

**TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD**  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 28, 2009**

Mari Robinson, J.D., Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Committee members present were Julie Attebury, Chairman, Melinda McMichael, M.D., Charles Oswalt, M.D., Paulette Southard, Timothy Turner, and Allan Shulkin, M.D. Also present were Christina Cuellar, Finance Manager, and various staff members.

**Agenda Item #2-Update on Budget and Revenue.** Ms. Cuellar informed the Finance Committee that General Revenue received as of April 30, 2009 is \$18.3 million dollars, the General Revenue appropriated is \$6.5 million dollars, and the agency has spent \$4.4 million dollars, which is equivalent to 67.8% of the budget. Ms. Cuellar also stated that the General Revenue-Dedicated received as of April 30, 2009 is \$1.7 million dollars, the General Revenue-Dedicated appropriated is \$2.6 million dollars, and the agency has spent \$1.5 million dollars, which is approximately 58.9% of the budget.

**Agenda Item #3-Discussion of agency appropriations for FY 2010-2011.** Mari Robinson, J.D. informed the committee that all the exceptional items listed on the Legislative Appropriations Request were granted during the current legislative session, which includes fourteen new FTEs, and staff salary adjustments. The total for these approved items is approximately \$5 million dollars for the biennium. In addition, other legislation currently pending will require up to five more FTEs. Office space will be assessed due to the increase in FTEs, and Mari Robinson mentioned there might be a need for leasing additional space to accommodate staff. Funding for the additional \$5 million dollars will be collected through an increase in application and renewal fees.

**Agenda Item #4-Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding proposed amendments to 22 T.A.C. 175.1, Application Fees.** Mari Robinson advised that the \$5 million dollar increase discussed in agenda item #3 will be collected through a \$28.50 per year increase in all licensing renewals and application fees. She also advised that the contingent revenue rider in the appropriations bill requires that the agency produce additional revenue to fund the items and that the only way to obtain the required level of funds is to raise these fees. Mari Robinson added that there has not been an increase in fees since 2004. In discussion, Dr. Willeford suggested there be adequate explanation and education as to the reason for the increase and how the additional money will be spent to the affected licensees. Dr. Moore, Medical Director, concurred with Dr. Willeford and added Dr. Willeford's suggestion is a part of their education and discussions they plan for the town hall meetings that are held in cities across the state of Texas. Ms. Attebury mentioned adding an explanation for the increase to the website as well.

**Agenda Item #5-Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding proposed amendments to 22 T.A.C. 183.14, Acudetox Specialists.** Jaime Garanfio, Licensure Director, stated that the increase effect on Acupuncturists is a fee for each course being registered. Currently, there is a flat registration fee, regardless of how many

courses are submitted. Ms. Garanflo advised the Acupuncture Board has already approved these changes in fees. Mari Robinson added that all of the above mentioned increases would be effective September 1, 2009. The first receipt of the proposed changes, due to quarterly registration, will be in November. Paulette Southard motioned to approve all proposed rule changes stated in items 4 and 5. Timothy Turner seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Ms. Cuellar requested to all board members that any travel vouchers be turned in as soon as possible due to end of year close approaching.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.