



Board of Nursing Home Administrators

Minutes

November 1, 2013

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: The meeting was held by video conference at the following locations:

Department of Health
Point Plaza East, Room 152/153
310 Israel Road SE
Tumwater, WA 98504

Department of Health
Spokane Valley Office
River View Corporate Center, Room 118
1620 E. Indiana Avenue, Suite 118
Spokane, WA 99216

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

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

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 November 1, 2013 agenda – The agenda was approved as written.
 - B. Approval of August 2, 2013 minutes – The August 2, 2013 minutes were approved as written.

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

There were no items removed from the consent agenda.

4. Executive Director Report – Blake Maresh, DISCUSSION/ACTION.

Blake Maresh reported on the Citizen’s Advocacy Center’s meeting held October 29-30, 2013 in Seattle, Washington. He indicated speakers focused on professional practice barriers, including how health care professionals may be limited by their scope. Participants also talked about “credential creep,” especially in the physical therapy area. It was noted that the public is not generally involved in decisions relating to these issues.

Another issue discussed was how the health care industry can meet challenges of new patients entering the health care system due to the national affordable care act. In addition, number of patients needing a higher level of care is increasing due to the aging population of “baby boomers”. Conference attendees acknowledged that there is currently more questions than answers but that the conversation needs to continue.

Mr. Maresh also reported on the board budget, indicating that board staff is keeping a close eye on charges from the internal service units. He indicated that we want to make

sure that charges are reflected as they happen. This helps staff to better assess what is happening with the budget on a day to day basis. Gail Yu asked if Mr. Maresh could give the board the percentage used for indirect charges and how that is determined. Mr. Maresh agreed to look into this and report back.

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

Ms. Pitzler reported that she had been contacted by the Governor’s Office regarding recruitment of board positions that are currently open. They may be able to assist with recruitment. Ms. Pitzler also indicated that a letter is ready to go out inviting qualified people to apply for these positions.

Ms. Pitzler also indicated that she was working to get a CR-101, the first announcement in the rules process, drafted for filing next year. Mr. Maresh indicated that there is an expectation that rules be reviewed every five years. He suggested that, since the board already plans to open so many of the rules, they do a review of all their rules to determine if other rules should be added. The board agreed to do an analysis of the current rules at the next board meeting.

6. Board/Commission Bylaws – Kendra Pitzler – DISCUSSION/ACTION.

The board reviewed the finalized bylaws. Harry Aubert, Chair signed them. The bylaws can be referenced during future meetings.

7. 2011-2013 Business Plan – Harry Aubert, Chair - DISCUSSION/ACTION.

The board reviewed the business plan as adopted at the August meeting. Changes were made to time-lines for the newsletter and for rules. Another change was made to allow “qualified board members” to perform AIT site reviews.

Board members also discussed timelines for complaint reviews. Ms. Mesaros asked if the discipline case manager could send the reviewing board member an e-mail when a case is sent. Board members also mentioned that they used to receive CD’s but now receive hard copies. They indicated that CD’s was a good way to receive and review files. They wondered why it had stopped. Mr. Maresh indicated that if CD’s with investigative information are sent, they should probably be encrypted but he did not know why the practice stopped. Staff will check into this.

8. Review of Nursing Home Administrator Requirements from Other States – Harry Aubert, Chair – DISCUSSION/ACTION.

The board began a review of other state's requirements for nursing home administrator licensure. Members discussed which requirements would be considered "Substantially equivalent." It was determined that the requirement for a baccalaureate degree or above must also be required by the other state to be considered substantially equivalent. In addition, the other state must require an AIT program that is at least 1,000 hours. If the criteria for AIT vary based on experience, the Board will need to make a determination if those rules are similar to Washington state rules allowing for reduced hours.

The board made preliminary recommendations for some states after review of their requirements. The board will continue the review for final determination at the next board meeting.

9. Continuity in Long-Term Care – Harry Aubert, Stacy Mesaros and Kendra Pitzler – DISCUSSION/ACTION.

The board discussed the Ohio and Oklahoma nursing home administrator board models that give those boards authority over nursing home administrators, assisted living administrators and home health administrators.

Board members noted that assisted living facilities are different than nursing homes. It was acknowledged that boards that regulate all parts of the continuum of care must have representation from all regulated parties. It was also noted that the NAB development of the new examination has shown that there are many similarities between the professions. NAB will have a full report out in June, 2014.

Stacy Mesaros indicated that she is in favor of regulation of all administrators in the continuum of care because there is significant threat to public safety when facilities and agencies are managed by people who are not held to a standard of care. In addition, most people do not know the difference between a nursing home, an assisted living facility and an adult family home or the difference in regulating those administrators.

Mr. Aubert noted that in Ohio, they opened up comment from all stakeholders so that all interested parties had a part in developing the new structure. The board was expanded to include members from the other professions. The board wondered if they could hire a consultant to research what needs to be considered and give recommendations if they were to pursue a similar structure. The Board requested staff to review the budget to determine if there is money to hire a consultant. The Board also asked Mr. Maresh to mention this subject internally to find out if the department might be open to pursuing it and to determine how the Department of Social and Health Services might be approached as a partner if the board wanted to pursue this.

Board members indicated that other factors might also tie into this issue, including a new program for a retirement housing professional certification. Mr. Fauerso indicated that he

could get some information regarding the retirement housing professional certification program to bring to the next meeting.

The board will look at this again at their next meeting. They will discuss whether they can afford to hire a consultant and, if so, what information they need from the consultant.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12.22 p.m.