

MINUTES

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE COUNCIL OF LICENSED MIDWIFERY

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL DECEMBER 5, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Jennifer Joseph, Chair, at 9:17 a.m. Those present for all or part of the meeting included the following:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jennifer Joseph, L.M., Chair
Char Lynn Daughtry, L.M.,
Susan (Robyn) Mattox, L.M.
Melissa Conord-Morrow, L.M, R.N.
Kathy Bradley, Consumer Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Christy Robinson, Executive Director
Don Olmstead, Program Operations Administrator
Jacqueline Clahar-Anderson, Regulatory Specialist II

Members Absent:

Cathy Rudolph, CNM, ARNP

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. August 29, 2014 - General Business Meeting

Action Taken: Ms. Conord-Morrow made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Ms. Daughtry seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Ms. Joseph mentioned she wanted to have the Council moving and being able to provide a support to the Department and bringing forward any issues midwives may have. Ms. Joseph also indicated she would like to step down as the Chair for the Council. Ms. Joseph also welcomed Mr. Olmstead as the new Program Administrator for Council.

2. Counsel Report

No Report. Counsel was not present for this meeting.

3. Executive Director's Report

Action Taken:

Ms. Robinson did not have a report; however she assured Council members they should be receiving the agenda for the meeting at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Ms. Robinson stated Council staff will be more proactive in contacting Council members and making sure all agenda items are received on time for the meeting.

Ms. Robinson also gave an update on the questions and concerns Council members had in regards to the Counsel for the Council. Ms. Robinson indicated she was informed that although it may seem as if there was legal Counsel in the past, it is the current opinion that the Department will give legal counsel to

the program office instead of legal counsel to the Council. In the event that there are any issues or concerns, those issues or concern will be directed to the Council program office. Ms. Robinson further stated those issues or concern would be directed to the General Counsel's Office for advice.

Ms. Robinson advised the council that the vetting process is almost complete for the applications received for Council members. On completion the applications will be forwarded through the chain of command then submitted to the Surgeon General's Office.

Ms. Robinson further stated she will be reaching out to Robin Mattox in regards to the Medicaid billing situation for postpartum care. Ms. Joseph asked Ms. Robinson to also mention in the letter that Midwifery statutes delineates that midwives can be reimbursed by insurance and midwives are required to conduct postpartum care. Ms. Robinson further stated when the letter is drafted it will be forwarded to the Chair for an official signature from the Council.

4. Application Liaison – Ms. Daughtry stated she had been contacted by Midwives who had been applying for licensure, however they have not been successful in licensure. Ms. Robinson explained to the Council the application and licensure process, and the role of the liaison as explained by Mr. Gary Asbell. After discussion Ms. Robison indicated she would follow up with Mr. Asbell with the specific roles of the Council. Ms. Joseph further stated Ms. Robinson should ask whether or not as a liaison does Council members have the ability to assist staff with decisions on an application.

5. Budget Liaison – No report. Ms. Robinson explained that the Department has an annual budget meeting.

6. Community and Consumer Relations Liaison – No report.

7. Data Collection Liaison – No report.

8. Laws and Rules and Other Agency Actions – No report, however Ms. Daughtry indicated there has been several complaints submitted to the department and there has been no indication as to the outcome of these complaints. Ms. Robinson explained to the Council the process of imposing any discipline on any practitioner. After discussion Ms. Robinson indicated she would check with our Complaints section to see the timeframe it was taking to process complaints. Ms. Robinson further stated she would look into getting a caseload statistics report on each agenda.

9. Unlicensed Activity Liaison – No report.

10. International Relations – Ms. Daughtry indicated she had received quite a few calls from international applicants and has directed them to the Council office. Council members had questions on the information on the website. Ms. Robinson indicated she would look at the website and if the information is not on the website she would make sure it is there and make it more user friendly for applicants.

11. Healthy Weight Liaison

Ms. Joseph represented the Council at the Healthy Weight Initiative meeting held in Tallahassee and indicated that since then a video had been released in regards to healthy weight initiative.

GENERAL BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE

12. Draft of Rules Reduction

After discussion Ms. Robinson indicted she would like to research one of the rule before she submitted the rule proposal.

13. Election of Officers

Ms. Joseph made a motion to nominate Ms. Melissa Conord-Morrow as Chair for the Council. Ms. Daughtry seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Ms. Bradley made a motion to nominate Ms. Daughtry as Vice Chair for the Council. The motion passed unanimously.

14. Proposed Meeting Dates

Ms. Olmstead stated Council would like to set meeting dates for 2015. After discussion it was decided that the Council meeting will now be on a Wednesday. The meeting dates for 2015 were set for the first Wednesday of February, June and October.

Mr. Olmstead assured the Council that Ms. Alysson Bradley was checking with the Office of Vital Statistics on the issue of filing birth certificates and the days and how they are counted when filing birth certificates.

Mr. Olmstead further stated there was online training Council members can take that deals with Government in the Sunshine which is Florida's open Government Law which would help the Council to know where they stand legally.

NEXT MEETING

February 4, 2014
(Conference Call)

The meeting adjourned approximately 10:04 a.m.