

**WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
MIDWIFERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

December 8, 2015
9:00 AM

Department of Health – Kent
Creekside Two at CenterPoint
20425 72nd Avenue S., Suite 310, Room 306
Kent, WA 98032

On December 8, 2015 the Midwifery Advisory Committee met at the Department of Health, Creekside Two at CenterPoint, 20425 72nd Ave S., Suite 310, Room 306, Kent, WA and by webinar. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

MEMBERS PRESENT

ALI TROMBLAY, LM, VICE CHAIR
KAT BARRON, LM
COLLEEN DONOVAN-BATSON, CNM
CONSTANCE FREY, LM, CHAIR
ALI LEWIS, MD
MARGARET OSTERVOLD, PUBLIC MEMBER
ROBERT PALMER, JR., MD

STAFF PRESENT

KATHY WEED, PROGRAM MANAGER
TRINA CASTLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SANDIE PEARSON, PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVE
KRYSTL MURPHY, AAG

GUESTS PRESENT VIA WEBINAR

LESLIE GESNER
GAURI GUPTA
ASHLEIGH RAGSDALE

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 – 9:00 AM – Open Session

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Ali Tromblay, Vice-Chair at 9:10 a.m.

1.1 Introductions

Committee members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

The committee reviewed and approved the agenda as presented.

1.3 Approval of September 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes

The committee reviewed and approved the September 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes as presented.

1.4 Announcements

Ms Weed formally introduced the newly appointed committee member, Kat Barron, LM to the committee. Ms. Barron shared that she was excited to serve on the committee.

1.5 Vote on Chair and Vice-Chair

The committee nominated and voted in favor of Constance Frey as chair. Committee members nominated and voted in favor of Ali Tromblay as vice-chair.

2. **MIDWIFE IN TRAINING (MIT) PROGRAM** – Information was provided to the committee by Kathy Weed, Program Manager. The committee discussed and provided feedback regarding repealing the midwife-in-training rules to align with the language in statute.

Ms. Weed shared that because the entire chapter is open, the Department is reviewing and looking to improve rule language to better align with the language in statute. After the review it appears that the MIT program was intended as a pathway to licensure for those who were practicing in 1987. Ms. Weed asked committee members for their feedback on repealing the MIT rules. Ms. Lewis asked what the implications are if the MIT rules were repealed. Ms. Weed shared that the MIT is not used very much, and that there are not any current applicants using the MIT path. Ms. Barron shared that she was licensed using the MIT path, however, she believes that the midwifery community is expecting the repeal of the MIT rules since CPM is now available. Ms. Weed also shared that the rule language may also be in direct violation of the statute. A motion was made, seconded and the committee voted in favor of moving forward with repealing the MIT rules to not be in violation of the statute.

3. **MIDWIFERY EDUCATION ACCREDITATION COUNCIL (MEAC) ACCREDITATION SUMMARY** – Kathy Weed, Program Manager provided information to the committee comparing WA laws on accrediting midwifery schools to MEAC standards. Ms. Weed shared that currently there are only two approved midwifery schools for licensure in WA. The approved midwifery schools are Bastyr College located in Kenmore, WA and National College of Natural Medicine in Portland, OR. There is a lot of movement on the national front to have all states accept MEAC standards, however MEAC standards do not meet the standards written in WA rules. The

committee discussed whether to accept MEAC, combine MEAC with WA standards, or make no changes at all to current requirements. Ms. Frey shared concerns regarding only accepting MEAC standards and thinks it would be best to have alternatives to just MEAC. Prior to accepting MEAC standards rule making would be required. Ms. Frey moved to refer this item to the rules sub-committee for further discussion. The motion was seconded and committee members voted in favor of referring to the rules sub-committee.

4. **WASHINGTON STATE COMPETENCY EXAM** – Information was provided to the committee by Constance Frey. The committee received an update on the exam sub-committees work to update the state exam. Exam sub-committee members include Constance Frey, Colleen Donovan-Batson, and Ali Lewis. Wendy Gordon is also on the sub-committee as an expert consultant. Ms. Frey shared that the sub-committee met in September to work on updating the exam and discussed and identified the following needs:

- An exam validation process
- Determine what the purpose of the exam is and what should it accomplish
- To provide a state exam now, with a goal of a more thorough review of the exam in the future

In addition, portions of the exam were assigned to sub-committee members for review.

Ms. Weed met with a psychometrician from DOH regarding the exam. One of the options given during that meeting was to have the University of WA review the exam.

Ms. Weed also shared that the state exam has been given seven times since October 2015 and has a high pass rate.

Ms. Frey shared that the Exam sub-committee will be meeting after today's MAC meeting and will provide an update at the next MAC meeting.

5. **RULES WORKSHOP** – Information was provided to the committee by Program Manager, Kathy Weed. The committee discussed and provided feedback regarding revisions to the legend drugs and devices section, specifically laryngeal intubation and the use of epinephrine. Committee members discussed whether to include lists of legend drugs and devices in the rule language. Ms. Frey asked if listing the devices would limit or possibly create safety issues. The committee discussed whether language about specific medical devices and services should be removed from the draft language. Committee members worked on draft language regarding resuscitation equipment. Members discussed whether to include language regarding the use of endotracheal intubation. Suggested draft language was discussed. A motion was made and seconded for draft language to exclude the use of endotracheal intubation. Committee members voted four in favor, two opposed, and one recusal of the motion to exclude endotracheal intubation. Ms. Weed will make the suggested changes and send the updated draft language to listserv for comment.

Committee members tabled their discussion regarding epinephrine to a future meeting.

6. **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT** – Ms. Murphy, AAG gave a presentation and training to committee members on the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). The OPMA is designed to promote government transparency and accountability. The law applies to any multimember board, commission, council, committee, sub-committee, or other policy or rule-making body of a public agency. Ms. Murphy explained how email conversations could be considered a meeting, and suggested committee members avoid clicking on “reply all” when responding to emails regarding committee business. She also explained that private meetings in small groups to discuss committee issues are not allowed under the OPMA.
7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** – Information was provided to the committee by Trina Castle, Executive Director.
 - 7.1 Current Budget Report – Trina Castle, Executive Director, presented the updated budget report. The budget continues to be at a deficit. The budget deficit is partly due to a small number of licensees. Active disciplinary investigations also contribute to the deficit. Ms. Castle also clarified that General Funds were not included in the budget report she presented today. Program staff will continue to monitor and update the committee regarding the program budget. An updated report will be provided at the next meeting.
 - 7.2 Citrix – Ms. Castle updated members regarding committee member’s access to Citrix. DOH began rolling out Citrix access to four other boards, commissions, or committees. DOH has seen some technical issues and has decided to delay further BCC access until the issues are addressed.
 - 7.3 Sunrise Review Summary – Ms. Castle provided committee members with background information regarding the Birth Assistant Sunrise Review. In June 2015 the House Health Care and Wellness Committee asked the Department of Health to conduct a sunrise review of a proposal to certify birth assistants as a new and distinct profession. The request included draft bill H-1493.1 and would require certification of birth assistants to perform “any duties delegated and under close supervision of a midwife that do not exceed the midwife’s scope of practice, including administration of medications listed in RCW 18.50.115 and in rule by the manufacturer’s recommended route of administration, including by injection, orally, rectally and intravenously.” Requirements for certification are successful completion of an education program approved by the secretary; attendance in at least 10 births resulting in satisfactory skills performance demonstrations signed by a midwife; successful completion of seven hours of acquired immune deficiency syndrome education; and current provider-level cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and neonatal resuscitation (NRP) cards.

Members were emailed a copy of the Certified Birth Assistant Sunrise Review Information Summary and Recommendations dated December 2015. Ms. Castle

shared that the Department does not support creating a new birth assistant credential as it did not meet the Sunrise criteria.

8. PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT – Information was provided to the committee by Program Manager, Kathy Weed.

- 8.1** Business Plan – Ms. Weed presented the Business Plan for 2015 – 2017 to committee members. She shared that the Business Plan can be updated by the committee as needed. There were no changes made to the Business Plan at this time. The Business Plan is a living document and will be included on future meeting agendas.
- 8.2** Newborn screening fee increase – Ms. Weed provided the committee with information regarding the Department’s plan to increase fees for newborn screening. She shared that 2004 was the last fee increase; however in 2015 fees were also increased as a result of adding a condition to the screening panel. The fee is planned to increase by approximately 10%. The Department would like a member of the committee to represent the committee and sit on the panel working on the fee increase. Ms. Tromblay volunteered to act as the committee’s representative.
- 8.3** Licensing statistics – Committee members were provided an updated report on the midwives licensing statistics. The report showed the following:

Midwifery Credentials	December 2015
Total Active Licenses	160
Total Expired Licenses	250
Total Denied	1
Total Pending Licensure	12
Total Revoked	1
Total Suspended (includes voluntary surrender)	4

9. DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – The committee discussed dates, locations, and agenda items for future meetings. The committee discussed and set the following meeting dates for 2016.

2016 MEETING DATE	LOCATION
Tuesday, March 1, 2016	Kent
Monday, June 13, 2016	Spokane
Tuesday, September 13, 2016	Kent
Monday, December 5, 2016	Kent

The committee requested the following items be placed on the agenda for a future meeting:

- Birth center inspections presentation

- Exam sub-committee update
- Nitrous oxide and epinephrine presentation
- Rules update
- Citrix update
- Birth assistant guidelines
- Complaint and disciplinary process training

10. CONSENT AGENDA – GENERAL INFORMATION – A copy of the current issue of “The Sentinel News for DOH Employees” was provided to board members.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The committee adjourned at 12:45 p.m. The next regularly scheduled committee meeting is March 1, 2016. Updated meeting information will be posted on the Midwifery website.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Kathy Weed
Program Manager

Constance Frey, Chair
Midwifery Advisory Committee