



STATE OF WASHINGTON
Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission
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**Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission Meeting
August 25, 2023 – Minutes**

Convene: Chair, Ken Kenyon called the meeting to order on August 25, 2023, 9:00 AM.

Commission Members:

Ken Kenyon, PharmD, BCPS, Chair
Hawkins DeFrance, Nuclear Pharmacist, Vice Chair
Jerrie Allard, Public Member
Bonnie Bush, Public Member
Teri Ferreira, RPh
Patrick Gallaher, BS, BPharm, MBA, MPH
Judy Guenther, Public Member
William Hayes, PharmD CCHP
Timothy Lynch, PharmD, MS, FABC, FASHP
Matthew Ray, PharmD
Craig Ritchie, RPh, JD
Uyen Thorstensen, CPhT
Ann Wolken, PharmD, RPh

Staff:

Marlee O’Neill, Executive Director
Lindsay Trant-Sinclair, Deputy Director
Christopher Gerard, AAG
Kseniya Efremova, Policy Analyst
Joshua Munroe, Legislative and Rules Consultant
Taifa “Nomi” Peaks, Pharmacist Consultant
Haleigh Mauldin, Program Consultant
Si Bui, Pharmacy Inspector Supervisor
Julia Katz, Program Consultant
Keith Bond, Operations Manager
Amy L Robertson, Communications Coordinator
and Program Support

Guests:

Christie Spice, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Policy,
HSQA, DOH
Kelly Cooper, Director of Policy and Legislative
Relations, DOH
Kris Reichl, Director of Policy and Legislative
Development, HSQA
Kegan Curry, HSQA

1. Call to Order Ken Kenyon, Chair

1.1 Meeting Agenda Approval – August 25, 2023

MOTION: Craig Ritchie moved to approve the August 25, 2023 meeting agenda to include an additional technical training program. William Hayes, second. Motion carries, 13:0.

2. Healthmart Pharmacy Tech Training Program approval (TTP) (new item)

MOTION: Craig Ritchie moved to approve the Healthmart Pharmacy tech training program contingent upon staff confirming the TTP is compliant with the checklists on items 8-10. Teri Ferreira, second. Motion carries, 13:0.

3. Old Business

3.1 Strategic Planning

3.1.1 Presentation on Partner Commissions – Christopher Gerard, AAG, presented the commission with information on regulatory authority for boards and commissions. Christopher will bring further information to the commission at a future business meeting.

3.1.2 Presentation on DOH Legislative Process

- Kelly Cooper, Director of Policy and Legislative Relations, DOH
- Kris Reichl, Director of Policy and Legislative Development, HSQA
- Christie Spice, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Policy, HSQA, DOH (virtual)

Kelly reviewed how the legislative agenda is developed beginning about a week after the previous session closes. A new goal is to begin planning 2025 priorities now rather than March 2024.

Kris presented information to the commission regarding SB5271 and HB1434 – Uniform Facilities Enforcement Request 2024 Potential Legislative Actions.

3.1.3 Continue Strategic Planning Process – Led by Keegan Curry, the commission continued strategic planning and focused on setting goals that drive action on strategic priorities.

4. Commission Member Reports

4.1 Budget Subcommittee – William Hayes reported the state of PQAC's fund balance at the end of 2021-2023 biennium is healthy.

4.2 Open discussion related to items or issues relevant to commission business/pharmacy practice.

Patrick Gallaher asked for clarification on the commission's 5% rule as compared to DEA's 5% rule. WAC 246-945-001(81)(e) vs. 21 CFR 1307.11.

Matthew Ray requested a future agenda item: Discussion of WAC 246-945-315 – delegation of pharmacy functions to ancillary personnel and how it ties into remote/telepharmacy.

MOTION: Matthey Ray moved to approve discussion/agenda item at a future business meeting around WAC 246-945-315 and related RCWs regarding telepharmacy. Patrick Gallaher, second. Motion carries, 12:1. Bonnie Bush, Nay.

Timothy Lynch opened the floor for discussion related to kiosk/remote technology and the accessible labeling rule. Concern on the lack of access for individuals in 'pharmacy deserts.'

MOTION: Timothy Lynch proposed to bring accessible labeling rule language back to the next commission meeting for review and discussion related to kiosk technology and access to pharmacy services/care. Matthew Ray, second. Motion not approved, 1:12.

William Hayes apprised the commission of NABP Pulse which is an accessible and secure digital platform that simplifies the process of achieving DSCSA compliance. Jenny Arnold informed the commission the FDA announced this morning the intent to delay enforcement of DSCSA for one year until November 2024. . Marlee O’Neill assured the commission staff is already working on this item.

5. Staff Reports

5.1 Executive Director – Marlee O’Neill

- Thanked Teri and Jerrie for their leadership over the past year.
- **HB1724** – regarding increasing the trained behavioral health workforce. At the very end of session, a floor amendment was added that relates to all health care professionals. Effective July 23, 2023, the section requires that disciplining authorities waive education, training, experience, and exam requirements for applications credentialed in other state(s) that have equivalent requirements. The department is working to ensure this is implemented. Staff will bring more information to the October meeting.

5.2 Deputy Director – Lindsay Trant-Sinclair

- Staffing
 - Welcome: Julia Katz, Program Consultant (HSC4, non-permanent), started in mid-July.
 - Welcome: Keith Bond, Operations Manager (MA4, permanent).
 - Update:
 - A few months ago, we were given permission from the department to hire nine FTE to hire additional staff. At this point we have used four: one each inspector, program consultant, operations manager, administrative assistant. At this point we are not planning on posting any new positions.
 - Commissioner Recruitment – the pharmacist packet is now with the governor’s office to see if one of those candidates are selected. Interviews for the public member begin soon. Once interviews are completed, a similar packet will be sent to the governor’s office.

5.3 Pharmacist Supervisor – Si Bui

- Crystal Phipps is now overseeing Lisa Roberts’ territory. Crystal is doing an outstanding job.
- Additional pharmacist inspector search. We have had many qualified candidates apply. We are in the process of reviewing qualifications and conducting interviews.
- A new pharmacist inspector region is being developed. This will be a total of nine regions for nine inspectors.

5.4 Pharmacist Consultant – Taifa “Nomi” Peaks

Over the past 16 months Nomi has participated in the Washington State COVID-19 Pandemic After Action Report (AAR) Task Force. This task force was created by Washington State officials to “create a review of state response activities while documenting the disparate impacts across racial, economic, cultural and geographic communities.” You may view the reports on Washington military department’s website: <https://mil.wa.gov/>.

5.5 Assistant Attorney General – Christopher Gerard

- Plan to attend the compliance officer and legal counsel forum hosted by NABP on October 3-5 and report back to the commission.

6. Summary of Meeting Action Items

- 2 – Communicate the contingent approval on the TTP.
- 3.1.1
 - Chris will provide more guidance on talking with legislators as individuals at a future meeting
 - Staff will reach out to executive directors at Chiropractic, Nursing, and Medical to see if they might do a presentation on being a partnered commission, particularly around budget and operational considerations.
 - Staff will send an email to commissioners to see what questions you may have for the above-executive directors.
 - Send out calendar holds for weekly legislative calls.
- 3.1.3 – Staff will work with Keegan to finalize the draft of the strategic plan and bring back to commission for further review.
- 4.1 – Staff will reach out to finance staff for a speaker for the October business meeting.
- 4.2 – Add a discussion on WAC 246-945-315 and other relevant regulations as it relates to telepharmacy and remote supervision to commissioner reports for a future meeting.
- 5.1 – Staff Reports – staff will bring back a discussion on HB 1724 for the October meeting.

Business Meeting Adjourned

Ken Kenyon, Chair, called the meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM.