



## 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 13, 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 5:30 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

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

#### **ALSO PRESENT**

Marc Harris, Assistant Attorney General, attended the meeting in person along with John Tellier, Assistant Attorney General, and Board staff including Patricia E. McSorley, Interim Acting Executive Director, Mary Bober, Board Operations Manager, Evangeline Webster, Support Services Manager, James Gentile, Chief Information Officer, and Andrea Cisneros, SIRC Coordinator.

#### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

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

#### **NON-TIME SPECIFIC ITEM**

- I. **Discussion of Intergovernmental Service Agreement with Attorney General's Office and Approval of Marc Harris, Assistant Attorney General, as the Arizona Medical Board's (AMB's) Legal Counsel**

Board members discussed the appointment of Mr. Harris as the Board's legal counsel. Dr. Krishna spoke in support of approving the appointment. Dr. Khera stated he feels confident that Mr. Harris is experienced and very capable of representing the Board. Mr. Tellier stated that if appointed by the Board, Mr. Harris would serve at the Board's pleasure. He stated that Mr. Harris is one of the finest attorneys he has met, and that if the Board finds in the future that it is unhappy with his services, the Board could contact Mr. Tellier personally to address any issues. The Board discussed the proposed salary as well as the Board's projected budget. Mr. Harris stated that he is excited for the opportunity to return and represent the Board. He informed the Board that the agencies he has been representing will be transitioning to other attorneys, and that the hours he will work onsite at the Board will evolve over time once the transition is fully complete.

**MOTION: Dr. Krishna moved to accept the appointment of Mr. Harris as the Board's Legal Counsel.**

**SECOND: Ms. Salter**

**VOTE: 7-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 2-absent.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

## II. Discussion and Possible Action concerning Development of a Legislative Agenda and Responses to anticipated Legislative Inquiries

Dr. Khera stated that this matter was coming before the Board for discussion and consideration, in light of recent events surrounding the search for a new Executive Director and the oversight of Board staff. By way of background, Dr. Khera stated that he was called upon by a State Senator to meet and discuss potential legislation involving the Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants (ARBoPA). Board members questioned the statutory authority of both boards, in terms of the relationship between the AMB and the ARBoPA. Mr. Tellier explained that the ARBoPA has independent regulatory authority over its licensees, but that statutorily the AMB's Executive Director and staff are to serve for the ARBoPA as well. The Board discussed the percentage of revenue generated by the ARBoPA versus the percentage of staff resources extended to the ARBoPA to carry out its functions. The Board discussed concerns regarding the growing population of Physician Assistants in the State of Arizona, and questioned whether the two boards could continue with one Executive Director serving both boards. Mr. Tellier pointed out that in the recent past, there has been a separation of the Massage Therapy and Naturopathic Boards, and that this may be used as a template for the ARBoPA if they desire to separate from the AMB.

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.



*Patricia E. McSorley*

Patricia E. McSorley, Interim Acting Executive Director