

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

STATE MEDICAL BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING
May 17-18, 2012

By authority of AS 08.01.070 (2) and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, a regularly scheduled meeting of the Alaska State Medical Board was held on Thursday and Friday, May 17-18, 2012, in Petersburg, Alaska.

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Edward A. Hall, Chair, at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Board members present:

Edward A. Hall, PA-C, Chair
Cam Carlson, Public Member
John S. Cullen, MD
Elizabeth Kohlen, MD

Kathleen Millar, Public Member
David J. Powers, MD
William W. Resinger, MD

Board member John S. Cullen, MD, was in attendance by teleconference. Board member David A. Miller, MD, was unable to attend the meeting.

Board staff present:

Debora Stovern, Executive Administrator

Visitors present:

Jim Lipinski, Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants

Agenda Item 1 Review Agenda

The Board reviewed the agenda. Ms. Stovern reported that there were additions to the agenda, including annual delegation of authority under Agenda Item 2, additional Board actions for consideration under Agenda Item 4, and a Division report on Friday morning.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Resinger, seconded by Ms. Millar, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to accept the agenda, as amended.

Agenda Item 2 Board Business

Announcements

The Chair welcomed new Board members, Dr. Kohnen and Ms. Carlson.

Ms. Stovern reminded Board members of the upcoming Drug Diversion event in Anchorage on May 31, and the CLEAR Board training at the end of June. She will re-send information by email to members to facilitate registration.

Ethics Reporting

There were no ethics conflicts to report.

Delegation of Authority

In accordance with 12 AAC 40.910, the Board must take formal action annually to identify a designee to perform duties on behalf of the Board.

Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Millar, seconded by Dr. Resinger, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to appoint Debora Stovern as the board designee under 12 AAC 40.910.

Agenda Item 3 Full Board Interviews

Stephen Michal Laughlin, PA-C

Mr. Laughlin was present to discuss his license application with the board. He declined the opportunity to enter into executive session to discuss the “yes” answers on his application regarding previous investigations by other licensing jurisdictions. He explained the circumstances regarding those complaints, one of which was resolved with a corrective action order requiring a CME; the others were dismissed with no disciplinary action. Dr. Resinger noted that he would recuse himself from the vote because he was the consulting Board member during the application review.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Kohnen, and approved by roll call vote, it was:

RESOLVED to grant an unrestricted physician assistant license to Stephen Michael Laughlin.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Carlson – Yea

Dr. Cullen – Yea

Dr. Kohnen – Yea

Ms. Millar – Yea

Dr. Miller - Absent

Dr. Powers – Yea

Dr. Resinger – Recused

Mr. Hall – Yea

Agenda Item 4 Board Actions

Investigative staff Susan Winton and David Newman joined the meeting by teleconference to present proposed actions for Board consideration. Ms. Stovern distributed additional information for review.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Kohnen, seconded by Dr. Resinger, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c) for the purpose of discussing investigative cases.

The Board entered executive session at 10:05 a.m.; Board staff remained for the session. The Board went back on the record at 10:22 a.m.

In the Matter of Case No. 2012-000231

The Board reviewed a proposed consent agreement regarding a licensee's disclosure of confidential issues that were not practice-related. The signed nondisciplinary consent agreement is a confidential document. There was a formatting correction noted; this was not an amendment to the agreement.

In the Matter of Case No. 2012-000419

The Board reviewed a proposed agreement from an investigation of nondisclosure of license information on a new license application. The agreement included an imposition of civil fine of \$1,000. Dr. Resinger noted that he would recuse himself from the vote because he was the consulting Board member during the investigation.

In the Matter of Case No. 2012-000373

The Board reviewed a proposed consent agreement from an investigation of nondisclosure of adverse academic history on an application for licensure. The agreement includes a reprimand and fine of \$1000. Dr. Resinger noted that he would recuse himself from the vote because he was the consulting Board member during the investigation.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Powers, seconded by Ms. Carlson, and approved by roll call vote, it was:

RESOLVED to adopt consent agreements for

- **Case No. 2012-000419 signed by Robert S. Smith, MD,**
- **Case No. 2012-000373 signed by Timothy Miller, DO,**
- **Case No. 2012-000231, with the formatting correction, signed by Jeffrey J. Copeland, DO.**

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Carlson – Yea

Dr. Cullen – Yea

Dr. Kohnen – Yea

Ms. Millar – Yea

Dr. Miller - Absent

Dr. Powers – Yea

Dr. Resinger – Recused

Mr. Hall – Yea

The adoption orders were signed by the Chair. The Board also reviewed the license application files for Robert S. Smith, MD and Jeffrey J. Copeland, DO, along with the resident permit application file for Timothy Miller, DO.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Kohnen, seconded by Ms. Millar, and approved by roll call vote, it was:

RESOLVED to grant licenses, subject to the adopted Board orders, to Timothy Walker Miller, DO, Jeffrey James Copeland, DO, and Robert Stephen Smith, MD.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Carlson – Yea

Dr. Cullen – Yea

Dr. Kohnen – Yea

Ms. Millar – Yea

Dr. Miller - Absent

Dr. Powers – Yea

Dr. Resinger – Yea

Mr. Hall – Yea

Agenda Item 5 Investigative Unit

Investigative Report

Investigative staff Susan Winton and David Newman reviewed the investigative report provided to the Board. The report included 16 open medical cases, 1 open physician assistant case, and 5 closed medical cases.

Mr. Newman also noted that Ms. Winton had received an award from the Division for her outstanding contributions. The Board congratulated Ms. Winton and thanked both investigators for their excellent work.

Probation Monitoring Report

A current probation status report was included in the board packet for further review. It was noted that all individuals on the report were in compliance with their agreements. One licensee had requested Board approval of a change in the probation conditions.

Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Carlson, seconded by Ms. Millar, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c) for the purpose of discussing probation matters.

The Board entered executive session at 10:30 a.m.; Board staff remained for the session. The Board went back on the record at 11:04 a.m.

The Board tabled the probation change request by Dr. Schurig until the July meeting.

Ms. Stovern noted that the Board typically conducts in-person interviews at their October meeting for licensees on probation. However, for the past two years, the Chair reviewed the probation compliance list provided by the Investigative Unit prior to the meeting and determined that, since they were in compliance and practicing under proper supervision, it was not necessary to conduct interviews at that time. The Board directed Ms. Stovern to schedule probation interviews at the October 2012 meeting for anyone currently on probation that had not appeared before the Board within the past two years.

Discuss Scope of Practice Issues

- Telemedicine – the Board reviewed a proposal by Teledoc regarding their medical consultation program. In previous communications with Board staff, they were notified of the following requirements for a physician involved in such a program for Alaska patients:
 - The physician must be licensed by the Alaska State Medical Board; and
 - The program may not include
 - Providing treatment, rendering a diagnosis, or prescribing medications based solely on a patient-supplied history received by telephone, facsimile, or electronic format; or
 - Prescribing, dispensing, or furnishing a prescription medication to a person without first conducting a physician examination of that person.

The proposal specified that their physicians are licensed by the Alaska State Medical Board, and that they perform medical consultations via telephone or secure web-based video conference, as well as using electronic health records to diagnose, treat and write prescriptions.

The board determined that this practice is a clear violation of Alaska law. They noted the difference between this proposal and other types of telemedicine practiced legally in the state is the presence of an appropriate health care provider on the other side of the transaction to assist the physician with their examination and diagnosis processes. Without that element, the physician is relying only on patient-supplied information.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Kohnen, seconded by Dr. Cullen, and approved by roll call vote, it was:

RESOLVED that the Teledoc proposal is a violation of Alaska law and they must remove the State of Alaska from their program.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Carlson – Yea
Dr. Cullen – Yea
Dr. Kohnen – Yea
Ms. Millar – Yea
Dr. Miller - Absent
Dr. Powers – Yea
Dr. Resinger – Yea
Mr. Hall – Yea

- Student rotations – the Board discussed the scope of practice for students. Since the Board only issues a license to graduates of medical or physician assistant (PA) programs, there are no provisions regarding students during their clinical rotations. It was noted that unlicensed assistive personnel may be delegated routing duties by their supervising physician, and may perform observational or shadowing rotations. It was further noted that PA student rotations

are modeled after those of medical programs, with a restriction against the PA as the initial patient contact. For all such rotations, the supervising physician remains the primary treating physician with ultimate responsibility for the patient and is responsible for the supervision and activities of the student.

Agenda Item 6 Board Review of Requests

Review of Physician/Pharmacist Cooperative Practice Agreements

The Board reviewed three agreements submitted by Dr. Heidi Baines and Pharmacist Jasper Wethington, including protocols for vaccinations, anticoagulation, and emergency contraception.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Kohnen, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the three Physician/Pharmacist Cooperative Practice Agreements proposed by Dr. Heidi Baines and Pharmacist Jasper Wethington.

Pre-review of Modification Requests

Ms. Stovern reviewed the Board policy regarding review of petitions to change or release from probationary conditions of disciplinary agreements: All such petitions are considered annually at the regularly-scheduled October Board meeting. Petitioners may submit a written request for pre-review at any regularly-scheduled Board meeting. Upon review of the request, the Board will determine whether they will consider the request at their October meeting, and whether additional information is required. In addition, the Board has noted that probation length and conditions are based on the circumstances of each individual case and that probationers are expected to comply with all requirements for the full time frame. It is not the Board's intent to terminate probation early or change conditions just because a probationer is in compliance – such action may be considered only when progress is exceptional.

A modification petition from Dr. Beirne was included in the board packet, which included a request for early consideration, along with a request to change the conditions of his Consent Agreement. Dr. Beirne specifically requested that the Board eliminate the provision that he must reinstate his surrendered Arizona license.

In accordance with Alaska Statute (AS) 08.64.240(a)(2), the board may not grant a license if the applicant has surrendered a license in another jurisdiction while under investigation and the license has not been reinstated in that jurisdiction. It was noted that this provision has been litigated with a court determination that the Board has the discretion to either refuse or to grant the license. The Board has consistently taken the position that they will not grant a license under these circumstances. However, in the agreement with Dr. Beirne, the Board allowed him 12 months to reinstate his surrendered Arizona license, rather than refusing his reinstatement outright.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Resinger, seconded by Ms. Millar, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to table discussion of the modification request by Dr. Beirne until the July 2012 Board meeting.

The Board asked staff to provide a summary Dr. Beirne's license action history for review at the July meeting. At the meeting, the Board will first determine if they will allow early consideration; if so, then they will consider the modification request.

Agenda Item 7 Malpractice Case Review

The Board reviewed the following malpractice reports: Case Number 2010-0217, 7031794-M, and 07-27219.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Cullen, seconded by Dr. Powers, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to accept the malpractice reports with no further action.

Recess for lunch

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:09 p.m.
The Board resumed the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

Board members present:

Edward A. Hall, PA-C, Chair
Cam Carlson, Public Member
John S. Cullen, MD
Elizabeth Kohnen, MD

Kathleen Millar, Public Member
David J. Powers, MD
William W. Resinger, MD

Board member John S. Cullen, MD, was in attendance by teleconference. Board member David A. Miller, MD, was unable to attend the meeting.

Board staff present:

Debora Stovern, Executive Administrator

Visitors present:

Jim Lipinski, Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants

**Agenda Item 8 Attorney General Opinion
Regarding Federal Facilities**

With guidance from the Office of the Attorney General, the Division has historically taken the position that native corporations are private corporations and, like any other private enterprise company, are not exempt from state licensing requirements. Their employees are not contractors

with or employees of the federal government and, therefore, must comply with state licensing requirements. Only those employees directly employed by the federal government (i.e.; commissioned corps, Indian Health Services, VA, military, etc.) are not subject to state licensing requirements. A facility that is non-profit or federally funded does not give it an exempt status.

A federal law enacted in March 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, includes a provision under Section 221 exempting licensed health professionals employed by a tribal health program from Alaska licensing requirements. Health professional may qualify for the exemption if they are employed by a tribal health program that has a self-determination contract with the federal government, and the employee has a current, active license issued by another state Board.

The Board reviewed an April 17, 2012 opinion issued by the Office of the Attorney General addressed to the Board of Pharmacy and relating to the licensing exemption for pharmacists working for Alaska Native tribal health programs. However, the same analysis is applicable to all health care professionals, including those under the jurisdiction of the Medical Board. The opinion noted that state licensing boards still maintain authority over the practice of these individuals because these tribal health professionals are not federal employees; and they must either meet the Section 221 requirements or comply with state licensing requirements. In addition, a state licensing board may require proof of meeting the Section 221 provisions before recognizing the exemption, and may cease recognizing the exemption if the other state license is suspended or revoked.

The Board determined that they would like to pursue an application process whereby health care professionals employed by a tribal health program would request recognition of their Section 221 exemption, and the Board would review those requests for approval. That way, tribal health care professionals under the jurisdiction of the Board would either need a license or an exemption granted by the Board in order to work in a tribal health care program. The exemption determinations would not be made by the employer programs.

The Board directed Ms. Stovern to draft such a proposal for review at the next meeting, and to invite guidance from the Office of the Attorney General.

Agenda Item 9 Full Board Interviews

Richard Charles Moore, MD

Dr. Moore was present to discuss his license application with the board. He declined the opportunity to enter into executive session to discuss the “yes” answers on his application regarding malpractice issues and the circumstances of the cases.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Resinger, and approved by roll call vote, it was:

RESOLVED to grant an unrestricted license to Richard Charles Moore, MD.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Carlson – Yea

Dr. Cullen – Yea

Dr. Kohnen – Yea

Ms. Millar – Yea

Dr. Miller - Absent

Dr. Powers – Yea
Dr. Resinger – Yea
Mr. Hall – Yea

Julian Anthony Mattiello, MD

Dr. Mattiello was present to discuss his license application with the board.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Resinger, seconded by Dr. Kohnen, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c) for the purpose of discussing the application of Dr. Mattiello.

The Board entered executive session at 1:47 p.m.; staff remained for the session. The Board went back on the record at 4:21 p.m.

It was noted for the record that the Board declined to take action on Dr. Mattiello’s license application, as it was incomplete. The Board directed Ms. Stovern to provide a written notice to Dr. Mattiello regarding the items needed to complete his application.

Agenda Item 10 Continuing Medical Education (CME) Audit

Ms. Stovern provided statistics for the audit from the last license renewal:

	Physicians	MICP	Total
Total number licenses audited	270	37	307
Number of audited licenses not renewed	28	5	33
Number of approved audits	230	27	257
Noncompliant audits referred to Paralegal	12	5	17
Noncompliant audits resolved	5	1	6
Noncompliant audits outstanding	7	4	11

It was noted that the Division Paralegal was in the process of negotiating on the outstanding noncompliant audits, and would likely have Consent Agreements or Surrenders for consideration by the Board at the next meeting.

Agenda Item Public Comment Forum

Jim Lipinski, representing the Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants, expressed his concern with the licensing exemption for federal facilities (discussed under Agenda Item 8), specifically

- that it would not be appropriate for facilities to be responsible for their own credentialing, and
- there are not consistent standards among the different facilities.

Paul Anderson invited the Board and staff to attend an employee appreciation event at the Petersburg Medical Center.

Agenda Item 11 Regulation Projects

In the interest of time, the Board tabled the discussion until Friday morning.

The meeting was recessed at 4:37 p.m.

Friday, May 18, 2012

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Roll Call

Board members present:

Edward A. Hall, PA-C, Chair
Cam Carlson, Public Member
John S. Cullen, MD
Elizabeth Kohnen, MD

Kathleen Millar, Public Member
David J. Powers, MD
William W. Resinger, MD

Board member John S. Cullen, MD, was in attendance by teleconference. Board member David A. Miller, MD, was unable to attend the meeting.

Board staff present:

Debora Stovern, Executive Administrator

Visitors present:

Jim Lipinski, Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants

Agenda Item 12 Full Board Interviews

Sandra Wicks Horning, MD

Dr. Horning was present to discuss her license application with the board. She declined the opportunity to enter into executive session to discuss the circumstances regarding issues and changes during her post-graduate program.

Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Millar, seconded by Dr. Powers, and approved by roll call vote, it was:

RESOLVED to grant an unrestricted license to Sandra Wicks Horning, MD.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Carlson – Yea

Dr. Cullen – Yea

Dr. Kohnen – Yea

Ms. Millar – Yea
Dr. Miller - Absent
Dr. Powers – Yea
Dr. Resinger – Yea
Mr. Hall – Yea

Agenda Item 11 Regulation Projects

The Board had previously considered several regulations changes:

- MICP continuing medical education requirements for renewal – In accordance with Professional Regulation 12 AAC 40.350, mobile intensive care paramedics are required to complete 60 classroom or clinical hours of continuing medical education in order to qualify for license renewal. The Board reviewed and approved a proposed regulation change to allow one-quarter of the total required hours to be completed by internet, correspondence, or other distance education.

They were also interested in considering a change to the requirement for MICPs, similar to that of physician assistants – to require maintaining their national certification and accepting that CME. Mr. Hall and Ms. Stovern will work with Mr. Lipinski to research options and draft a proposal for Board consideration following the December 2012 renewal.

- Physician Assistant certification – In accordance with Professional Regulation 12 AAC 40.400, a physician assistant must have a current certification issued by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA), and one of the requirements to qualify for licensure is to submit a “certified copy” of the certification. The Board reviewed and approved a proposed regulation change allowing for a “verification” of the certification and adding a requirement for physician assistants to maintain a current certification as long as they are actively practicing.
- Physician Assistant assessment – In accordance with Professional Regulation 12 AAC 40.430, a physician assistant must participate in a periodic method of assessment and be subjected to a random audit of compliance with the assessment requirement. The Board reviewed and approved a regulation change from a mandatory scheduled assessment audit to a Board-directed process on an as-needed basis.
- Patient medical records – In accordance with Professional Regulation 12 AAC 40.967(10), patient medical records must be maintained “for at least seven years from the date of creation of the record.” The Board reviewed and approved a proposed regulation change to clarify the requirement by changing it to read “for at least seven years from the date of the last entry.”

They were also interested in requiring a licensee to notify the board of the location of patient records after retiring or, closing a practice. The Board reviewed and approved a regulation change to add a requirement for such a notification within 30 days after a licensee has retired or closed a practice.

- USMLE attempt limits – The Board previously reviewed a letter from the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) regarding the Alaska eligibility requirements and attempt limits for the USMLE examination. They reviewed and approved a proposed regulation change to clarify

that an applicant who fails any step or step component on the second attempt must complete a study course before retaking the exam.

- Application verification waivers - The Board previously reviewed an issue whereby some applicants are unable to verify their licenses in foreign jurisdictions. They reviewed and approved a proposed regulation change allowing for a waiver of the requirement under specific circumstances.
- Delegation to unlicensed assistive personnel – The Board has previously discussed scope of practice issues when licensees delegate duties to unlicensed assistive personnel (such as MAs and CMAs). The Board had determined that they are *not* interested in a licensing program, and began work on a draft modeled after nursing standards for delegation of routine duties. They reviewed the latest draft, made some revisions, and approved the proposed regulations.
- Updated checklists – Ms. Stovern has been working on updates to the application checklists specified in 12 AAC 40.058 and 12 AAC 40.405, to include statute and regulation cites and to clarify licensing requirements to expedite processing of applications. The forms will be ready for Board approval at the July meeting. The Board reviewed and approved a proposed regulations change reflect the July 2012 revision of the checklists.
- Application verifications for foreign medical graduates – In accordance with 12 AAC 40.015 , a certified copy of the certificate issued by the Education for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) is required for licensure by exam, but is not currently included under 12 AAC 40.010 for licensure by credentials. The Board reviewed and approved a proposed regulations change to require a certified copy of the ECFMG certificate for licensure by credentials.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Kohnen, seconded by Ms. Millar, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the regulations changes, as amended, to go out for public comment.

Agenda Item Division Update

Division Director Don Habeger joined the meeting by teleconference to discuss Board and Division issues. He reported that the Division is making progress on program cost issues revealed in recent audits. The Legislature has made a 3.4 million dollar appropriation to the Division to reimburse professional licensing programs for previous year administrative costs incurred by the corporations and business licensing programs. He also reported that staff has nearly completed a historical budget analysis, reconciling to the State accounting system. The Division will again be providing quarterly budget reports to the Board, following completion of the reconciliation project, at which time the data may be considered accurate.

Agenda Item 13 License Application Review

Board members reviewed license application files.

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Powers, seconded Ms. Millar, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the following physicians for licensure in Alaska:

*Anderson, Victoria Helene
Andrews, Gretchen Marie
Auffant, Roberto A.
Banico, Maria Anna
Barrett, Matthew Michael
Bauer, Jeremy Paul
Beck, Anita Elizabeth
Bergbauer, Robin Jean
Bieberly, Rank Gerhardt
Bjerum, Catherine Michelle
Bond, Travis Scott
Boughton, Janice M.
Bramer, Jean O' Nan
Branch, James Brooks
Bristow, Sandee Jewel
Buchholz, Jonathon R
Carpenter, John Bischoff
Christiansen, James Lee
Cobb, Lindsay Brienne
Conwell, Jeffrey Alan
Cook, Nichelle Ann
Crane, Curtis Nathan
Eliot, Hope Elizabeth
Engelken, Michelle Marie
Fallahian, Samon
Ford, Robert Marshall
Fox, Roger Nash
Gambino, John
Gannon, Robert Duhn
Garmager, Kirk Kendall
Grosse, Scott Edward
Hanson, Sarah Jean
Harms, Kathleen Montecillo
Heimerl, John Paul
Hendrzak, Ann Marie
Hull, Daniel Joseph
Kelly, Alisa Jocelyn
Kenner, Michael David
Klein, Jill Erin
Klein, Linda Ruth
Lansang, Francis Alexander
Liebers, Warren Lee*

*Lorenz, Kelly Ann
Lorenz, Mark Brandt
McIntyre, Robert Campbell
Moore, Kenneth Page
Nanda, Kabita
Naquin, Marshall Reid
Navaneethakrishnanpodvana,
Selvasaravanakumar
Polanco, Dan Frank
Prows, Joseph Warren
Quimby, Thomas Wayne
Raney, Ellen Marie
Rebecca, Rachel Anne
Reed, Peilin Chen
Rosenbach, Andrew Dror
Sargent, Kristofor Austin
Savran, Stephen Victor
Schramm, Heather Elizabeth
Schultis, Tristan Robert
Shepherd Jr, Mark Edward
Simmons, Karen Williams
Sims, William Louis
Sindell, Sarah Levasseur
Soto, Susan Marie
Stohl, Sheldon M
Sussman, Arlene
Suver, Daniel William
Taveras, Luis Manel
Thomas, Christopher David
Timm, David Donald
Trieu, Elaine Anh
Truhlar, Scott Michael
Valley, Thomas Clifford
Weakley, Ryan Keith
Wehrenberg, James Harvey
Weinberg, Paul Steven
Wielaard, Alexander Duncan
Wiese, James Alan
Willard, Paul Arthur
Wollner, Michael Ira
Wurster, Rebecca Sue
Zipperman, Michelle Diane*

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Powers, seconded Ms. Carlson, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the following doctors of osteopathy for licensure in Alaska:

*Conway, Kieara Ann
Baril, Robert Thomas
Bryman, David Alan
Ehama, Elizabeth Sue
Ellingson, Derek Joseph
Fisher, Matthew Scott*

*Gustas, Carl Joseph
Johns, Jeffery Williams
Liljedahl, Ronald Ray
Murphy, Kathryn Jane
Sivils, Steven James
Wehrum, Mark John*

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Powers, seconded Ms. Millar, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the following mobile intensive care paramedics for licensure in Alaska:

*Fiebig, Lezelda
Fritts, Joshua John
Gallagher, Eric William
Graves, Gregory
Hall, Benjamin Branson
Hight, Jeffery Ryan
Hutton, Noel Glenn*

*Neely, Gerad Drew
Pletsch, David Robert
Sanbei, Garrett Ross
Spurgeion, Jesse Lee
Wages, Ashley Sierra
Weatherly II, Daniel Boyd*

Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Powers, seconded Dr. Resinger, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the following physician assistants for licensure in Alaska:

*Anderson, Clinton Sage
Corinth, Tasha Louise
Dyches, Michael Dean
Frasher, Rene Ann
Hansen, Joshua Earl
Harder, Brian Patrick
Kaplan, Adam Spencer
Maher, Jonathan Charles
Manyoky, Yekaterina Leonidovna*

*Nuttle, Kathleen S
Olmedo, Benjamin
O'Neill, Kelly Kathleen
Piscioneri, James Domenick
Reilly, Claire Margaret
Strain, Thomas Scott
Voorhees, Michael Jon
Wells, Dawna*

Agenda Item 14 Correspondence

Scope of practice for Physician Assistants

The Board reviewed a letter requesting clarification on the ability of a physician assistant to authorize an emergency detention of a suicidal patient, under Alaska Statute (AS) 47.30.705. This is a public safety statute that specifically allows a peace officer, a psychiatrist, a physician, or a clinical psychologist to authorize such emergency detentions under specific circumstances. There is a similar issue with current health and social services regulations. This issue was previously addressed in other areas, such as Department of Motor Vehicle regulations, and resolved by a change to specify that PAs were included along with other professionals.

It was noted that PAs derive their scope of practice through their collaboration with a licensed physician, and may perform any task for which they are appropriately educated, trained, and skilled to do as long as they are authorized by their collaborating physician to perform that task. However, since PAs are not specifically listed in these statutes and regulations, there is confusion among other professionals whether they may perform such tasks.

The relevant statutes and regulations are not under the jurisdiction of the Alaska State Medical Board, so their position is limited to clarifying the PA scope of practice. It was suggested that the Alaska Academy of Physician Assistants may wish to pursue the appropriate statutory or regulatory changes.

Ms. Stovern will provide a copy of the Board Guidelines regarding PA scope of practice to the author of the letter. She also noted that she would be publishing all of the Board Guidelines on the Board website so that they are readily available to the public.

International medical school graduates

The Board reviewed a letter regarding licensing requirements for international medical school graduates. In accordance with Professional Regulation 12 AAC 40.016, in order to qualify for a license to practice as a physician in the State of Alaska, an applicant must have graduated from a school on the list titled *Medical Schools Recognized by the Medical Board of California*.

It was noted that the Alaska Board simply does not have the resources to conduct its own review and approval process for international medical schools and must rely on other organizations that have established programs. The Board determined that they were not interested in changing the requirement. It was suggested that the author of the letter work toward getting their school approved.

Agenda Item 15 Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Updates

Annual meeting

Mr. Hall and Ms. Stovern attended the April 2012 Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) annual meeting. They noted the importance of the Board's participation with FSMB, as they work on collective issues impacting the medical profession. Topics of the meeting included prescription drug abuse, impaired practitioners, post-graduate education issues, tele-mentoring, physician reentry, maintenance of licensure, standardization of licensing requirements, examination updates, and national health care reform, as well as the FSMB business meetings and elections. They noted that national licensure is an urgent issue of concern among the membership. Information from the annual meeting was included in the Board packet for further review.

Advocacy efforts and priorities

An update from the FSMB advocacy office, noting the priorities for their advocacy efforts, was included in the Board packet for further review. They are specifically targeting FTC attempts to intervene in state-based licensure, and licensing issues related to telemedicine.

Board of Directors meeting

The published "Highlights" from the recent Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) board of directors meeting was included in the Board packet for further review.

ECFMG verifications

A letter noting updates in the verification process for foreign medical graduates was included in the Board packet for further review.

Agenda Item New Business

There was no new business for consideration.

Agenda Item 16 Administrative Business

Reports

The Board reviewed their previous Financial Reports. As previously reported by the Division Director, updated reports will be available after the beginning of the new fiscal year (July). The State Medical Board expects to continue to be financially sound, and continue to carry a surplus during the upcoming biennial licensing cycle.

The Board reviewed the Executive Administrator's Report, presented by Ms. Stovern, including an update on the following:

- Outreach efforts – Ms. Stovern participated in the recent meetings of the Administrators in Medicine (AIM); topics included discipline, reporting, USMLE exam, impaired practitioners, telemedicine and national licensure, as well as roundtable discussions regarding issues of mutual concern.
- Status on uniform application – Ms. Stovern continues to work with the Federation of State Medical Board to implement the uniform application.
- Tracking of Board actions – a report of the Board's first quarter 2012 actions was provided for Board review; the report included confirmation of appropriate reporting of all actions.
- Tracking of licensing process – statistics and a detailed spreadsheet covering processing of applications for the first quarter of 2012 was provided for Board review.
- Policy and procedure updates – Ms. Stovern has been working on revising and updating the Board policies and procedures, which was distributed for Board review.

- Board orientation manual – Ms. Stovern has been working on revising and updating the manual, which was distributed to all Board members.
- Sunset audit – It was noted that the termination date for the Board is June 30, 2013; a sunset review is expected to occur in the near future.
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program – Ms. Stovern distributed information about the PDMP and reported that the Alaska State Medical Association would be publishing information for physician access to the database.

Review Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the January 26-27, 2012 meeting, and made some minor corrections.

Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Millar, seconded by Dr. Resinger, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the meeting minutes, as corrected.

The Chair signed the approved minutes.

Meeting Scheduling

The Board confirmed the schedule for upcoming meetings:

- July 26-27, 2012 in Soldotna
- October 25-26, 2012 in Fairbanks

The 2013 meeting schedule will be discussed in July.

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Millar, seconded by Dr. Resinger, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting of the Alaska State Medical Board.

The meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Debora Stovern, Executive Administrator
Alaska State Medical Board

Edward A. Hall, PA-C, Chair
Alaska State Medical Board

Date

Date