TEXAS STATE BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE EXAMINERS LICENSURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES May 12, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m. by Chair, Meng-Sheng Linda Lin, L.Ac.; Committee members present were Sheng Ting (Sam) Chen, Donald Counts, M.D. and Hoang Xiong Ho.

Agenda item #2, Executive Session, was considered. Dr. Counts moved, Mr. Ho seconded, and the motion passed at 10:38 a.m. to go into executive session for private consultation and advice of counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation, deliberations concerning licensure applications, and/or possible disciplinary action under the authority of the Open Meetings Act, GOVERNMENT CODE, §551.071; and the Medical Practice Act, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE ANNOTATED, §152.009; and TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE ANNOTATED, §205.304; and Attorney General's Opinion No. H-484.

Mr. Garcia entered the meeting at 11:10 a.m., during Executive Session.

Open session resumed at 11:22 a.m. and it was announced that no action was taken during executive session. A certified agenda was made.

The Licensure Committee conducted hearings to review applicants appearing concerning eligibility. The hearings were conducted in Executive Session for deliberations concerning licensure applications and consideration of possible rehabilitation orders under the authority of the Open Meetings Act, GOVERNMENT CODE, 551.071; and the Medical Practice Act, TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE ANNOTATED, 152.009 and 205.304; and Attorney General's Opinion No. H-484. Following the hearings, the Committee reconvened and considered the applications.

Agenda item #3, regarding applicants appearing concerning eligibility, was considered.

Applicant #458 withdrew his application for acupuncture licensure, so no action was needed.

Applicant #456's acupuncture licensure application was reviewed by the Committee after referral from the Executive Director. Applicant #456's application was reviewed due to the applicant's arrest history and past drug use. Mr. Garcia moved to recommend to the full Board that Applicant #456 be granted an unrestricted license. Factors contributing to this recommendation include no arrests since 2001, completion of required community service and counseling program, and matriculation and graduation from acupuncture school after 2001 problems. Dr. Counts seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Agenda item #4, regarding applicants for Texas Acupuncture Licensure, was considered. There were 43 applicants who met all requirements to be considered for acupuncture licensure by the Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners (TSBAE). Mr. Garcia moved, Mr. Ho seconded and the motion passed to recommend to the full board that all 43 applicants be approved for licenses and that their names be listed as part of the minutes of this committee.

The Committee directed staff to research what the qualifications are for candidacy status granted by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and to draft a possible rule change providing a remedy for applicants who graduated when a school is in candidacy status. The Committee requested a draft for this rule change be ready for review at the July Board meeting.

There being no further business, Mr. Garcia moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m. Dr. Counts seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.