discussed the mechanisms and parameters of obtaining public and community feedback through an Advisory Council.

Ms. McSorley noted that the State Procurement Office (SPO) Request for Information (RFI) may provide helpful information and community feedback.

Chairwoman Krahn suggested renaming the Council to External Advisory Channel and then have the Committee review written concerns from the community submitted to Board staff. Chairwoman Krahn suggested that the material can be heard in a manner similar to the Call to Public but no dialogue or response between the committee. Committee members requested that Board staff create a final format to discuss at the Board's May 4th Teleconference.

F. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON KEY ELEMENTS OF THE MONITORING AFTERCARE AND PHYSICIAN HEALTH PROGRAMS

- **Discussion Regarding Group Therapy Requirement**

Ms. Steger reported on the findings and discussions held with various physician health professionals at the FSMB annual meeting regarding the group therapy requirement. Ms. Steger stated that group therapy is an opportunity for professionals to discuss their success and barriers, with face to face time to seek support from their peers and is a tool for the therapists to utilize in relapse prevention. Ms. Steger noted that this requirement is standard throughout the country and the frequency of attendance depends on the individual. Ms. Steger reported that the cost to attend group therapy depends upon the frequency and how the program is funded.

Dr. Sucher explained the current group therapy process and options offered to physicians in the current PHP program.

Chairwoman Krahn requested that Board staff draft questions for Dr. Sucher and Dr. Greenberg to answer for the Committee's review to assist in the development of future programs.

G. UPDATE ON PHYSICIAN HEALTH PROGRAM (PHP) OPTIONS

- **Update on the Progress of the Request for Information for Assessment Services**

Ms. McSorley reported that on May 4th the RFI will be sent out to 400 identified physicians that fit the requested criteria.

- **Update on the Progress of the Request for Information for Monitoring Services**

Ms. McSorley reported that staff is attempting to locate potential providers before the RFI can be sent out.

H. UPDATE ON MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FEDERATION OF PHYSICIAN HEALTH PROGRAMS, INC., ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 2017

Ms. Steger reported that the key factors that make a PHP successful program were discussed at the FSMB Annual Meeting. She stated the main theme this year was physician burn out and how it can lead to psychiatric, behavioral and substance abuse problems if not managed properly. Ms. Steger noted that the biggest difference between Arizona and most other states is how the program is funded. In Arizona all expenses are paid by the physician where as in other states funding is provided through licensing fees, malpractice insurances and various medical societies and associations.

Ms. Steger noted that in some states the Board provides training to new evaluators before physicians are sent to them as well as a formatting process for their reports. This may be beneficial for consistency and reliability across various providers. Ms. Steger suggested utilizing the AMB Newsletter, hospitals and medical conferences as tools to provide information to physicians.

Chairwoman Krahn commented that the goal is to have a plan in place for when the current contract ends and that a future goal may be to locate alternate sources of funding to alleviate the financial burden on physicians.

PA Whitfield suggested that Greenberg and Sucher send out a satisfaction survey to their patients for feedback. Committee members agreed that a forum needs to be created to provide feedback.

I. DISCUSSION OF TOPICS FOR FUTURE MEETING

J. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Bain moved to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Dr. Farmer.
VOTE: 2-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 1-absent.
MOTION PASSED.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.




Patricia E. McSorley, Executive Director