

Vermont Secretary of State
Office of Professional Regulation

BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
Special Meeting of November 16, 2006

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

Board members present: William Cove, D.O., Vice-Chair; Mary C. Mazzariello; and John Peterson, D.O., Ad Hoc Member. Paul Donovan, D.O. participated via phone. Absent: Howard S. Jonas, D.O., Chairman and John Welch, Esq.

OPR Staff Present: Larry S. Novins, Board Counsel, Attorney, and Carla Preston, Unit Administrator. Edward G. Adrian, State Prosecuting Attorney.

2. **Hearings/Stipulations Review:**

The Board considered a Stipulation and Consent Order in the matter of **William A. Birge, D.O.**, Docket Numbers OS01-0806 and OS05-0506. The Respondent was not present. Attorney Larry Novins presided for the Board. Attorney Ed Adrian was present for the State. Attorney Adrian explained that the Respondent is not well and is currently being treated. The Order sets forth an immediate suspension of the Respondent's license and a Continuance concerning the State's request for Summary Suspension. The Respondent may request a hearing when he is ready to proceed with these matters. Dr. Cove made a motion, seconded by Dr. Peterson, to accept the Stipulation and Consent Order regarding Docket Number OS01-0806 and OS05-0506 as presented. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously. Dr. Howard Jonas and Jack Welch, Investigating members, were not present.

3. **Applications:**

Robert Blaik, D.O. was invited to this special meeting for an interview with the Board to discuss his application for licensure. Dr. Blaik had not practiced in five years or more due to his health. He indicated that he desired licensure in Vermont prior to the beginning of the year 2007. Dr. Blaik reported that he did not receive notice of the meeting in time to make arrangements to be present. The Board preferred an in-person meeting versus a phone conversation. The Board agreed to schedule another special meeting in December to accommodate Dr. Blaik. He will be asked to provide updated letters from his treating professionals in support of his application.

4. **Complaints (closing reports):** None.

OS02-0906-The Board reviewed the Report of Concluded Investigation. Based on the information provided, Ms. Mazzariello made a motion, seconded by Dr. Peterson, to accept the Investigative Team's recommendation to conclude the matter without charges. Motion passed. Dr. Donovan, Investigating Member, did not participate in the vote.

5. A special meeting was scheduled for December 21, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for March 22, 2007.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carla Preston, Unit Administrator
Office of Professional Regulation