

TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 7, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Board President, Roberta Kalafut, D.O. Committee members present were Lawrence Anderson, M.D.; Michael Arambula, M.D.; Larry Price, D.O.; and Tim Turner. Other Board members present were Julie Attebury; Jose M. Benavides, M.D.; Patricia Blackwell; Melinda Fredricks; Manuel Guajardo, M.D.; Amanullah Khan, M.D.; Melinda McMichael, M.D.; Margaret McNeese, M.D.; Charles E. Oswald, M.D.; Allan N. Shulkin, M.D.; Paulette Southard; Irvin Zeitler, D.O. Staff present were Donald W. Patrick, M.D., J.D., Executive Director; Robert Simpson, J.D., General Counsel; Jane McFarland, Chief of Staff; and various staff.

Agenda item #2, Report, discussion, and recommendations from Executive Management Team. Dr. Patrick and Dr. Kalafut discussed their recent visit with the Texas Medical Association (TMA). Dr. Patrick indicated that the TMA suggested the board create on its website a section for licensure applicants outlining the timeframe of the licensure process. Dr. Patrick informed the board members this has been created and is ready for their review.

Dr. Patrick next discussed the suggestions TMA had concerning the initial investigations process. The TMA suggested to both Dr. Kalafut and Dr. Patrick that the

board consider revising the initial notification letter received by a physician when a complaint has been filed against them in order to make it less intimidating to physicians. Dr. Patrick indicated the Harris County Medical Society recently provided the board with a copy of a letter they use for a similar purpose. Dr. Patrick said staff will next work on revising this initial notification letter.

Dr. Patrick explained that the board's May newsletter will feature an article for licensees explaining what they should do if they are the subject of a complaint.

Robert Simpson discussed two pending suits, one involving the TMA and Podiatry Board concerning the scope of practice and the other concerning the TMA and the Chiropractic Board. Mr. Simpson explained that the board has already filed a brief in support of the TMA in regards to the Podiatry board matter. Mr. Simpson said he is in the process of reviewing the matter concerning the Chiropractic board and will provide an update during a future meeting.

Agenda item #3, Report and discussion regarding personnel matters. Jane McFarland informed the board members of Megan Goodes recent resignation. Ms. Goode previously served as the Special Projects Coordinator for the board. Ms. McFarland explained that a replacement for Ms. Goode has already been selected and will start working in mid February. Ms. McFarland said the board has filled twelve positions since the November 2007 board meeting including the positions Budget Analyst and IT

Database Administrator. Ms. McFarland indicated there are currently 3 to four positions that are currently unfilled.

Dr. Price moved, Mr. Turner seconded and the motion passed to go in to executive session at 8:27 a.m. for private consultation and advice of counsel with respect to legal matters under the authority under the Open Meetings Act, Government Code 555.071. Open session resumed at 9:12 a.m. and it was announced that no action was taken during Executive Session. A certified agenda was made.

There being no further items the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.