

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

**ALASKA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY**

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
November 15-16, 2012**

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provision of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Board of Pharmacy was held on November 15-16, 2012 at the Atwood Building, 550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Anchorage AK.

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Dick Holm, Chair at 9:03 a.m. Those present constituting a quorum of the board, were:

Anne Gruening, Public Member  
John Cotter, R. Ph.  
Dick Holm, R. Ph.  
Dirk White, R. Ph.  
CJ Kim, R.Ph.

Present from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing were:

Mary Kay Vellucci, Licensing Examiner  
Brian Howes, Investigator, PDMP Program Manager  
Al Kennedy, Investigator  
Quentin Warren, Chief Investigator

Telephonic participation by:

Sara Chambers, Operations Manager  
Misty Frawley, Admin Officer  
Lori DeVito, R.Ph Board Member

Visitors present:

Laura Nichols, AkPhA  
Daniel Dobson, Geneva Woods

**Agenda Item 1      Review Agenda**

The chair called for comments on the agenda. Sara Chambers was added as a telephonic guest under Division Items and election of officers was added under Office Business.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to approve the agenda as amended.**

**Agenda Item 2      Review of Minutes**

The board reviewed the minutes of the August 23-24, 2012 full board meeting. A correction from "Medicare" to "Medicaid" was required.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Cotter, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to approve the August 2012 board meeting minutes as amended.**

The board reviewed the minutes of the September 20, 2012 teleconference.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Gruening, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to approve the September 20, 2012 teleconference minutes.**

**Agenda Item 3      Ethics Disclosure**

*Board Goals and Objectives:* The board reviewed their current goals and revised them based on their primary role in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program. Goal #2 was reworded.

The revised goals were read into the record:

1. The board will continue to educate licensees regarding the Pharmacy Practice Act and pharmacy regulations.
2. The board will continue to provide input and comment on any proposed legislation/regulations involving medications or pharmacists care.
3. The board will continue to promote effective patient counseling by licensees.

4. The board will continue to assess and evaluate the Multi-state Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE).
5. The board will continue to assess and evaluate the jurisprudence practice exam and its effectiveness as a learning tool for interns.
6. The board will continue to assess and evaluate the licensing of pharmacy technicians.
7. The board will continue its affiliation with NABP and send one board member to the District Seven NABP meeting and two members to the annual NABP meeting. The Division's budget currently allows only one out-of-state travel per fiscal year; this was generally used for attendance at the District Seven NABP meeting.
8. The board will continue to evaluate the impact of current regulations and the need for new regulations.
9. The board will continue to evaluate regulations regarding collaborative practice, and to establish procedures for reviewing/approving appropriate protocols for collaborative practice.
10. The board will assess and evaluate the growing public concern regarding abuse of illicit and prescription drugs, internet pharmacies and counterfeit drugs.
11. The board will monitor, assess, evaluate and modify the Alaska Prescription Drug Monitoring Program based on the best interest of the public and the profession.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Gruening, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to accept the revision of the Alaska Board of Pharmacy Goals and Objectives as read into the record.**

There were no ethics violations to report.

**Agenda Item 4      Division Items**

Ms. Vellucci informed the board she submitted her resignation several weeks ago. December 7th is her last working day. She is relocating to Ohio shortly

thereafter. The board expressed their appreciation and wished her well. The chair stated "you've made this board look good." Ms. Vellucci informed them the position is currently being advertised. She reminded them that her supervisor, Sher Zinn, held the Board of Pharmacy Licensing Examiner position prior to her promotion. Ms. Zinn has remained familiar with Board of Pharmacy matters and will manage the transition period.

Misty Frawley and Sara Chambers joined the meeting telephonically.

The board was provided a spreadsheet with the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures from FY01 – FY12. Ms. Frawley explained the purposes of the spreadsheet and the reasons for its creation.

The board had questions regarding the break out of Indirect Expenses. Ms. Frawley stated written details about Indirect Expenses will be provided to the board during the February 2013 meeting.

The surplus for FY 12 was identified as \$288,927. This figure included the revenue generated from renewals. The board chair initiated a discussion about board financial requests, such as adding staff to the current configuration of board services. Ms. Chambers stated the Annual Report is the format for making such requests. Administration will assist the board in development of the same. Ultimately the control for these expenditures lies with the legislature.

Brian Howes in at 9:35 pm.

Mr. White initiated a discussion about the fact that fines levied by the board are not deposited into the board's account, but instead are deposited to the State General Funds. The board's position is revenue from fines should be used to offset the legal and investigative expenses incurred by the board, instead of passing these costs on to licensees in the form of fees. Further, the chair and vice chair added the board should not have to hesitate to take action, based on the expense that will be generated from Investigations, Department of Law and Administrative Hearings Office. Ms. Chambers stated the division is aware of this circumstance and other professional boards have expressed the same opinion.

Sara Chambers and Misty Frawley offline.

Break: Off record at 10:08 am  
On record at 10:26 am

Sara Chambers participated telephonically.

**Agenda Items 5, 6 PDMP, Thresholds**

Mr. Howes informed the board the grant to fund the PDMP was approved until August 31, 2013. The current grant cannot be extended beyond that date.

The board informed Mr. Howes they must be notified in writing prior to acceptance of any mandates that are attached to PDMP funding streams, such as required participation in the national PDMP Interconnect Program. The chair added any proposed PDMP funding mechanism that would pass the program's operating expense on to licensees is statutorily negated. This was "a guarantee" when the PDMP legislation was drafted. The board reiterated they have the ultimate authority to accept or reject funding sources, programmatic decisions and any associated terms. It is the board's responsibility to assess, monitor, implement and evaluate the program. It is not the licensees' responsibility to fund the program.

There was a discussion about the value of the PDMP in Alaska and future funding possibilities. Mr. Howes stated the prescribing boards in general have responded positively to the PDMP. Mr. Cotter stated his colleagues, particularly the ER prescribers, have responded positively and added the program is congruent with the board's mission. Mr. White acknowledged the overall value of the PDMP, but added the program has been extremely labor intensive and costly to his independent pharmacies.

Mr. Howes stated Relay Health has subcontracted with HID (Health Integrity Design) to perform PDMP data collection. This transition should be seamless, with the exception of the firm's logo/appearance/visual display.

Mr. Howes suggested the board draft a letter in support of the PDMP. He would then collaborate with other prescribing boards and request additional letters of support from them. Collectively, these letters would accompany a request for an appropriation from the legislature from the board to further fund the program. Chair Holm stated he will also notify the legislature the PDMP is non-funded and request an appropriation in the FY14 Annual Report, if funding has not yet been secured by that time. Mr. Howes will continue to seek grant funding and notify the board of any associated mandates, as previously discussed. The decision to fund the PDMP is ultimately the legislature.

Mr. White reminded the group the PDMP has a fiscal sunset date.

Ms. Chambers cited AS 17030.200 (g) which states the board shall promptly notify the president of the senate and the house speaker if the federal government fails to pay all or part of the costs of the PDMP. She suggested this be done through the director's office.

Mr. Howes provided a draft annual report to the legislature regarding the PDMP. There were 208 registered users; 5,542 solicited reports. The board considered its content and requested the following information be added:

1. Add an urgent, clear statement that funding for the PDMP needs to be addressed in this legislative session.
2. Quantify the number of different prescribers who have acquired the 4,260 solicited reports. This request was made to identify how many of the 165 registered users are actually requesting patient reports.
3. Identify and quantify the practice settings which are soliciting reports.
4. Include the number of eligible prescribers, not just the registered users, to accurately illustrate usage.

Ms. Vellucci initiated a discussion about the process and time frame for board review of the future revisions to the report to the legislature. December 15<sup>th</sup> was the proposed completion date of the final report.

Ms. Chambers was noticed to be offline.

A discussion occurred about a prescriber delegating authority to view PDMP data to their agent. Mr. Howes said this is a frequent request from prescribers.

Mr. Howes distributed written, proposed draft regulation for "Use Report" or "Unsolicited Report" which addresses how PDMP information may be shared with prescribers when dispensing or receiving of controlled substances is outside of the proposed thresholds.

Chair Holm made the following points re PDMP management:

- Statutes clearly state the board has full authority regarding the PDMP, including whether the program is delegated to division administration or stays with investigations.
- The board is hesitant to have the division approach the legislature on behalf of the board because the PDMP is strictly a board program. The wrong message would be given to the legislature if they are approached by the division regarding the PDMP.
- The board prefers to approach the legislature directly regarding PDMP funding and management.
- The investigative staff is more qualified to work the PDMP than other division administration due to the confidential nature of the program content.

The chair polled the board:

*Should the management of the PDMP remain in the Investigative Division?*

Aye: Mr. Kim, Ms. Gruening, Mr. White, Mr. Cotter, Mr. Holm. It was unanimous.  
There will be no change in the management of the PDMP.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. Kim, seconded by Ms. Gruening, it was**

**RESOLVED to initiate a regulation project for PDMP unsolicited reports for and PDMP delegate accounts, as outlined above.**

The chair polled the board on the motion:

Nay: Mr. White

Aye: Mr. Kim, Mr. Cotter, Ms. Gruening, Mr. Holm

Majority rules, motion carries.

## **Agenda Item 7      AkPhA Report**

Lara Nicholls joined the meeting at 11:20 am. She provided a written report regarding AkPhA activity since the last meeting.

*Legislative:* AkPhA is attempting to get Senator Egan to sponsor the pharmacy audit bill. AkPhA submitted a letter to Commissioner Streur regarding proposed changes in Medicaid regulations. They requested, and were denied, a meeting with the Commissioner to propose alternative solutions. National Drug Take Back Day was September 29<sup>th</sup>. Alaska had 35 collection sites and 1,838# were collected. The board reviewed AkPhA's letters to Senators Begich and Murkowski regarding TRICARE Mail Order Waste. They were in agreement with its content. Three pharmacists are to be paid a total of \$70,000 each over a two year period in the SHARP Loan Repayment.

*Scholarships:* \$4,000 in scholarships were recently awarded by AkPhA.

*DHHS Proposed Regs:* Chair Holm stated he received several calls in opposition of proposed Medicaid regulations. He informed the callers the board cannot influence financial issues and advised them to express their opinions during Public Comment to establish a written record of their perspectives.

Lunch: Off record at 11:58 am  
On record at 1:13 pm

**Agenda Item 8      Investigations Report**

Lori DeVito joined the meeting telephonically. Investigator Kennedy and Chief Investigator Warren joined the meeting in person.

Mr. Kennedy distributed an Investigative Report and reviewed it with the group. The Division opened 33 Board of Pharmacy cases and closed 37 cases between August 23, 2012 and November 14, 2012. There were approximately 55 pending investigations for renewals with "yes" answers in Personal Data or Professional Fitness areas. He said out of state pharmacies are the most time consuming because they have up to 25 employees. Each employee must be individually investigated to determine if a reportable event occurred but was not disclosed to the Alaska board. This is complicated by the fact that such information cannot always be retrieved from only the employee's name and license number. Mr. Kennedy frequently has to contact the pharmacy employer to get additional data, such as a date of birth or SSN. This was not an issue for in-state licensee's because Investigations has access to the pertinent data base. A discussion occurred. The board agreed to initiate a regulation project to add the date of birth to the required information for out of state pharmacy employees.

There are fifty "yes" renewals pending investigative review. He reported on the Geneva Woods Med Set theft investigation. A member of the cleaning crew was responsible for the theft. The cleaning crew was present during the pharmacy's open hours. The theft was recorded on surveillance cameras and the matter has been reported to law enforcement. Geneva Woods consulted with the DEA and implemented further protocols and policies in this regard.

Mr. Kennedy stated he conducted two physical inspections since the last report. More are planned after the beginning of 2013. The chair acknowledged the increased workload on Mr. Kennedy, who is also the investigator for all Alaska CPAs.

In the interest of public safety, the chair initiated a discussion about increasing the frequency of routine physical inspections for Alaska pharmacies.

Chief Investigator Warren replied Investigations was temporarily short staffed due to a vacancy in the position which handles "yes" applications and renewals. This contributed significantly to the lesser number of inspections during this reporting period. The current ratio of Investigators to professional boards and licensees allows only for spot checks of pharmacies for routine purposes. He asked the board to keep him informed of their needs. He added the board would be informed if their needs cannot be met.

Chief Investigator Warren and the board complimented Mr. Kennedy on the quality and quantity of his work.



Mr. Kennedy informed the board the protocols followed by investigators have not changed. However, the memos are now more concise and will, therefore, present differently in print. This change was instituted in an effort to streamline the process without reducing the research done in each case.

Mr. White referred the group to 12 AAC 52.130 *Review of Applications for Registration of Pharmacies Located Outside of the State (b) (1)*, in reference to adding the date of birth for pharmacists dispensing to Alaska residents, as discussed earlier. He suggested the regulation be changed to require the names of all licensed individuals (vs. only pharmacists). Mr. Cotter pointed out the Pharmacy Self Inspection also requests the name of pharmacists employed. Ms. Vellucci added, for out of state pharmacies, inspections from their home jurisdictions are submitted most often. The AK Pharmacy Self Inspection is utilized when a home jurisdiction inspection is either not available or is greater than two years old.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to amend 12 AAC 52.130 Review of Applications for Registration of Pharmacies Located Outside of the State (b) (1) and 12 AAC 52.020 Facility License (a) to include a list of all licensed pharmacists and pharmacy technicians at the facility and their individual dates of birth.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to go into Executive Session in accordance with AS 44.62.310 (c) (2).**

Board, staff, and investigators to remain.  
Off record at 1:35 p.m.  
On record at 1:42 p.m.

Investigators Kennedy and Warren left the meeting.

## **Agenda Item 9      Compounding Regulations and Inspections**

Chair Holm began the discussion by stating issues related to pharmacies holding multiple licenses in multiple states have become a serious national concern. Outside jurisdictions depend on the home state jurisdiction to correctly license and inspect their pharmacies. States that do not meet this responsibility will incur liability and risk to the public welfare. The demand for better funding to perform in state physical pharmacy inspections has dramatically increased. Presently,

there is no mechanism in Alaska to determine if an Alaska pharmacy holds license(s) in other states. Alaska pharmacies should also identify the type of license they hold in other states (retail, internet, medication therapy management, sterile compounding etc.). A discussion occurred about training inspectors, the role of other accrediting bodies in relation to this topic and how to define "high risk pharmacies." The consensus of the board, for instate pharmacies, is as follows:

- 1) A physical inspection must be conducted once per licensing period at every Alaska pharmacy facility which holds any out of state license(s).
- 2) A physical inspection must be conducted once per licensing period at instate high risk pharmacies.
- 3) "High risk pharmacies," in order of priority, are defined as
  - a. Hospitals
  - b. Sterile Compounding
  - c. Home Infusion
  - d. Other conditions deemed necessary by the board.
- 4) An inspection fee will be charged to the pharmacy to offset the expense.
- 5) Inspectors are to be trained in methods for inspecting each high risk pharmacy category. Board members will accompany the inspector in the interim.
- 6) An instate pharmacy will be exempt from physical inspection if they hold current accreditation by an accrediting body acceptable to the board. A list of approved accrediting bodies will be created by the board as inspections are submitted and reviewed.
- 7) Instate pharmacies must disclose all licenses held in other state jurisdictions, including the nature of pharmacy services provided out of state (mail order, compounding, internet, medication therapy management, etc.). This information can be requested on the Pharmacy Self Inspection, application and renewal forms.
- 8) When an instate pharmacy acquires a pharmacy license in another jurisdiction, it must be disclosed to the Alaska board within sixty days.
- 9) Out of state pharmacies licensed in Alaska must produce a physical inspection from their home jurisdiction or an acceptable accrediting body every two years.

The goal for the Alaska Board of Pharmacy is to assure Alaska pharmacies are clean, safe and operating in a manner that is in the best interest of the public. Given the practice of pharmacy has become national, vs. merely state or local, it

is incumbent on this state board to protect the well-being of their home jurisdiction, which will secondarily protect the public on a national basis.

Lori DeVito ended her telephonic participation.

**Agenda Item 10**     **Regulation Projects**

The board had a brief discussion about the statutes and regulations governing issuance of a license for a person with a felony conviction.

It was noted for the record that board regulations will be updated, effective November 16, 2012. These regulations pertain to CE audits, prescriptions for schedule II drugs, intern licensing, collaborative practice plans, exceptions to wholesale drug distribution licensing requirements and correcting information in the PDMP database.

Break: Off record at 2:55 p.m.  
On record at 3:12 p.m.

**Agenda Item 11**     **Legislative Report**

The chair summarized the proposed legislation to initiate licensing out of state wholesalers. This project also includes a revision to the Alaska Insurance Code statutes addressing Unfair Discrimination in Group Health Insurance Plans. Pharmacists and pharmacies are proposed to be added to the list of qualifying professional providers: AS 21.36.090 (d).

Chair Holm will be meeting with Representatives Tammy Wilson (house) and John Coghill (senate) to inform them of this proposed legislation and attempt to acquire their support as bill sponsors. He encouraged the board members to do the same with their local representatives as well. Mr. White is actively pursuing this and reported on the same.

**Agenda Item 12**     **License Applications**

The board chair initiated a discussion about board review of Pharmacy Self-Inspections. He proposed, in the future, the chair reviews a random selection of 10% of the pharmacy self inspections. Ms. Vellucci stated this could be accomplished by utilizing the same technology used to randomly select 10% of pharmacists and technicians for CE Audit. She will put this section of the minutes in the corresponding manual for future reference.

The board reviewed the routine pharmacist applications.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Gruening, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to approve the pharmacist license applications for**

- **Jennifer Bilotto, pending passing MPJE score & verification of OR license**
- **Christopher Drew, pending passing MPJE score & verification of work experience**
- **Michael “Chip” Henry, pending passing MPJE score & verification of work experience**
- **Mark Jagers, pending passing MPJE score & verification of MD license**
- **Gaurav Midha, pending passing MPJE score**
- **Michael Nguyen, pending passing MPJE score, NABP app for license transfer & verification of work experience**
- **Eric Pendarvis, pending passing MPJE score & transcripts**
- **Phillip Truong, pending passing MPJE score & NABP app for license transfer.**

The board reviewed the retail pharmacy application.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to approve the retail pharmacy application for Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center Pharmacy.**

The board reviewed collaborative practice applications.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to approve the Collaborative Practice Applications for Safeway #3410 PHAR 357 and Providence Health Park Pharmacy PHAR 460.**

**Agenda Item 11 Correspondence**

*Report of Theft:* The board reviewed a Report of Theft at Three Bears Pharmacy in Kenai. They had no comment.

*Egregious Humana Contract Requirements – Effective October 1, 2012:* The board reviewed this article, published in the September 2012 Newsline. Mr.

White stated this is an example of how PBMs can mandate and implement unreasonable and unsafe practices, such as prohibiting short term mail order for an Alaska resident who is travelling in Arizona.

The chair pointed out the proposed legislative change to the Unfair Discrimination Section of the Alaska Insurance Code, as discussed previously, may circumvent this type of unfair pharmacy practice.

**Agenda Item 16**    **CE Audits**

The board reviewed CE Audits for Pharmacy Technicians.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. Cotter, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to accept the CE Audits for the pharmacy technicians as read into the record, and listed in the November, 2012 board packets.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to recess until 9:00 am Friday November 16<sup>th</sup>.**

*Recess at 4:25 pm. Reconvene 9:00 a.m. November 16, 2012*

### **Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Dick Holm, Chair at 9:02 am. Those present constituting a quorum of the board, were:

Anne Gruening, Public Member  
John Cotter, R. Ph.  
Dick Holm, R. Ph.  
Dirk White, R. Ph.

Present from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing were:

Mary Kay Vellucci, Licensing Examiner

Visitors present:

Laura Nichols, AkPhA  
Daniel Dobson, Geneva Woods

### **Agenda Item 13 Review Agenda**

The chair called for comments on the agenda, hearing none.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to accept the agenda as written.**

### **Agenda Item 15 Public Comments**

Mr. Daniel Dobson, R.Ph. informed the board he had a brief presentation regarding proposed regulations from the Department of Health and Social Services, Medicaid Division. The chair instructed him to proceed.

Mr. Dobson made the following points:

- His intention was to inform the board of the negative impact of the proposed regs to the public health, safety and welfare of Alaskan Medicaid recipients, as well as the negative consequences to the profession.
- The proposed changes are complex, with many moving parts.

- He referenced a document released several weeks ago titled: *Alaska Health Care Commission 2012 Findings and Recommendations*. It is part of a major project in Alaska and is currently out for public comment. Findings include: "Prices for pharmaceuticals do not appear to be a driver of higher health care costs in Alaska." However, if you refer to the proposed DHHS regulations, the reimbursement for drug will change from WAC (Wholesaler Acquisition Cost) + 8% to WAC +1%. This will not cover a pharmacy's purchase price for all drugs.
- "Reconsideration" allows a pharmacy to negotiate reimbursement with Medicaid for a pharmaceutical item or service. For example, when reimbursement is below the WAC, "reconsideration" is the collaborative method employed resolve the disparity. Language regarding "reconsideration" has been repealed from the proposed regs.
- Mr. Dobson also cited "*Survey of the Average Cost of Dispensing a Medicaid Prescription in the State of Alaska*." Health and Social Services hired Meyers and Stoffer (sp?) to conduct this external survey regarding the cost of operation for Alaska pharmacies. One objective was to determine an equitable dispensing fee. The dispensing fee recommended was \$16.75. Medicaid is offering \$13.36 in the proposed regs. Mr. Dobson noted dispensing fees are based on high volume pharmacies. Pharmacies dispensing less than 29,500 per year are currently being reimbursed \$26.74 per prescription. Mid Volume pharmacies, 29,500 to 85,000 dispensed per year, are currently being reimbursed at \$16.89. All will be cut back to \$13.36 in the proposed regs.
- The 2012 Health Commission report also states a major premise of the project is to "Ensure the building blocks for sustainable health care delivery systems are in place and remain in place."
- The proposed changes repeal language for compliance packaging and the fee to build compliance packages. In recent history, Alaska was forward-thinking regarding the benefit of compliance packages for the frail, elderly and disabled citizens who are living at home, in group homes and in assisted living. This is now in the process of being repealed. The risk to Alaska's most vulnerable citizens is severely compromised because of this. How are they going to get their medications and take them as directed without compliance packaging?
  - Eleven percent of hospital admissions are due to non-compliance.
  - Mr. Dobson stated one ER visit and 3 hospitalizations for 11% of Alaska residents (87 patients) currently receiving compliance packaging is an annual cost greater than \$500,000.
- Proposed flat rate for post office reimbursement is proposed to be \$16.00, with no further provisions to send medications intrastate. "Freight" will be

repealed in the proposed regs. Mr. Dobson stated, for infusion pharmacies, the cost to ship seven bags of TPN from Anchorage to Seward, overnight and temperature controlled to maintain the product integrity, is \$150. Those patients will need to travel to Anchorage and receive the services as an inpatient.

- The movement in DHHS is to serve this population via mail order of 30, 60 and 90 day increments. This will only increase waste and divergence, and decrease compliance.
- The outcome of these proposed changes is contradictory to the health, welfare and safety of Alaska residents, particularly the most vulnerable. The proposed changes will increase hospital admissions, physician office visits and therefore health care costs to the states.
- Conversely, Medicare's initiative is to short cycle fill in order to reduce waste, from frequent medication changes and other factors, and decrease Medicare's cost. Medicaid's proposed regulations are contradictory to this.

It was stated for the record that the public comment period for the proposed changes to Medicaid regulations closes on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. White suggested a public hearing be conducted and to put a voice to the risk to the public. The chair encouraged the group to contact their legislators in writing, as well as replying during the public comment period. Lara Nicholls stated AkPhA has communicated with the membership on this issue. She added rural pharmacies may not be able to service Medicaid recipients.

**Agenda Item 18**     **License Applications: Non-Routine**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to go into Executive Session in accordance with AS 44.62.310 (c) (2).**

Board, staff to remain.  
Off record at 9:55 am.  
On record at 10:28 am.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Kim, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to table the pharmacy technician license application for Edward Becker.**



**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Cotter, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to approve the pharmacy technician applications for Joshua Beckham, Marie Chaffin, Shantel Jones-McNeil and Wendy Meyer.**

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Gruening, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to approve the out of state pharmacy application for BrightSky.**

**Agenda Item 19    Office Business**

*Board Meeting Dates:* Future meetings were scheduled as follows:

- February 28 - March 1, 2013: Juneau
- May 9-10, 2013: Anchorage
- August 22-23, 2013: Anchorage
- November 21-22, 2013: Anchorage

*Election of Officers:* The board discussed this topic and determined there will be no changes in board officers in the upcoming year.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Gruening, and approved unanimously, it was**

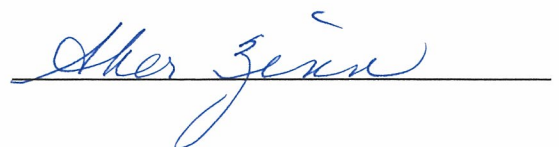
**RESOLVED to retain the existing Board of Pharmacy officers for the upcoming year.**

Wall Certificates were signed. Travel authorizations were signed.

**On a motion duly made by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Gruening, and approved unanimously, it was**

**RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 am.**

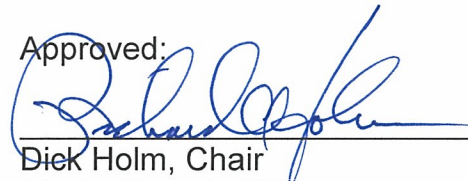
Respectfully Submitted:



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sher Zinn", is written over a horizontal line.

Sher Zinn, Licensing Supervisor

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dick Holm", written over a horizontal line.

Dick Holm, Chair  
Alaska Board of Pharmacy

Date: 2-28-13