TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD

PUBLIC INFORMATION/PROFILE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES June 26, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by the chair, Ms. Paulette Southard. Committee members present were Michael Arambula, M.D., Ms. Patricia Blackwell, Melinda McMichael, M.D., Allan Shulkin, M.D., and Mr. Timothy Webb. Also present were Jill Wiggins, Patrick Shaughnessy, Mari Robinson, Jane McFarland and other board members and staff.

Agenda item #2, media update. Ms. Wiggins updated the committee on media activities since the last board meeting.

Agenda item #3, report on Spring 2008 issue of the Medical Board Bulletin: Ms. Wiggins reported that the newsletter is at the printer, scheduled to go to the mailer about July 2, and that TMB has a new mailing service.

Agenda item #4, Introduction of Patrick Shaughnessy, special projects coordinator for community relations: Ms. McFarland introduced Mr. Shaughnessy with a brief summary of his background.

Agenda item #4, report on community outreach meetings around Texas: Ms. Robinson presented a summary of the Town Hall meetings that have taken place in Brownsville, Midland and Austin. She explained that all questions and comments are recorded on a computer and projected on a screen to be sure they are exactly as intended, and that at the end of the summer they will be compiled and provided to the board. She said the meetings were publicized through TMA, TOMA, county medical societies and local hospitals, as well as through news releases, and that there had been print and radio coverage. She said that in addition to the Town Hall meetings primarily for licensees, Licensure presented seminars for entities assisting applicants to expedite and ease that process, and there were also legislative visits. Ms. Robinson thanked Dr. Manuel Guajardo, Ms. Patricia Blackwell, DRC member Ms. Penny Angelo, Dr. Melinda McMichael and DRC member Ms. Sharon Barnes for their assistance. Ms. Robinson said the comments and feedback were useful and she felt that it helped licensees who may not agree with our processes to understand them.

Agenda item #5, the meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.