



Washington State
Department of Health
Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery
Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2017

The meeting of the Washington State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery (board) was held at the Department of Health Kent Regional Office, 20425 72nd Ave South, Building 2 Suite 310 Kent, WA 98032.

Board Members Present: John Finch, DO, Vice-Chair
Roger Ludwig, DO
Alex Sobel, DO
Sharon Gundersen, PhD, Public Member
Shannon Phipps, DO (Via teleconference, Richland DOH campus)

Staff Present: Blake Maresh, Executive Director
Brett Cain, Program Manager
Davis Hylkema, Program Support
Michael Ellsworth, Supervising Staff Attorney
Kitty Slater, Disciplinary Manager
Maura Craig, Policy Analyst
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General
Tom Graham, Assistant Attorney General

Guests Present: Chris Bundy, MD, Medical Director, Washington Physicians Health Program
Jodi Perlmutter, Executive Director, Washington Osteopathic Medical Association
AT Still Students:
Lange Clancy
Chelsea Nagayama
Shikhi Bhansan
Parisa Hashemi
Priya Iyer
Jennifer Song
Max Dreisbach
Janice Chuang
Satthea Khay
Jacare Cardoza

Open Session

The open public meeting was called to order by John Finch, DO, Vice-Chair, at 9:12 a.m.

1. Call to Order and introduction of the board, staff, guests, and audience.

Board members, staff, and guest each provided a brief introduction and the agenda was approved as presented.

2. Approval of minutes

The September 22, 2017 business meeting minutes were approved as presented.

3. Update on implementation of Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 1427 (2017)

Mr. Maresh provided background information on the implementation process explaining that it involves the osteopathic board and four other boards and commissions adopting rules for prescribing opioids.

Dr. Ludwig explained the focus of the ESHB 1427 task force is to find general consensus across prescriptive professions on opioid prescribing and monitoring. The recommendations will then be brought to each board for consideration, revision and adoption, with the goal of adopting profession specific rules by January 1, 2019.

4. Hospital Investigative Letters

Mr. Cain reminded the board of its previous discussion of accepting a Hospital's own investigative letter form as long as it addresses the questions asked in Washington's form. Mr. Cain ran it by the board's credentialing manager who pointed out that question three was rarely answered in a hospital's letter. That question asks: "Has the applicant ever been asked to resign or surrender any privileges voluntarily in lieu of or to avoid adverse action?" It was identified that a negative answer to question two would trigger further inquiry, and that question three could be removed. Question number two asks: "Have the applicant's privileges ever been restricted, suspended or revoked by the medical staff or administration, or in any status other than good standing?"

MOTION: The motion was made to remove question number three from the Hospital Investigative Letter.

ACTION: The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

5. 2017 – 2019 Business Plan

Mr. Cain presented a draft of the revised Business Plan incorporating the changes discussed at the September board meeting including working closely with the Washington Osteopathic Medical Association (WOMA) through regular communications and outreach efforts, newsletter article contributions, and board presence at annual and educational conferences. Also incorporated was more detail on the board's work on rules and chapter review, application processes for military spouses and domestic partners, and on continuing medical education rules.

Mr. Cain noted that the board had also discussed making the osteopathic practice exam available on-line to make it more accessible, or use another exam option such as the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Achievement Test (COMAT). Follow up on this topic will be pursued.

It was determined that review of the Business Plan will be a standing agenda item.

6. Bylaws

Mr. Cain presented a draft of the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery Bylaws incorporating the changes to the mission and purpose statement considered at the September meeting.

MOTION: The motion was made to approve the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery Bylaws as presented.

ACTION: The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

7. 2018 Legislative Meet-Me-Calls

Mr. Cain explained the purpose of the Legislative Meet-Me-Calls and what they entail. Participants are ask to provide input to the legislative issues and bring update reports to the board meetings. Dr. Ludwig volunteered to be the primary representative for these calls. Dr. Sobel volunteered to backup.

8. United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) and National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) Annual Reports

These written reports were provided for information only. No board action was taken.

9. Correspondence

9.1. Correspondence from the American Society of Addiction Medicine, American Association of Nurse Practitioners, and the American Academy of Physician Assistants regarding the ability for nurse practitioners and physician assistants to prescribe buprenorphine for the treatment of addiction was reviewed. Heather Carter, AAG, explained the issue of concern is whether supervising physicians must also have the X Waiver in order for physician assistants (PAs) and nurse practitioners (ARNPs) to administer buprenorphine.

10. Program Manager Report/Executive Director Report

10.1. Budget update

Mr. Cain presented the budget report noting that it is incomplete. Expenses are shown but no beginning balance or revenue. A complete report is anticipated to be available for the next meeting.

10.2. Update on Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission (IMLCC) activities and the implementation of the compact in Washington State.

Mr. Cain reported that the IMLCC now has an Executive Director, and that there are currently 22 states participating. Details of process, coordination, and requirements are being implemented and it is anticipated that practitioners from other participating states will soon be able to practice in Washington through the Compact.

- 10.3. Recruitment for open physician position and the four new positions created by Substitute House Bill 1431 (2017)
Mr. Cain reported that that nine qualified applicants have been interviewed for three open osteopathic physician and one osteopathic physician assistant position. Applicants for the public member position are needed. It is anticipated that new members will be appointed by the Governor in the first quarter of 2018.
- 10.4. Additional Item
Mr. Maresh reported that a current member of the Federation of State Medical Boards (Federation) has asked if the board would want a member of the Federation to come to one of its meetings in 2018. The board decided that July would be the best time for such a visit, and identified opioid rule making and telehealth as topics that could be presented.
11. Settlement and/or Disciplinary Order Presentations – This is a standing agenda item and presentations are contingent upon agreements being reached between the parties prior to a board meeting. Deliberations are held in closed session. There were no settlement order presentations.
12. Adjournment – John Finch, DO, Vice-Chair, adjourned the business portion of the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Brett Cain, Program Manager

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