

# **New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners**

**November 14, 2001**

## **Open Board Minutes**

The meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners was held on November 14, 2001 at the Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex, 25 Market Street, 4th Floor Conference Center, Trenton, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by William V. Harrer, M.D., B.L.D., President.

### **PRESENT**

Board Members Chen, Desmond, Farrell, Harrer, Huston, Moussa, Paul, Perry Ricketti, Reid, Robins, Rokosz, Trayner, Walsh and Weiss

### **EXCUSED**

Board Members Criss, Haddad, Lucas, Patel and Wallace

### **ALSO PRESENT**

Deputy Attorneys General Dick, Flanzman, Gelber, Joyce, Levine and Warhaftig, Executive Director Roeder and Medical Director Gluck

## **STATEMENT CONCERNING ANNUAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS**

The requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Act" have been satisfied by notice of this meeting given in the annual notice adopted by the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners on October 11, 2000 which was transmitted to the STAR LEDGER, CAMDEN COURIER POST, ASBURY PARK PRESS, BERGEN RECORD and the TRENTON TIMES, all on the 1st day of November 2000 and the Atlantic City Press on the 17th day of January 2001.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The PEC meetings for December 26, 2001 have been canceled.

**MINUTES** THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 10, 2001 OPEN BOARD MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

**MINUTES** THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 29, 2001 OPEN CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

**MINUTES** THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE LIST OF APPLICANTS FOR LICENSURE AS PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS FROM THE OCTOBER 19, 2001 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT COMMITTEE MEETING. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

**MINUTES** THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2001 AS AMENDED. The Board voted that the address for Kathleen Burns be omitted from page 2. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter. .

**MINUTES** THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2001 ATHLETIC TRAINERS COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

**MINUTES** THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 15, 2001 CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

**MINUTES** THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 4, 2001 CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

**MINUTES** THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 5, 2001 ATHLETIC TRAINERS COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. APPROVAL OF 2002 BOARD MEETING DATES**

The following dates were submitted for Board approval for the 2002 Board meetings:

January 9, 2002	July 10, 2002
February 13, 2002	August 14, 2002
March 13, 2002	September 11, 2002
April 10, 2002	October 9, 2002
May 8, 2002	November 13, 2002
June 12, 2002	December 11, 2002

THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THESE MEETING DATES FOR THE YEAR 2002. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

### **2. DRAFT ATHLETIC TRAINERS REGULATION**

The Board reviewed the proposed changes to the regulation. The changes were as a result of the bill which passed thereby changing the status of athletic trainers from registered to licensed. Board members questioned the list of treatment modalities an athletic trainer may performed under the direction of a licensed physician such as electromagnetic waves. It was noted that electromagnetic waves can also include laser. The Board also noted the omission of ultrasound from the list.

THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED CHANGES FOR PUBLICATION IN THE NEW JERSEY REGISTER AND TO REFER THE ISSUES OF TREATMENT OF MODALITIES TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

### **3. DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DIVISION OF AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

The Board reviewed as informational a proposed readoption with amendments to *N.J.A.C. 8:57*.

#### **4. SENATE BILL NO. 2564**

The Board review and considered Senate Bill No. 2564, introduced by Senator Raymond J. Zane (District 3, Salem, Cumberland, and Gloucester counties), which was introduced on October 3, 2001. The bill would prohibit public release of professional licensees' home address. The Board noted that in dealing with the Division of Consumer Affairs' web site and the potential posting of a BME licensee's home address, at the Board's July meeting, the Board voted to ask the Division to consider amending the selection of an address of record to include the designation of an official address to be posted on the web site as well as a preferred and secure mailing address which would not be posted on the web site. Mr. Weisfeld and Dr. Abidi, representing the Medical Society, commented that the Society fully endorses this bill.

THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO STRONGLY ENDORSE THIS BILL AND TO ONCE AGAIN APPEAL TO THE DIVISION TO ADMINISTRATIVELY CORRECT THIS PROBLEM OF REQUIRING ONLY ONE ADDRESS (ADDRESS OF RECORD) IN THE BIENNIAL REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

#### **5. SENATE BILL NO. 1811**

The Board reviewed and considered Senate Bill No. 1811, introduced by Senator Jack Sinagra, (District 18 - Middlesex County) which seeks to establish the "Anesthesiologist Assistant Licensing Act." The Board recommended adding American Osteopathic Association as an approved program.

THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO TABLE DISCUSSION OF THIS BILL. Dr. Huston and Ms. Desmond were not present for discussion and vote in this matter.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**APPEARANCE:** Eddy Bresnitz, M.D. on behalf of the Department of Health and Senior Services gave a brief presentation regarding Bio-terrorism. Dr. Bresnitz emphasized the importance of physicians reporting all anthrax cases and suggested that the Board of Medical Examiners adopt a specific regulation requiring this. Physicians should call their local or state health departments to report cases of anthrax. The emergency hot line set up for questions is 609-538-6030. Testing for anthrax is by nasal swabbing and 1300 tests were done at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital. Only five were positive and when tested in the lab, the results were negative. Dr. Bresnitz commented on the problem with people stock piling antibiotics. Overuse of antibiotics is a potential problem and he urges physicians not to prescribe an antibiotic unless necessary. The Department of Health and Senior Services will put out a press release regarding influenza-like symptoms versus anthrax. Unless people are exposed to anthrax, they should not be given an antibiotic prophylactically. The Department will be educating physicians and the public about the low level likelihood of anthrax and high level of flu. People over 50 should get a flu shot. Dr. Bresnitz also mentioned the insufficient supply of smallpox vaccine but that there should be a sufficient supply by the end of the year. He noted that there needs to be some policy about how to use the vaccine. Dr. Bresnitz suggested an article in the Board's Newsletter on this issue and also a regulation be promulgated to coat tail under the Department of Health and Senior Services regulations regarding reporting diseases. This matter will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting. Information can also be obtained through the Medical Society web site and Dr. Bresnitz

noted that all doctors should be connected to the internet.

Following this discussion, Dr. Perry read a statement regarding his research on the threat of smallpox on the nation through terrorism. He suggested that the Board step beyond its traditional role and lend support to the war effort. He believes cidofovir is effective in treating this virus when used as an aerosol. Dr. Harrer asked Dr. Perry to share his information with the Executive Committee. Dr. Robins publicly thanked Dr. Perry for his extensive research. It was suggested that Robert Wood Johnson Hospital be asked to give a presentation to the Board on this topic.

THE BOARD, UPON MOTION MADE AND SECONDED, VOTED TO ENDORSE SUPPORTING URGENT ACTION ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT AND FDA OF THE PRODUCTION OF CIDOFOVIR AS A DRUG FOR SMALLPOX AND DR. PERRY'S ACTIVITIES IN BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS.

Respectfully submitted,

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William V. Harrer, M.D., B.L.D.  
President

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*Posted March 2002*