

TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 7, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Board President, Roberta Kalafut, D.O. Committee members present were Eddie J. Miles, Jr., Keith E. Miller, M.D.; John W. Pate, Jr., M.D; and Larry Price, D.O. Other Board members present were Lawrence L. Anderson, M.D.; Julie Attebury; Jose M. Benavides, M.D.; Patricia S. Blackwell; Manuel G. Guajardo, M.D.; Charles E. Oswalt, M.D.; Paulette Southard; Michael Arambula, M.D.; Annette P. Raggette; Timothy J. Turner; Margaret McNeese, M.D.; Staff present were Donald W. Patrick, M.D., J.D., Executive Director; Michele Shackelford, J.D., General Counsel; Jane McFarland, Chief of Staff; Robert D. Simpson, Assistant General Counsel; and various other staff.

Agenda item #2, Discussion, recommendation and possible action regarding Internal Audit. Ms. McFarland provided a report concerning the State Auditor's Office internal audit, which began the first week in November. Ms. McFarland stated that the auditors have reported indications of progress in terms of the Board's operations and management. Ms. McFarland indicated the audit report is expected to be completed during the first week of the upcoming legislative session.

Agenda item #3, Report and recommendations from the Executive Management Team. Kim Boston, Human Resources Manager, provided a statistical

report concerning agency job postings for fiscal year 2006. Ms. Boston said the agency received approximately 1,000 employment applications for the 28 internal and external job postings made during this time period. Ms. Boston indicated that 27 of these positions were filled. Ms. Boston then provided a statistical comparison of the Board's turn over rate as compared with the average of all state agencies.

Dr. Kalafut requested that an update concerning staffing be provided as a routine part of all future Executive Committee Meetings.

Ms. Shackelford provided an update about the Board's ongoing discussion with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) regarding the impact of the Board's licensing of physicians resulting from legislation and recently adopted THECB rules regarding the listing of medical school believed to be fraudulent or substandard by THECB staff. Ms. Shackelford explained that the Board would continue to work with the THECB as well as the bill's sponsor in order to determine the best course of action before any possible rule changes are proposed. Ms. Shackelford suggested that a legislative letter of intent be received before the Board proceeds any further.

Dr. Price moved, Mr. Miles seconded, and the motion passed to go in to executive session at 9:00 a.m. for private consultation and advice of counsel with respect to legal matters under the authority of the Open Meetings Act, Government Code §551.071. Open session resumed at 9:35 a.m. and it was announced that no action was taken during Executive Session. A certified agenda was made.

Agenda item #3 (cont.) Report and recommendations from the Executive Management Team. Mr. Turner presented information concerning the estimated length of time applying for physician licensure, hospital credentialing, managed care network enrollment, and malpractice insurance. Mr. Turner explained his purpose was to encourage the Board to seek new methods to further streamline the length of time for physician licensure. Mr. Turner indicated that two hospitals in the Houston area are available to help the Board with this process.

Ms. Raggette suggested the Board should determine whether or not this would pose a possible conflict of interest or a problem with the legislature.

The Board directed staff to explore all possible options for improving and streamlining the licensure process.

Agenda item #4, Discussion regarding personnel matters. An update concerning personnel matters was presented by Ms. McFarland.

There being no further items the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.