

**TEXAS PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT BOARD**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**November 3, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 12:50 p.m. by the Chairman, Timothy Webb, J.D. Board members present were G. Al. Bendeck, PA-C; Margaret K. Bentley; Ron Bryce, M.D.; Anna Arredondo Chapman; Dwight M. Deter, PA-C; and Pamela Welch, PA-C. Staff members present were Donald W. Patrick, M.D., J.D.; Mari Robinson, Director of Enforcement; Robert Simpson, Assistant General Counsel; Jaime Garanfio, Director of Customer Affairs; Mari Robinson, Director of Enforcement; and various other staff members.

**Agenda item #2, Board Member Report.** Mr. Webb introduced and welcomed new board member Ron Bryce, M.D.

Program Directors from Texas Physician Assistant schools were present. Mr. Webb welcomed Carl E. Fasser, BA, PA-C, Baylor College of Medicine; Elvin E. Maxwell, Jr., M.P.A.S., PA-C, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center; Frank Ambriz, M.P.A.S., PA-C, The University of Texas-Pan American; J. Dennis Blessing, Ph.D., PA-C, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio; Richard Rahr, Ed.D, PA-C, Chair; University of Texas Medical Branch; Hank Lemke, MMS, PA-C, Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine; and University of North Texas Health Science Center; P. Eugene Jones, Ph.D, PA-C and Venetia L. Orcutt, MBA, PA-C., The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Mr. Webb announced that the required Open Government Training would be available after the Board meeting.

**Agenda item #3., Executive session.** There were no items for executive session.

**Agenda item #4, Executive Director's Report.** Dr. Patrick gave a report on the organizational changes for the Executive Management Team, to include the Executive Director, the General Counsel and the Chief of Staff; and organizational changes for the Senior Management Team to include the Executive Director, the General Counsel, the Chief of Staff, the Director of Licensure, and the Director of Enforcement. Dr. Patrick provided an update on the financial year-end report and the supplemental grant approved by the Governor's office.

Dr. Patrick gave a report on proposed and approved rule changes as mandated by the Sunset Commission. The board discussed the need for a standing stakeholder group to meet once a year concerning rules.

Dr. Patrick requested direction for James Thomassen, Hearings Counsel, to work with the Board and program directors to develop questions for an online jurisprudence exam as an educational process for applicants. The Board directed staff to create a workgroup to develop jurisprudence exam questions for a rotating online test.

Dr. Patrick requested direction for out of practice physician assistants applying for licensure, such as mini-residency programs.

**Agenda item #5 Report and Discussion with Physician Assistant Program Directors**

- a. **Presentation by agency staff regarding licensure and enforcement issues.** Ms. Garanflo gave a report of the licensure and customer affairs process. After her report, Ms. Garanflo answered questions from the board and program directors concerning licensure issues. Ms. Robinson gave a report of the enforcement process. After her report, Ms. Robinson answered questions from the Board and program directors about enforcement issues.
- b. **Presentation concerning education and training for physician assistants.** Mr. Fasser made a presentation concerning the education and training for physician assistants
- c. **Discussion and questions.** The board and program directors discussed concerns.

**Agenda item #6, Discussion, recommendation and possible action regarding recommendations of adoption of board policies: a) Policy re Replacing Applicant Names with Numbers in Licensure Committee Minutes; and b.) Policy re Guidelines for Division of Responsibilities between Board and staff.** After discussion, Mr. Deter moved, Ms. Bentley seconded, and the motion passed to adopt the board policies as distributed with one clerical correction changing Medical Board to Physician Assistant Board.

There were no items for Agenda item #7.

**Agenda item #8, Consideration and Approval of Agreed Board Orders.** Mr. Bendeck moved, Mr. Deter seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Agreed Board Order for Edward Lee Ruppental, P.A.

There were no items for Agenda items #9-#13.

**Agenda item #14, Report on Temporary Suspension/Automatic Orders/Automatic Actions.** Ms. Nancy Leshikar, Manager of Litigation, gave a report on the Temporary Suspension of Donald Hammock, P.A.

**Agenda item #15, Consideration and Approval of minutes of the July 28, 2006 Full Board Meeting.** Mr. Bendeck moved, Mr. Deter seconded, and the motion passed to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2006 Full Board Meeting.

**Agenda item #16, Report and Recommendations for the November 3, 2006 Licensure Committee Meeting.** Mr. Deter gave a report of the Licensure Committee Meeting. Mr. Deter moved, Mr. Bendeck seconded, and the motion passed to approve the November 3, 2006 Licensure Committee Meeting minutes and action items.

**Agenda item #17, Report and Recommendations from the November 3, 2006 Disciplinary and Ethics Committee Meeting.** Ms. Bentley gave a report of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee Meeting. Ms. Bentley moved, Mr. Bendeck seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee Meeting minutes and action items.

The Board discussed the process for information requests from the media with Jill Wiggins, Public Information Officer.

**Agenda item #18, Adjourn. There being no further agenda items, the meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.**