



TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

Public Information/Profile Committee Minutes

October 28, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the chair, Ms. Paulette Southard. Committee members present were Michael Arambula, M.D.; Ms. Patricia Blackwell; Mr. John D. Ellis, Jr.; Melinda McMichael, M.D.; Allan Shulkin, M.D.; and Mr. Timothy Webb. Also present were Leigh Hopper, Public Information Officer; Suzanne Mitchell, Assistant General Counsel; Megan Goode, Special Projects Manager; Mari Robinson, Executive Director, and other board members and staff.

Agenda item #2, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding email addresses obtained from license registration form. Ms. Hopper briefed the board on the issue of amending current language on the physician biennial registration form that asks licensees whether their contact information can be used for non-emergency communication from TMB. Ms. Robinson recommended requesting legislative clarification so that the amendments conform to legislative intent. Dr. Arambula moved to direct staff to request the clarification and Dr. McMichael seconded the motion.

Agenda item #3, Update on electronic death certificate registration. Ms. Hopper briefed the board on new language for the physician biennial registration system that emphasizes the mandatory nature of electronic death certificate registration.

Agenda item #4, Report on Open Records statistics and OAG request. Ms. Mitchell briefed the board on the number of open records requests processed in FY 10. There was general discussion of the amount of staff time and resources devoted to open records requests. Ms. Mitchell also provided an update on a recent request for an opinion from the Office of the Attorney General pertaining to requests for confidential information from legislators.

Agenda item #5, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action for the FY11 Outreach Plan. Ms. Robinson outlined the recommended FY 11 outreach plan which entails scheduling visits to all Texas medical schools within a one week period in September 2011. The plan would also entail contacting county medical societies, specialty medical societies, and hospitals to schedule outreach presentations for currently practicing licensees. Dr. Arambula moved to direct staff to implement the plan and Dr. McMichael seconded the motion.

Agenda item #6, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.