

BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE

FULL BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

11 JANUARY 2006

Open Session

Board Members in Attendance:

David R. Gifford, MD, MPH, Chair

Thomas Breslin, MD

Norm Chapman

Margaret Coughlin

Charles Cronin, DO

Robert Dinwoodie, DO

Joseph DiPietro, Esq.

Noubar Kessimian MD

Henry Litchman, MD

Shelagh McGowan

Board Members Absent:

Patrick Barry, Esq.

Richard P. Iacobucci, MD

Staff Members in Attendance:

Robert S. Crausman, MD, Chief Administrative Officer

Bruce W. McIntyre, Esq., Deputy Chief Legal Counsel

Linda Julian, Investigator

Mary Salerno, Administrative Officer

1. A quorum was established at 8:35 AM.

2. On a motion by Mr. Chapman seconded by Mrs. Coughlin it was voted to approve the minutes of the Open Session of the December 14, 2005 meeting.

3. Licensing Committee:

On a motion by Mr. Chapman seconded by Mrs. Coughlin it was voted to approve the Licensing Committee minutes of the January 5, 2006 meeting.

4. Chief Administrative Officer's Report

A. Dr. Crausman informed the Board that Dr. Herb Constantine would be retiring as Adjunct Member to the Board for the Department of Health's Facilities Regulations Office.

B. Board Member Joseph DiPietro, Esq. and Board Investigator Linda Julian made the suggestion that current Board members be invited to spend time in a hospital setting with a CEO to increase their current knowledge-base of issues brought before the Board. Dr. Crausman suggested this procedure be orchestrated through Kent Hospital and Mr. DiPietro. Interested Board members were asked to contact Mr.

DiPietro, Dr. Crausman or Linda Julian to arrange a visit.

C. Dr. Crausman then gave his CME presentation to the Board regarding recent news-related items of interest to the Board. The topics included medical marijuana and regulations being written by the DOH, a nursing home closure, and Dr. Edward Kent. Topics included in the overall theme of “Professionalism” were ethics (the AMA Code of Ethics), non-sexual boundary violations, politics, self discipline, care for relatives, gifts, interpersonal behavior and business entanglements.

D. Mr. Bruce McIntyre discussed the article by AP Legal Affairs Writer Gene Johnson titled: “Lawsuit charges state with failing to discipline gynecologist.” The issue of Board members being held accountable for actions, or lack there of, and possibly being sued by the public was addressed. Board members are immune to civil suits unless they are grotesquely negligent and then the suit would be against the State.

5. There was no old business to discuss.

6. New business:

There was no new business.

7. At 9:15 AM the Board adjourned to Closed Session.