

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

Attendance: **Officers:** Stanton Ades, President, Melvin Rubin, Secretary, Jeanne Furman, Treasurer,
Commissioners: John Balch, Raymond Love, Ramona McCarthy-Hawkins, Christiaan Blake, Rev. William Johnson, Sr., Donald Yee, Joseph DeMino, Mark Levi,
Staff: LaVerne G. Naesea, Executive Director; Linda Bethman, Staff Attorney, James Slade, Legislative Officer; Catherine S. Putz, Compliance Officer; Shirley Costley, Licensing Officer; Marianne Pindell, Fiscal/Personnel Officer; Joan Lawrence, Public Information & Education Officer; Tamarra Banks, Management Information Services Officer; Latonya Dickerson, Board Secretary

Absent: Wayne Dyke

Guests: Matthew Gainey, Purdue Phara L.P.
Howard Schiff, MphA
Sherrise Cumberlander, Walgreens
Stephan Riffin, CVS
Healthcare Consulting and Logistics
Jack Freedman, DDC
Steven Chen, Pharmacy Student

Stanton Ades called the Public Board Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Record of Conflict of Interest

Stanton Ades began the Public Session with the first order of business, asking if any Board member present had any conflicts of interest on any agenda item. For the record, there were no conflicts of interest pertaining to the March Public Agenda Items.

2. Minutes – (2/18/04)

Page 2, under Budget Hearing, should be reworded to read “ Ms. Naesea noted that she had attended one of two budget hearings on the Boards and Commissions proposed 2005 budgets on February 12, 2004. She indicated that the Board of Pharmacy’s initial submittal projected a cost of living increase to the FY 2004 approved budget, as well as an increase from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for a potential grant(s) award. She noted that the Board had discussed providing seed money in the form of a grant to PEAC to identify and hire a director/developer, but since PEAC now has sufficient funds to move forward without a Board grant, the increase in that line item of the FY 2005 budget request was withdrawn.”

Page 5, under Strategic National Stockpile Training, last sentence, add the word “training”; under heading, HB881 – Regulatory Units – Fee Setting Authority, Board Action should read “The Board passed a motion to oppose HB 881”; remove quotations marks under *Licensing Issues*.

Page 6, under Practice Committee, delete original language and insert the amended language emailed from Ray Love.

Board Action

Dr. Love moved acceptance of the February 18, 2004 minutes as amended. Don Yee seconded the motion to approve the minutes and all Board members unanimously agreed.

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

3. President/Executive Committee Report – Stanton Ades

A. Nurse Dispensing Committee

President Ades assigned Don Yee (who was on the committee last year) and Melvin Rubin to the Nurse Dispensing Committee.

B. Maryland Pharmacy School

The Maryland Pharmacy School graduation is scheduled for May 21, 2004. President Ades will give the charge of the pharmacist's oath to the students.

C. Board Officers Elections

President Ades announced the nominations made by secret ballot at February 2004 Public Board Meeting. The nominees for the office of President were Joseph DeMino, Ray Love, and Melvin Rubin. The nominees for the office of Secretary were Jeanne Furman, Ray Love, and Melvin Rubin. The nominees for the office of Treasurer were Joseph DeMino, Jeanne Furman, Ray Love and Mark Levi.

The following changes were made to the election ballot: Mark Levi declined the nomination for the office of Treasurer; Joseph DeMino declined the nomination for the office of President; and Ray Love declined the nomination for the offices of President and Secretary. Christiaan Blake asked the Board to explore the possibility of changing the by-laws to allow consumer members to be eligible to hold office for certain positions. Mel Rubin indicated that while he agrees with the intent, the issue is not a change in by-laws, but in statute and the Board would have to take the issue to the legislature. The ballots were distributed for Board Members to cast their votes. President Ades stated that the results will be announced at the end of the Public Session.

D. Maryland's Top Demand Healthcare Occupations – Projected Demand and Reported Supply Provided by Maryland Higher Education Institutions

Pres. Ades asked Board Commissioners to review the "Maryland's Top Demand Healthcare Occupations – Projected Demand and Reported Supply Provided by Maryland Higher Education Institutions" and to submit comments to LaVerne Naesea or James Slade as soon as possible via email.

Ms. Naesea noted that the charts project during years 2000 – 2010 that there will be approximately forty seven hundred pharmacist openings statewide. Presently there are seven thousand three hundred and six licensed pharmacists in Maryland. The School of Pharmacy will be offering revised figures to the Higher Education Commission regarding the number of pharmacy school graduates. The Governor's Taskforce is trying to generate data so that they can begin strategies to attract health care practitioners to Maryland. It was noted that the report

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

provides information on the growth rates, but not on the rate of vacant positions or unfilled positions. More clarification is needed.

4. Executive Director Report – LaVerne Naesea

A. Staffing Updates

LaVerne Naesea introduced Marianne Pindell who joined the staff as the Fiscal/Personnel Officer earlier this week. Shirley Costley has moved to the Licensing Unit as supervisor. Ms. Naesea also introduced Steven Chen, student intern from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. Mr. Chen is assigned to the Board for a rotation until the middle of next month.

B. Office Renovations

Two years ago the Board developed plans for office renovations. The renovations will begin soon. Logistical problems are being worked out with State Use Industry and the DHMH Building and maintenance staff. Before summer, the Board renovations should be completed and will increase usable office space.

C. USP's Call for Candidates for the 2005-2010 Council of Experts

The United States Pharmacopoeia (USP) has issued a Call for Candidates for the 2005-2010 Council of Experts (COE) and Expert Committees. Please see www.usp.org/volunteers/nominate for additional information. If you are interested in recommending an individual for anyone of the standards committees and information committees, please submit the appropriate information to the NABP Headquarters by July 1, 2004.

5. PEAC (Pharmacists Education and Assistance Committee)

Updates

- **Case Status:** PEAC is currently monitoring 22 cases. Of the 22 cases six clients are under consent orders, two clients received reinstatements and are seeking employment, two clients were removed from the federal exclusion list, and two clients experienced a relapse.
- **PEAC Committee Meetings:** PEAC Committee meeting areas being held six times a year instead of monthly. The Executive Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis to discuss business and financial issues.
- **PEAC Seminar:** PEAC monitors have contacted pharmaceutical companies for financial sponsorship for the upcoming 5th Annual PEAC CE seminar on October 21, 2004.
- **Vacancy:** PEAC has filled the Directors' position and will be meeting with the selected candidate, Bethany DiPaula, to discuss the job

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

description and the responsibilities for the maintenance and growth of PEAC. The PEAC Director will handle client services, fund raising, program development, and attend the Board of Pharmacy disciplinary meetings. LaVerne Naesea stated that the Board recently issued a new contract that has specific scope of expectations. Catherine Putz will work with the new Director to ensure that all components of the scope are met. If necessary, proposed changes in the scope can be developed for future contracts.

- **Professional Gratitude Dinner:** PEAC is hosting a professional gratitude dinner, Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at the Columbia Hilton, to celebrate recovery and build a sense of community for recovering professions and their families. It is sponsored by the Maryland Chapter of the National Counsel on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, and co-sponsored by: Father Martin's Ashley, Marworth and the Farley Center.

6. Regulations/Legislative Officer Report – James Slade

A. Pharmacy – Legislation Profile

SB-167 – Prescription Drugs – Canadian Mail Order Plan – a hearing was held March 3, 2004;

HB-203 – Public Health – Licensed Pharmacists – Dispensing Emergency Contraception – the bills hearing is scheduled for March 18, 2004. The cross-file bills are SB 247 and SB 248 (Public Health-Licensed Pharmacists – Dispensing Emergency Contraception); the hearing was held March 9, 2004. There is opposition to the bill. The Board was asked by the Department not to submit comments on the bill. It was noted that the bill primarily affects pharmacists, however the Board of Physicians was allowed to submit testimony, but the Board of Pharmacy was not allowed to testify.

SB 330 – Health Occupations Boards – Misdemeanor Offenses – Delegation of Authority, Fines, and Penalties – The Boards jointly support this bill. The hearing was held February 24, 2004 and referred to interim study. The Board will work with interested parties to determine how to best address related concerns. The cross-filed bill is now in the House with a hearing scheduled on March 18, 2004.

HB 384 - Maryland Pharmacy Act – Practice of Pharmacy – Administration of Medication - & SB – 389 – Maryland Pharmacy Act – Practice of Pharmacy – Administration of the Influenza Vaccination – the bills were amended to allow immunizations for influenza only. The Senate and House versions vary in that the Board has to set a single combined fee for the vaccine and pharmacist administration in one bill. The other bill will separate fees for pharmacist administration and for the vaccine. The bill requires the Board to jointly develop regulations with the Board of Physicians and the Board of Nursing.

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

HB 397 – Pharmacy Benefits Management Act – was referred to a taskforce that will study pharmacy benefit management. The hearing was held on February 18, 2004, but the bill has to go through the Senate.

HB 433 – Prescription Drug Safety Act – the hearing was held February 12, 2004. Important language includes DHMH being required to form a workgroup to look at the different issues, in conjunction with HCC, BOP and MBP.

HB 519 – Pharmaceuticals – Marketing – Disclosure and Registration – this bill was sent to an interim study.

SB 680 – University of Maryland Eastern Shore – School of Pharmacy – the bill died

HB 840 – Pharmacy Benefits Managers – the hearing was heard February 18, 2004; the bill is on hold.

HB 881 – Regulatory Units – Fee Setting Authority – The hearing is March 17, 2004; The Department is doing a position on this bill. The Board is included in the position as opposed.

HB 998 – State Board of Pharmacy – Registration of Pharmacy Technicians – the hearing is March 18, 2004 . John Balch and James Slade will be testifying.

HB 1143 – Prescription Drug Distribution Safety Act – the hearing is March 17, 2004. The Board filed a letter of concern. The bulk of the letter was the FDA's report.

HB 1514 - Income Tax Credit for Services Donated by Health Care Professionals; was introduced and read first time on March 5, 2004. The bill is assigned to Rules and Executive Nominations.

HB 1518 – Health Care – Adverse Patient Safety Events – Reporting and Attorney's Fees for Civil Action – the bill was read March 8, 2004 and is now assigned to the Rules and Executive Nominations.

B. Pharmacy – Regulations Profile

10.34.31 - Dispensing or Distributing at a Setting That Does Not Possess a Pharmacy Permit - The Regulations became effective March 1, 2004.

Drug Therapy Management - James Slade reported that the MD Board of Physicians January's Board meeting was canceled due to inclement weather. The Board will appoint members to the Joint Committee in April.

C. Generic/Name Brand Drugs

Christiaan Blake reported that he sent an email to Board members in February regarding HB164 which became effective 10/1/03. The bill requires pharmacists to inform

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

consumers of generic alternatives to Board members. Mr. Blake said that the bill is about the Board insuring that pharmacists offer generic alternatives to consumers when brand name drugs are prescribed. Mr. Blake asked what mechanisms are used by the Board to enforce the law. James Slade reported that the Board provided the requirements to pharmacists and consumers through the newsletter and website. It was explained that because of limited resources, enforcement of laws and regulations are complaint driven. When someone files a complaint that a pharmacist ignores the new requirement, then it will be investigated during the disciplinary process. The new law is particularly important to consumers who pay out of pocket. The Board supported the bill with amendments. The amendments were to exempt people who are covered by third party payers and to change some of the wording in the bill.

Joseph DeMino stated that educating consumers of cost differences between generic and name brands is a goal for CVS, since the generic brands cost pharmacies much less. He said that consumers are routinely asked if they would like the generic brand if available.

Melvin Rubin said that the item will be added to the check list for DDC inspectors to make sure that pharmacists are aware of the law.

D. 10.44.11 Prescribing of Substances by a Certified Nurse Midwife

Ray Love addressed the "Prescribing of Substances by a Certified Nurse Midwife Regulations", which states that there shall be consultation on the formulary on an annual basis with the Board of Pharmacy. Ray Love asked when the last time was that the Board of Nursing or the Joint Committee has come to the Board of Pharmacy to look at the formula. LaVerne Naesea responded that she will contact the Board of Nursing regarding this matter and update the Board at next months meeting.

7. Public Relations

A. Flower Mart

Joan Lawrence reported that the Flower Mart is scheduled on May 12, 2004. She is working closely with the coalition-recruiting volunteers as well securing give-way items.

B. MPHA

MPHA is hosting their 122nd Annual Convention on June 12-15, 2004, in Ocean City, Maryland. The cost of the booth is \$375.00. Joan Lawrence asked the Board to vote to support participation in MPhA's Convention.

Board Action

Ray Love moved to refer this matter to the Executive Committee following a report of meetings the Board recently attended, what money is in the budget, and what staff resources are available. Jeanne Furman seconded the motion. The Board passed the motion.

C. Smallpox Exercise

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

Joanne Lawrence received an email from the Carroll County Local Department informing the Board of a smallpox exercise April 8, 2004 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. They are looking for volunteers to play victims.

8. Licensing Committee – Melvin Rubin

A. Licensing Committee Minutes

Melvin Rubin reported that a copy of the minutes from January 29, 2004 Licensing Committee meeting are included in the packet.

B. Cease & Desist and Information Letter

The Board Commissioners were asked to approve several drafts of cease and desist orders and information letters. The Board is in the process of sending out letters to a dozen or more companies that are offering to sell drugs to Maryland residents on the Internet illegally. In some cases the letters are informational, because the Board has no laws against storefronts. In other cases where they use the word pharmacy in their name or otherwise violate HO 12-704 by misrepresenting themselves as a pharmacy, the Board will inform them to cease and desist. If there are no suggestions or changes the cease and desist orders and information letters will be sent out. Board members made no further comments.

C. Online Renewals

A pharmacist logged-on the system to renew her license at 11:58 p.m. of her expiration date (February 29, 2004). At midnight the licensee was cut-off and could not complete the application. This incident brought up the question of whether the online renewal cut-off should be 14 days early. Tamarra Banks pointed out that if the cut-off were 14 days early it would defeat the purpose of electronic licensing. She indicated that in the original design in 2002 it was going to be the 28th, three days ahead of time, which would give the person time to send the material express mail. The other issue that will need to be resolved is what constitutes submitting an application.

Tamarra Banks indicated from a statistical point of view we had 97 people logged on to renew their license. Thirty-three (33) in January and 24 completed the renewal from the 1st to the 15th of February and 34 completed the renewal from the 16th to the 29th in February.

Linda Bethman stated that if someone sends in renewal within 14 days of expiration and the Board cannot get the license back to them in time, his or her license expires on the last day of the previous period.

The online system has a date exactly when a pharmacist gets on and a date when you complete the process. The paper mail has the postmark on the envelope.

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

Board Action

Ray Love moved that the Board defer to the Licensing Committee to develop an online renewal policy and to interpret the complete process in accordance with statute and pertinent regulations. Further that the Committee should bring recommendations back to the Board for final review and approval. Don Yee seconded the motion. The Board passed the motion.

D. Foreign Graduate Waiver Requests

Jeanne Furman and Melvin Rubin talked to NABP regarding Foreign Graduates who have graduated from schools in countries where they are not citizens. Mr. Rubin reported that other states are having the same problems and that NABP is reviewing the concern.

E. Distributors Taskforce

Melvin Rubin reported that next July the Board would start a taskforce on distributors to address how the Board should inspect distributors and provide oversight.

F. Renewal Forms

On the pharmacy renewal form and application for a permit, the applicant must provide a diagram of the pharmacy. Melvin Rubin asked the Board whether it could legally delete the requirement for the diagram from the establishment renewal form and new permit application. Linda Bethman said that the Board could do so and Mr. Rubin so moved, seconded by Jeanne Furman.

Board Action

The Board passed a motion to remove the request for the diagram of the pharmacy from the renewal form and new application for a permit.

G. Reciprocity

The following pharmacists have met Board requirements for reciprocity this month:

Annessia Neal, Katy Miller, JooJin Bahk, Kerry Eberly, Jonghoe Son, Craig Barlow, Hong Loan Nguyen, and Vanessa Campbell.

9. Disciplinary Committee

A. Disciplinary Committee Report

The Disciplinary Committee meeting was held February 26, 2004. The Committee via Linda Bethman and Jeanne Furman, responded to a question that came from a hospital pharmacy dealing with using automated dispensing in the emergency room. They indicated in writing that a hospital pharmacy should follow the practitioner dispensing regulations and the automation regulations to comply.

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

Catherine Putz reported that the Committee received a letter from Bob Zepp, Manager of the University of Maryland Outpatient Pharmacy regarding the pharmacy dispensing of samples. Hospitals can keep stored samples if they are based upon a specific physicians' application or request for those samples. Samples are supposed to be free. Outpatient Pharmacies are not allowed to have samples in the pharmacy because they are considered the same as community pharmacies for this purpose. Dr. Love noted that part of the response should be that an inpatient pharmacy could do it if they allocate the resources, but retail pharmacies cannot because of the laws regarding who can possess samples. The Practice Committee asked the Disciplinary Committee to forward the draft letter for their review before sending.

B. Telepharmacy

Jeanne Furman discussed a letter received from Joseph Morrissey, MS., R.Ph., Director of Pharmacy for Howard County General Hospital. The letter described the InstyMeds System that Howard County General Hospital is considering for their Emergency Department. The recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee was to reply to the letter by stating that the Board cannot endorse any Automated System, however, may comment on the use of this system in instituting as described the letter.

Board Action

Ray Love moved that Board Counsel examine whether statute and/or regulation prohibits telepharmacy and that this issue be taken up at the Practice Committee to examine the ramifications following a report from Board counsels' report. John Balch seconded the motion. The Board passed the motion.

C. George K. Cawthorne

Deitra Gale reported that George Cawthorne filed an application for reciprocity with the Board. Mr. Cawthorne is currently licensed in North Carolina. However, in October 1988 he was placed on suspension for five years. All five years were stayed and he was placed on suspension for one year for being involved in an medication error or dispensing error that resulted in the death of two patients. Mr. Cawthorne sent a letter to the Board with his application, to describe the events that took place

Board Action

The Board passed a motion to grant George Cawthorne's his license.

D. Adding Changes to Pharmacy Inspection Form

Melvin Rubin discussed the inspection form to show what data is being inspected by Division of Drug Control electronically when they inspect retail pharmacies. Mr. Rubin suggested adding to the form that inspectors check the unlicensed personnel regulations and the patient safety regulations documentation to show their availability. He said this would not require the inspector to judge the documentations, but only to indicate that they were available.

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

E. Pre-Inspection Form

Melvin Rubin asked the Board if they were willing to direct the Division of Drug Control to send out the pre-inspection form to all pharmacies being inspected; emphasizing that it is voluntary. He offered to draft a cover letter to accompany the pre-inspection form that would indicate that its completion is voluntarily and that doing so will speed up the on-site inspection process.

Jeanne Furman reported that the Board is in the process of developing a streamline approach to looking over the reports from DDC seeing which one needs to be forwarded to the Compliance Unit and/or Disciplinary Committee.

Ray Love asked Board Counsel since the Division of Drug Control is acting on the Board's behalf, to what degree can the Board mandate or govern the activities related to inspections. He further questioned whether the Board has the ability to instruct inspectors when they are performing inspections under the Pharmacy Act. Ms Bethman responded that the Division of Drug Control acts as the Board's agent. Ray Love replied that based on that clarification, the Board needs to develop series of policies and procedures that inform the Division of Drug Control what's required during routine inspections and during requested inspections, what inspectors are allowed to do and under what circumstances.

Board Action

Ray Love moved to direct the Division of Drug Control to send out the pre-inspection form to all pharmacies being inspected. Don Yee seconded the motion. The Board passed the motion

Board Action

The Board passed a motion that Mark Levi will work with the Division of Drug Control under the oversight of the Practice Committee to put together a series of policies and procedures that tell the Division of Drug Control when its agents are in a routine inspection, what the Board expects them to do and under what circumstances.

10. Emergency Preparedness Committee – Stanton Ades

Updates

- **JHU HRSA Grant Proposal**: The Committee met on February 20, 2004 and addressed questions of concerns with regard to the JHU HRSA Grant Proposal. LaVerne Naesea reported that the Board sent a commitment letter, which included a budget that expanded the Board's public relations position to full-time, to meet required additional tasks. JHU accepted the budget and submitted it with the grant request.
- **Packaging/repackaging**: Regarding the Strategic National Supply (SNS), the Committee stills needs to address how the state will repackage and dispense and determine personnel for packaging/repackaging.

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

- **Phase I Training** is scheduled for April 17, 2004, 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Catonsville Community College. That afternoon Local Health Department Liaisons Training will be held at the same location.
- **Meeting with Chains:** The Committee is still trying to plan a meeting with the chains regarding the availability of pharmacists in case of an emergency. Joan Lawrence reported that she sent an email to Gil Genn who had not responded. She noted that he is likely busy attending hearings during the legislative session. The Committee will wait until after the legislative session ends to communicate further with Gil Genn.

The next Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting will be held March 19, 2004, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

11. Technology and Automation Committee – Tamarra Banks

Update Report

- **Renewals:** There were 254 applications mailed. Ninety-Seven pharmacists renewed online. That is 32%.
- **Conviction Database:** The FDA sent their conviction database to the Board. Tamarra Banks made contact with NABP to see if their national NABP clearinghouse information database can be combined with the FDA conviction database to make one national database of convictions.
- **Laptop Usage:** There will be a laptop available during Board meeting that will be connected to the network and Internet. The Board will have the ability to communicate with staff on the third floor to reduce the need for sending staff to retrieve information during the meetings.
- **Legal Documents:** Temporary staff, Jena Greenberg, has begun scanning final orders onto the Board network. Internet pharmacies that are sent cease and desist letters will be listed on the network too along with their aliases. The Licensing Unit and Disciplinary Unit can now check the database to see if an applicant should become licensed.
- **Cease and Desist Letters:** Tamarra Banks asked the Board to read the Cease and Desist letter during the meeting, so that they can be put on letterhead and prepared for mailing.
- **Viruses:** DHMH's server was down for three days with email viruses. Ms. Banks asked everyone to be careful of emails that start off "re: hi, re: your documents, or re: my approval". The new virus has names of persons that the recipients may recognize.
- **Center for Disease Control (CDC):** On March 4, 2004 Ms. Banks attended a Information and Technology staff meeting led by Gail Wowk at DHMH. The Center For Disease Control (CDC) has asked all States to create a Public Health

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

database directory consisting of people, organizations and roles that would be used on a national level in emergency situations. This would be an extensive database that is expected to pilot by the end of the year. In the interim, DHMH plans to create a smaller database, with minimal data elements that can be used by the Department's Emergency Unit (Gail Wowk) to obtain contact names of licensed health practitioner volunteers.

The 7 Boards selected to perform in an emergency situation are:
Physicians (including MD's, PA's, Radiology Technicians and Respiratory Care Technicians), Nurses (including Registered, LPN) Pharmacists (Pharmacy Technicians can be included if they become licensed and regulated by a state Board), Social Workers, Psychologists, Professional Counselors and Dentist (possibly Dental Hygienist and Assistants if they are licensed)

DHMH will develop a web-enabled system on the DHMH Intranet, that each of the 7 Boards would log into and update the volunteer information of their own licensees. The Boards would only send active status licensees, and would need to provide a method of differentiating the type of licensee. The database will only contain data on licensees who have volunteered.

12. Council of Boards Report

Board Member Training Session

Melvin Rubin reported that the Board member Training Session is scheduled for April 30, 2004. New Board members are required to attend and other Board members are asked to attend.

13. Recording Equipment – LaVerne Naesea

The Board is using rental equipment to record the March meeting. The equipment used in the past has not been providing good auditory quality at meetings and the minutes have suffered as a consequence. LaVerne Naesea proposed that the Board purchase a similar system to the equipment being used today. The CD version is available to mark different committee areas. The cost of the equipment will be between \$800 and \$1,500.

Board Action

Jeanne Furman moved acceptance of the March 17, 2004 minutes as amended. Mark Levi seconded the motion and Board members unanimously supported the motion.

14. MSHP Annual Seminar in October in Reston, Va.

Jeanne Furman reported that Robert Pihl, professor of psychology and psychiatry will be speaking on *Can tests determine which RPh's are prone to errors*, at the MSHP Annual Seminar in October in Reston, Va.

**Maryland Board of Pharmacy
Public Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2004**

Public Session closed

The Public Session was closed at 1:30 p.m. on motion of Jeanne Furman and seconded by Ramona McCarthy-Hawkins for the Howard Blumenfeld reinstatement hearing. The Board passed the motion.

Public Session re-opened

The Board passed the motion to re-open the public session at 2:00 p.m.

15. Howard Blumenfeld's Reinstatement Hearing

Board Action

On motion of Jeanne Furman, seconded by Ramona McCarthy, the Board passed a motion to reinstate Howard Blumenfeld's license provided he agrees to certain conditions.

16. Election Results

Stanton Ades announced the following election results:

Melvin Rubin, President
Jeanne Furman, Secretary
Ray Love, Treasurer

These Commissioners will assume their new offices July 1, 2004 or sooner if the Governor appoints a replacement for current President, Stanton Ades, prior to that date.

The Public Board session re-adjourned at 2:15 p.m.