

Vermont Secretary of State
Office of Professional Regulation

BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
June 24, 2004

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:17 a.m.

Board members present: Howard Jonas, D.O., Chair; Paul Donovan, D.O.; John Welch, Esq.; and John Peterson, D.O., Ad-hoc member. Absent: William Cove, D.O., Vice-Chair and Mary Mazzariello.

OPR Staff Present: Larry S. Novins, Board Counsel; Carla Preston, Unit Administrator; and Kara Sanborn, Staff Secretary.

Others Present: Lisa Robin and Reverend Daniel Morrissey.

2. The Chair called for approval of the Minutes of the February 26th meeting. Dr. Peterson made a motion, seconded by Dr. Donovan, to approve the Minutes of the February 26, 2004 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Hearings/Stipulations Review:** None to report.

4. **Reports:**

At 11:00 a.m. Lisa Robin, Vice President for leader ship and legislative services, and Daniel Morrissey from the Federation of State Medical Boards attended the meeting to discuss the FSMB's role with the Board. Rev. Morrissey indicated that the Federation is encouraging regional meetings. The Federation has gone from 35 employees 10 years ago, to 137 employees.

Ms. Robin said that there are 70 regulating agencies under the FSMB and noted that it exists for the boards. They have seen a change in direction to meet the needs of the membership. She said they recognize the need to provide funding for smaller boards so that members may attend national meetings. She said they are trying to obtain grant support to help the boards participate in a prescription monitoring program.

Ms. Robin also explained that the FSMB has different post licensure assessment systems for physicians, which test competence. She stated that continued competence is very important and that they are trying to obtain funding for a common computer system for testing purposes. Some examples of tests are the IPE and the SPEX. She stated that the IPE is better than the SPEX because the IPE exam is more in depth. The IPE is currently only available in Philadelphia, PA and Dallas, TX. The FSMB has a completed directory of all of its exams, which are available on their website.

The FSMB's priorities are its clinical skills examination (COMLEX), maintenance of licenses, ensuring ongoing competence, seeking funding, etc. Ms. Robin noted that members of boards may participate in the discussion regarding the clinical skills examination via a conference call which will take place in early October.

4. Reports Continued:

Ms. Robins said they are working on license portability and plan to do a pilot program soon. The Board's guests mentioned other activities with which the Federation is currently involved, which included educational efforts, drug diversion issues, pain management guidelines, medical errors, etc.

Ms. Robins said the next Federation meeting would be held in Dallas, Texas in April of 2005. She said there is also a meeting designed for staff, which will be held in October in Philadelphia.

5. Legislation/Rulemaking:

Attorney Novins presented proposed changes to the Board's statute. Changes included board member's term appointments and expiration date which are now addressed under Title three. Section 1831(b) is no longer required and should be repealed. Attorney Novins asked members to review their statutes to determine if other changes are needed.

The Board also briefly discussed other pending legislation (federal and/or state), which included pain management, public members on boards, physician profiling, etc.

6. Complaints (closing reports):

OS02-1103-The Board reviewed the Report of Concluded Investigation. Based on the information provided, Dr. Donovan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Welch, to accept the Investigative Team's recommendation to conclude this matter without charges. Motion passed unanimously. (Dr. Cove, Investigating Member, was not present.)

7. Applications/Discussion:

The Board voted to take official action and approve the following applicants for licensure as Osteopathic Physicians.

Richards Benshoff (032-510)
Andrew Felsted (032-508)

George Lantz (032-509)

The Board reviewed and approved the following applicants for licensure as Osteopathic Physicians.

Clarence Ivie III

Anita Bodrogi

The Board reviewed Laura Garawski's application, but was unable to approve it as submitted. Verification of her having completed one year of internship and reference letters are needed. Dr. Garawski will be notified.

While reviewing the applications mentioned above, questions arose concerning the lack of indication where an applicant might wish to practice. Based on the discussion that ensued, Dr. Donovan made a motion, seconded by Dr. Peterson, to include a question on

7. Applications/Discussion Continued:

the application pertaining to practice intent in Vermont and location. The answer to the question is for informational purposes only. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the procedures regarding the issuance of “Limited Temporary” Licenses.

8. Correspondence:

- a. The Board reviewed the draft Newsletter and renewed the renewal form. The Board also agreed to include the Vermont Department of Health’s survey with its renewal form to licensees as requested. Members will review the draft Newsletter and submit additional articles and comments to Ms. Preston soon.
- b. The Board reviewed and noted the March 5, 2004 letter from the Vermont Department of Health, Board of Medical Practice in response to the Board’s December 2003 letter requesting support of its proposed resolution.
- c. The Board reviewed the March 18, 2004 letter from Dr. Manchikant stating his concern over Nurse Anesthetics attempt to develop an accreditation service. The Board will not take a position in this matter.
- d. The Board reviewed the March 24, 2004 E-mail from the FSMB regarding expert testimony. Attorney Novins will reply to their request.
- e. The Board reviewed the April 14, 2004 E-mail from Tim Knettl regarding the proposed Common License Application-Form. Attorney Novins and Ms. Preston will compare it to the Board’s current application.
- f. The Board reviewed and noted the June 9, 2004 E-mail from the FSMB stating that its Annual Meeting minutes are online.
- g. The Board reviewed and noted the FY 2004 Budget.
- h. The Board reviewed and noted various pieces of correspondence.

9. Other Business Introduced by the Board:

Dr. Jonas mentioned how the Board’s Resolution was received at the April 2004 FMSB meeting. He said that although it did not pass, the resolution did receive considerable support at that meeting. He said he wanted to pursue this further with a modified resolution, which would be sent to all state medical (allopathic) and osteopathic boards requesting that they join the Vermont Board in support of the resolution. Dr. Jonas also mentioned voting practices at the Federation.

9. Other Business Introduced by the Board Continued:

Based on the discussion that ensued, Mr. Welch made a motion, seconded by Dr. Peterson, to send the proposed Resolution to every state allopathic and osteopathic board asking for support in adoption of the Vermont Board's Resolution. The Board will send a cover letter asking for a response, and will include the JAMA article concerning single payers system in the mailing. The Board agreed it would be best to send this request in late January of 2005 prior to the next FSMB meeting in April of 2005.

10. Public Comment:

11. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kara Sanborn
Staff Secretary
Office of Professional Regulation