

**MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
ATHLETIC TRAINERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OPEN MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 10:00 a.m., Room 110

PRESENT: John Bielawski, ATC, Chair, Andrew Tucker Morris, M.D.,
John Mitchie, D.C., Rick Peret, Jr., PT, ATC, Valerie E. Cothran, M.D.,
Karen James, OTR/CHT, Lori Bristow, M.Ed., Richard Hinton, M.D.,
Karl Bailey, ATC

STAFF PRESENT: Ellen Douglas Smith, Chief Allied Health Programs, Richard
Proctor, Consultant, Karen Wulff, Public Policy Analyst, Robin Bailey,
Public Policy Analyst, Phyllis Washington, Administrative Specialist

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bielawski called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Dr. Cothran, the Committee approved the December 13, 2011 open meeting minutes.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Wulff stated that there is nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Amended Athletic Trainer Regulations

At the December 13, 2011 meeting, Ms. Wulff distributed the written comments the Board received on the regulations from other health occupations boards. The Committee reviewed the comments and made their recommendations. Ms. Wulff drafted suggested changes to the proposed language to address some of the suggestions from the other boards and a letter to those individuals who submitted comments.

Ms. Wulff informed the Committee that the Board received notice from the Administrative, Executive and Legislative (AELR) Committee that they have put a hold on the regulations. She stated that the Committee would have to recommend to the Board to:

1. Delete the sections of the regulations that go beyond the present statute and address other comments and proposed changes. Advantages; AELR may allow the regulations to move

forward without additional legislative action. Disadvantage: The changes would have to be re-proposed since deleting the sections would be a substantive change.

2. Leave the sections that go beyond the statute and address other comments and proposed changes. Advantage: The changes may be non-substantive so a reproposal is not needed. Disadvantage: The regulations will be likely be delayed until it's clear whether the statute will be amended.

After discussion, the Committee recommended leaving the sections that go beyond the statute and address other comments and proposed changes.

On a motion made by Mr. Peret and seconded by Mr. Bailey the Committee agreed to leave the athletic trainer regulations as amended.

In the letter to the individuals who submitted comments, the Committee recommended amending the second sentence in paragraph three which reads, . . . “These referrals are an integral part of the practice of athletic training, especially for athletic trainers working in school or community settings where they work with all persons on the team, and most of those individuals have no relationship with the athletic trainer’s supervising physician” to “These referrals are an integral part of the practice of athletic training, especially for athletic trainers working in school or community settings where they work with all persons on the team.”

Dr. Hinton asked if there is an explanation to support why outside referrals are needed. He stated that all of the individuals have a relationship with the supervising physician. In addition, they may have other physician relationships.

Ms. Wulff stated that she would work on a sentence to convey the need for outside referrals.

NEW BUSINESS

Sanctioning Guidelines for Athletic Trainers

Ms. Wulff explained that under HB 114, passed in 2010, all of the health occupations licensing boards are required to develop sanctioning guidelines for disciplinary actions taken against licensees. She provided a copy of the sanctioning guidelines developed by the Board of Physicians for physicians.

The Committee tabled this item until they investigate sanctioning guidelines for other allied health programs. They will address this item at their February 14, 2012 meeting.

Updated Roster

Ms. Smith asked the Committee to review the roster and to make sure their information is correct.

2012 Meeting Schedule

Board staff provided the Committee with a copy of the 2012 Meeting Schedule.

Representative to Attend Board Meetings

John Papavasiliou, Deputy Director, thanked the Committee for their hard work in getting the Committee going and accomplishing so much in a short period of time. The Board is moving toward more information sharing between the committees and the Board. He asked for a volunteer from the Committee to attend Board meetings so that the Board is informed of some of the details of what the Committee is working on. He asked that the representative during the athletic trainer's discussion be available to answer some of the complex questions regarding the E&T Protocol and specialized tasks. This would help expedite the process. He explained that unanswered questions will cause a month delay.

Compliance Referral

Ms. Bristol asked about the procedure for reporting someone who is working without a license.

Ms. Wulff explained that once it is reported to the Board, there will be an investigation. The first step is to do a cease and desist if the person is working without a license.

Ms. Smith suggested having staff from compliance attend the next meeting to explain the process.

Evaluation and Treatment Protocols

Ms. Smith stated that the last group of Evaluation and Treatment Protocols were not approved by the Board, because they did not have enough time to review them. The Committee reviewed them one week prior to the Board meeting. The Board did review some of the E&T Protocols. They noted that the protocols from the University of Maryland did not have enough procedures. They are now in the process of determining the amount of procedures. This process is new to the

Board and this is why a representative is needed to attend Board meetings. Dr. Handel, Board Member, who works with athletic trainers but does not supervise them, has been helpful. Ms. Smith stated that she sent out an email to athletic trainers explaining what the Board requires from them. She has not heard from them.

Ms. Smith informed the Committee that the Board meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month from January through October. The Board meeting for the month of November will be held on the second Wednesday and the meeting for December will be held on the third Wednesday.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:37 p.m.

Submitted by:



Ellen Douglas Smith
Chief, Allied Health