



**Board of Nursing Home Administrators
Minutes
August 2, 2013**

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: **Department of Health**
Spokane Valley Office
River View corporate Center, Room 118
16201 E. Indiana Avenue, Ste 1500
Spokane Valley, WA 99216

Board Members Present: Harry Aubert, NHA, Chair
Linda McKinney, RN, Vice Chair
Dan Murray, NHA
Keith Fauerso, NHA
Donette Parry, PTA

Staff Present: Blake Maresh, Executive Director
Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager
Gail Yu, Assistant Attorney General

Open Session:

1. Opening – Harry Aubert, Chair – DISCUSSION/ACTION

- A. Call to Order – Mr. Aubert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- B. Introductions – Board members and staff introduced themselves.
- C. Order of Agenda - No changes were made to the order of the agenda.
- D. Correspondence – There was no correspondence at this time.
- E. Announcements – There were no announcements at this time.
- F. Other- There were no other items brought to the Board’s attention at this time.

2. Consent Agenda—Harry Aubert, DISCUSSION/ACTION

Items listed under the consent agenda are considered to be routine agency matters and will be approved by a single motion of the Board without separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the regular business agenda.

- A. Approval of August 2, 2013 agenda – The agenda was approved as written.
- B. Approval of May 3, 2013 minutes – The May 3, 2013 minutes were approved as written.

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3. Discussion of Items Removed from the Consent Agenda—DISCUSSION/ACTION.

There were no items removed from the consent agenda.

4. Suicide Prevention – Updates – Result of Survey – Elaine Walsh, PhD, RN and Carol Hooven, PhD.– DISCUSSION/ACTION.

Elaine Walsh from the University of Washington, spoke to the committee about the results of a survey given to health care professionals related to mental health and suicide prevention. Legislation required all mental health professionals to have education on suicide prevention. It also required this study and to determine if other professions might benefit from suicide prevention education. The final report is to be presented to the Legislature in December, 2013.

The study looked at several aspects of the issue, including unbiased literature and experts, as well as those in charge of curriculum and health care professions. They also reviewed studies regarding military suicide prevention. In addition, they sent a survey to health care professionals. The survey results included 24 nursing home administrators. This represents a higher percentage of the total number of nursing home administrators than other professions that responded to the survey.

The two major questions they looked at were whether suicide prevention training assists health care professionals to better help their patients and, if so, are there specific health professionals that would benefit from suicide prevention training.

The answer to the first question is that training does help. However, they were unable to determine if it works better for some professions than others. The survey results from all health care practitioners showed that 85 percent across the board felt that the training is relevant. Fifty-six percent feel it should be mandatory. It was noted that not even half of patients who have mental health issues receive care from a mental health provider. However, they do tend to spend more time with other health care professionals.

5. Program Manager Report – Kendra Pitzler – DISCUSSION/ACTION.

The Board reviewed the nursing home administrator budget. Ms. Pitzler noted that the budget was where it needs to be. She also indicated that department staff have been working on the budget for the new biennium. Travel for NAB meetings will be included so that a member can attend each meeting if they would like to. This is in addition to Ms. Pitzler attending as the Board representative to NAB.

Gail Yu reported on legislation that passed this year which allows a party to the proceedings to file a petition for administrative review of an initial disciplinary order.

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Ms. Pitzler reported that the rules moratorium has now ended. This means that the Board can move forward with rules if needed. At the May meeting, Ms. Pitzler agreed to bring forward all rules the Board had discussed amending during the rules moratorium, as well as the rules that were in process when the rules moratorium was put into place. Ms. Pitzler shared a document which indicated that the request for changes includes possible amendments to definitions, the AIT program, exemption to the AIT program, allowing temporary practice permits for out-of-state applicants who are waiting on a background check, training requirements for preceptors and changes to continuing education. It was noted that minor changes to correct names and examination subjects were also considered.

A motion was made to open rules on all of these rules. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Rules to be amended are WAC 246-843-010, 070, 071, 073, 090, 093, 095, 130, and 230. The Board will also consider adding new sections for temporary permits for out-of-state applicants who are waiting for fingerprint results.

6. Board/Commission Bylaws — Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager - DISCUSSION/ACTION.

The board reviewed a draft for bylaws developed by the Department of Health, as well as a draft developed by Gail Yu, AAG. Ms. Yu's draft was amended to include the time of elections for the chair and vice chair as well as when they would take office.

A motion was made to adopt Ms. Yu's draft of the bylaws as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7. Update from the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards' (NAB) Annual Meeting in Seattle. – Harry Aubert and Kendra Pitzler - DISCUSSION/ACTION.

Ms. Pitzler reported on the NAB sub-committee meetings, including the State Member Forum, Member Relations and Outreach and State Governance and Regulations. She mentioned that many states have indicated changes in their requirements. These states include Oregon, Tennessee and Oklahoma, among others. Ms. Pitzler suggested that it may be time to again review the other state's requirements to determine if they are substantially equivalent for endorsement purposes. The Board agreed to review the requirements. They will divide them up for review and will report back at the next meeting.

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Mr. Aubert reported on the NAB keynote presentations. Ohio and Oklahoma have now passed laws to allow their boards to license administrators within the full spectrum of care to include nursing home administrators, assisted living administrators and administrators for home and community based services. This fits in with the goals of the NAB task force to study and identify the core of knowledge common to all practices along the continuum of long term care. NAB will release a report detailing unified job descriptions for long term care professionals, as well as recommended revisions to NAB examinations.

Mr. Aubert suggested the board research whether this might be an option for Washington, beginning with gathering information on who licenses which facilities, what the rules are, what other states, and what the advantages are for doing this. Members of the board indicated that this should wait until the next meeting as board members will be reviewing state licensure requirements between now and the next meeting.

8. 2011-2013 Business Plan – Harry Aubert, Chair – DISCUSSION/ACTION.

Ms. Pitzler indicated she was unable to bring a draft of the 2011-2013 business plan. She explained changes that could be made to the business plan for the current biennium. The board agreed to the changes and will review the new version at the next meeting.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.