

Maryland Board of Pharmacy

Public Board Meeting – July 17, 2002

President Ades called the Public Session of the July 17, 2002, Board meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Attendance:

Commissioners Present: Stanton Ades, President; John Balch; Melvin Rubin; Ramona McCarthy-Hawkins; Raymond Love; Rev. William Johnson; Wayne Dyke, W. Irving Lottier, Jr.; and Donald Yee

Absent: Laura Schneider; Jeanne Furman; and Paul Ballard, Assistant Attorney General

Board Counsel: Linda Bethman, Staff Attorney

Board Staff: LaVerne Naesea, Executive Director; James Slade, Legislative/Regulations Officer; Doris James, Licensing Supervisor; Shirley Costley, Fiscal/Personnel Officer; Joan Lawrence, Public Education Officer; Deitra Gale, Compliance Specialist; Tamarra Banks, Information Services Manager; Angela Long, Executive Secretary; and Jennifer Corwell (Governor Appointed Summer Intern)

Guests: Howard Schiff (MPHA); Jack Freedman (DDC); Kathryn Lavriha, (Barr Labs); Bill Isenstein (PEAC); Lynette Bradley-Baker (CVS); Matthew Gainey (Purdue); Phil Cogan (MPHA); and Nathan Cruz

Introduction

President Ades asked each guest to introduce him or herself.

Recusals

There were no recusals of members due to conflicts of interest.

Corrections and Approval of Minutes (06/19/02)

Page 1, under Approval of Minutes, delete “s” from the word “pharmacists”

Page 2, under Bio-terrorism Task Force, 1st paragraph, delete 3rd sentence

Page 2, under Free Sales Certificates, 1st sentence, should be “Ms. Naesea” instead of “Ms. LaVerne”

Page 2, under Free Sales Certificates, 2nd paragraph, 2nd sentence, add “ed” to the word “threaten”

Page 3, 2nd paragraph, 3rd sentence, should be “losing” instead of “loosing”

Page 3, under Board Elections, 2nd paragraph, 3rd sentence, add “ed” to the word “obtain”

Page 4, under Meeting with School of Pharmacy, 3rd paragraph, 1st sentence, “pharmacy” should be “pharmacist”

Page 4, under Staffing Update, 1st sentence, add “Mr. Ades” also attended the meeting

Page 5, under PEAC, 3rd paragraph, “potion” should read “portion”

Page 6, under Nurse Dispensing Task Force, 1st paragraph, 1st sentence, add “s” to the word “drug”

Page 6, under Nurse Dispensing Task Force, 1st paragraph, 3rd sentence, “*Dr. Matazuki*” correct spelling “*Dr. Matuszak*”

Page 8, 1st paragraph, delete “ed” from the word “questioned”, replace “were” should read “where”

Page 9, under Public Relations Committee Meeting, No. 3, replaces “council” with “counsel”

Page 11, under Council of Boards, add “staff” after “Board...”

Page 11, under Council of Boards, 3rd paragraph, delete “lot”

Page 11, under Discussion of Applicants for Licensure, replaces “applications” with “applicants”

Page 12, 1st bullet, “approved psychiatric” should read, “approved psychiatrist”

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Board Action

Ms. McCarthy-Hawkins moved for acceptance of the June 19, 2002, public meeting minutes with amendments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yee and passed by the Board.

President/Executive Committee Report

Bio-Terrorism Task Force

Pres. Ades reported that the Bio-Terrorism Task Force last met on June 21, 2002. At that meeting, the task force agreed to begin developing a draft deployment plan for state adoption at the next meeting scheduled on Friday, July 19, 2002. Ms. Naesea received a teleport communicator from DHMH to be used to notify her (on behalf of the Board) of state emergency alerts. Pres. Ades stated that this adds to the need to quickly finalize deployment plans.

On June 24, 2002, Pres. Ades, Ms. Naesea, Mr. Rubin, Dr. Love, and Phil Cogan met with DHMH's Bio-terrorism Communication and Planning group. The Board of Pharmacy, BPQA and the Nursing Board presented summaries of their plans for recruiting volunteer practitioners. Ms. Naesea received notice that the State received a grant for three (3) 1-800 numbers that would be placed at each of the boards for use in an emergency. Dr. Love mentioned that part of the discussion regarded the implementation of emergency regulations deemed necessary by the Board, which have not been addressed, as well as plans for smallpox vaccinations for volunteers.

Pres. Ades reported that the Board of Pharmacy and the School of Pharmacy are sponsoring a regional training on the pharmacists' role in responding to state bio-terrorism events. Three (3) training sessions are planned in three (3) region throughout the state: September 14, 2002, Baltimore; October 5, 2002, Ocean City, MD; and October 19, 2002, Western MD. Pharmacists who have registered with the Board as volunteers will receive invitations. Pres. Ades suggested that all pharmacists again be invited to register as volunteers with the state. The Board suggested that information be inserted in MPHA's newsletter. Mr. Schiff agreed to explore the possibility. Mr. Phil Cogan stated that he attended a retreat with Montgomery County Planning Operations Committee. The Committee invited representatives from Howard and Prince Georges' Counties to the retreat, at which they brainstormed ideas for addressing the medical needs of first responders, the homeless, security and transportation of stockpiles to Montgomery County. Mr. Cogan also mentioned that Montgomery County has all components to respond to an emergency.

Dr. Love mentioned that the DHMH Planning group has a great interest in the Pharmacy Board training. Ms. Naesea asked whether Ms. Lawrence should send a copy of the "Save the Date" flyer to that committee. Dr. Love replied that the flyer be discussed as an agenda item for the Bio-terrorism meeting.

Ms. Naesea attended a statewide emergency preparedness meeting to gain better understanding of their plans for responding to emergencies. The next Board Bio-Terrorism Task Force meeting is scheduled on July 19, 2002, at 9:00am.

Shortage of Pharmacists Task Force

Pres. Ades reported that the Shortage of Pharmacists Task Force met on June 24, 2002. The meeting was not well attended. At that meeting, two out of three of the subcommittees presented their reports. Subcommittee A discussed defining the problems. Subcommittee B discussed describing the impact of the shortage. The latter report regarded 1) access, safety and possible increase in the cost of health care due to the shortage; 2) decrease in desirability of companies to locate in MD; 3) decrease in customer service in pharmaceutical care; and 4) possible increase in drug diversion. Subcommittee C did not have a representative; however, Mr. Schiff mentioned that the subcommittee primary focused on possible solutions to resolving the pharmacy shortage.

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Ms. Naesea mentioned that the shortage of pharmacist survey is on the website and was also inserted in the July newsletter. She encouraged Board members and guests to ask their respective associates to complete the survey.

Pharmacy Inspection Form – Update

Pres. Ades reported that the Board met with the Division of Drug Control to update the current inspection forms. They also discussed developing an on-line process where DDC can utilize laptop computers and develop a pre-survey or questionnaire that will be sent to pharmacies prior to each inspection. The Board is moving forward with the revisions so that the inspectors can use both paper format and become proficient in using the computers. Dr. Love mentioned the purpose of the pre-survey helps pharmacists avoid wasting time gathering necessary inspection documentation during business hours. Also, before implementing use of the new forms, the Board plans to send out copies of the inspection form so that pharmacists have an idea of what sort of information will be required.

Free Sales Certificates

Ms. Naesea reported that with the advice of Board counsel, the Board developed a final draft of a free sale certificate. It was mailed before the Board's ability to regulate manufacturers expired. The final draft was sent to Tischen, Inc., the manufacturing company that had originally expressed concerns. It was well accepted, except for the bottom information that stated "the Board will no longer regulate manufacturers after June 30, 2002." A copy was also sent to the Department of Business Economic Development.

Board Elections

In follow up to last month's announcement of election of officers, Pres. Ades asked each Board member to vote on the three officers positions: President, Secretary and Treasurer. He announced the nominees: President Ades, running un-opposed, Mr. Lottier and Ms. Furman for Secretary and Mr. Rubin and Ms. Furman for Treasurer. Members submitted written ballots to Ms. Long (Board Secretary) for tabulation. Based on the results of the ballots, the sitting three officers retained their positions for FY 2003: Stanton Ades, President, Irving Lottier, Secretary and Melvin Rubin, Treasurer.

Committee Reappointments

It was discussed at the June 2002 Board meeting that Board commissioners should not be appointed to more than three standing committees or task forces. Pres. Ades mentioned that the Board should 'spread out' the commissioners and review the committee appointments on the distributed roster. Board members reviewed all of the Board committees and task forces. Mr. Balch is to be added to the Legislative Committee. Mr. Schiff asked what is the Peer Review Committee's role. Mr. Balch and Mr. Yee sit on that committee. This committee was formed to develop a list of pharmacists to whom the Board could refer pharmacists (under disciplinary actions) for mentoring or with whom the Board could consult on plans (e.g. proposed regulatory changes) being considered. Ms. Naesea mentioned that Ms. Andoll had solicited peer review volunteers in a recent Board newsletter. Pres. Ades indicated that Ms. Barbara Faltz-Jackson's term had expired. Charles White has been selected as the newly appointed consumer but not sworn in yet. Hopefully, he will be attending the August Board meeting. Mr. Rubin suggested that both consumers attend the Disciplinary Committee meetings.

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Executive Director's Report

New Law Books

Ms. Naesea reported that the last Board published law book was completed in 2000. The Board is reviewing regulations and legislation that have changed over the past two years. She stated that Mr. Rubin and Mr. Slade worked on collecting information to be inserted in a revised law book. Ms. Naesea asked the members to review the revisions/highlights and forward their comments to the Board. Mr. Rubin reviewed changes that had been identified by he and Mr. Slade. They included changes over the last two years and notations on things that may change before the book is completed. He mentioned that Mr. Slade suggested that the Board include a disclaimer indicating that though the book covers all of the Board of Pharmacy regulations and related laws pertaining to pharmacy practice, it may not be all inclusive of federal and state legal requirements.

Mr. Rubin mentioned that the Board might want to include a CD Rom version. Ms. Naesea indicated that Mr. Schiff called to request that he make presentation on behalf of MPHA related to the law book. Mr. Schiff reported that MPHA has nearly completed a pharmacy law book and commentary; which Judge Fader, Phil Cogan and he developed. They have been working on this document for over a year. Mr. Cogan indicated that the MPHA law book would offer updates to the 2000 Board law book as well as information from a pharmacist's perspective rather than from a lawyer's perspective. Pres. Ades questioned whether MPHA could indicate the length of time it would take to update the law book to reflect all of the significant regulations and laws enacted since 2000. Mr. Schiff indicated that he would make that determination in the near future. Dr. Love suggested that the Board determine its goals and timeline for production of the law book. He said that once the Board makes those decisions and MPHA conveys its ability and timeline for making necessary updates, the Board would be better able to decide which next steps to take. Mr. Slade mentioned that the Board would need to respond to Lexis (publishers of 2000 law book) by August 26, 2002. Ms. Naesea noted that the Board would need to solicit bids for a contractor to produce and print the revised law book if it elected not to use Lexis Printing. This is because Lexis is already under contract with the state and that contract could be amended to include the Board's law book project.

Staffing Update

Ms. Naesea reported that the Board received approval to interview for the Compliance Officer position, and for a permanent Office Secretary III and Licensing Clerk. Ms. Costley reported that the solicitation has been prepared and will be posted in newspapers after approval from DHMH. It will also be placed on the Board's web site, posted at the State Office building and sent to NABP and School of Pharmacy. It is preferable that the person the Board hires has a legal background and pharmacy degree.

Ms. Naesea also reported that the Board received approval from the Social Work Board to work with them in developing a plan to allow Mr. Slade to work full time for the Board of Pharmacy. The Social Work Board placed some contingencies on their decision including that Mr. Slade would be available to work with them through the next legislative session, that he could not leave until the Social Work Board hires a staff person and that Mr. Slade would train the staff person hired. The Board is moving forward with the plans.

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Legislative/Regulations Report

Impoundment and Disposal of Drugs and Prescription Records

Mr. Slade reported that he inserted a Notice of Final Action on Impoundment and Disposal of Drugs and Prescription Records regulations in the Board packet. The regulations became effective June 24, 2002. He mentioned that the Board would need to take out the manufacturer permit language in the regulations at a later time.

BoP Regulations Status Report

Mr. Slade inserted the BoP regulations status report in the packet for Board review. The only update in the report is the Licensing of Wholesale Prescription Drug Distributors; which has been sent to the Licensing Committee for review. Mr. Dyke and Mr. Slade will meet to discuss.

Procedures for Tracking Trends in the Practice of Pharmacy and Implementing Policy

Mr. Slade stated that in accordance with the Board's Managing for Results plan, he had developed procedures for tracking trends in the practice of pharmacy for Board review and approval.

Board Action

Dr. Love moved that the Board accept the procedures for tracking trends in the practice of pharmacy and implementing policy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lottier and passed by the Board.

Senate Bill 265- Limited English Proficiency

Mr. Slade reported that the Board had previously discussed Senate Bill 265, Limited English Proficiency. He provided the bill as it had been revised and approved. He also submitted a report on limited English proficiency that states that the Board does not have to do anything because no population that the Board serves meets the pre-requisites outlined in the report.

Pharmacy Benefits Managers

Mr. Slade reported that on behalf of the Board, Ms. Naesea sent a letter to the Maryland Insurance Administration regarding PBMs. The letter requested information about their survey. The response (included in Board packet) indicated that the results of the survey information would be available late August or early September. They also provided a contact person who is in charge of the audit. Mr. Slade mentioned that he would attempt to obtain copies of their survey so that the Board is kept fully informed.

Drug Therapy Management Article

Mr. Slade referred to an article in Pharmacy Today on DTM bill (inserted in the Board packet) for Board information.

PEAC

Mr. Bill Isenstein reported on behalf of PEAC. PEAC's monthly meeting was held on June 25, 2002. They discussed long-term funding needs in order to hire a full-time Director. Mr. Rubin attended the business portion of PEAC's monthly meeting. Due to an oversight by the state, PEAC did not receive their April check.

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PEAC is hosting their yearly CE Conference on October 26, 2002, where six (6) CE credits may be earned. PEAC's Annual Retreat will be held on July 30, 2002. An invitation was mailed out to all Board members.

PEAC has 35 cases; of which 11 were Board referred.

Committee Reports

Pharmacy Practice Committee

Dr. Love reported that the Committee met on July 3, 2002. The majority of the meeting was spent on pharmacy technician issues regarding the statutory changes; which is moving along very well with the assistance of Mr. Slade. The Committee also examined the catastrophic delegation regulations, which Mr. Ballard had developed.

Drug Therapy Management

Dr. Love reported that the subcommittee met twice and has made substantial progress towards developing the DTM regulations. The subcommittee will be meeting in August with the Medical Practice Committee of BPQA. Dr. Love reassured Mr. Howard Schiff that the regulations were moving along.

The next Practice Committee meeting is scheduled on August 7, 2002, at 1:30pm.

LTC Task Force

Pres. Ades reported on behalf of Mr. Balch. The Task Force conducted its first meeting on June 18, 2002. Mr. Balch distributed the current COMAR regulations and law books. He also established procedures and ground rules for the Task Force. The next meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2002 at 3:30pm.

Nurse Dispensing Task Force

Ms. Naesea reported that she attended the task force meeting and it is moving forward. Ms. Naesea distributed a copy of the updated formulary for Board review. She said that the Task Force said it had deleted all of the objectionable drugs that were on the original list except for six drugs; which were included with explanations. No one at the meeting had objections to the exceptions; however, Mr. Yee had concerns regarding one of the drugs and referred his question to the task force. Dr. Love mentioned that based on revised list, there are still drugs listed that are not in compliance to the agreement related to delegating authority for nurses. Dr. Love and Mr. Yee will meet to review the list again and forward any changes to the Task Force. Ms. Naesea also reported that with the Medical Practice Committee of BPQA would be meeting on August 15, 2002 to also review the training program and formulary. This is the same committee who is meeting to discuss the DTM regulations. Ms. Naesea will confirm the time of the meeting.

HIPAA

Mr. Rubin reported that MHCC had been working on HIPAA guidelines for a year. He stated that the guidelines are being updated because of changes and interpretation of the law. These guidelines have to be in compliance by next April 2003 and he suggested that the Board convey this information to pharmacists via newsletter before the end of the year.

Disciplinary Committee

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Ms. Gale consulted with Ms. Bethman regarding an individual who had applied for reinstatement. The applicant is not currently licensed. Ms. Bethman suggested that the case be addressed in the executive session.

Licensing Committee

Reciprocity – List of Candidates

Mr. Dyke reported that the Reciprocity meeting was held on July 16, 2002. He presented the names of candidates for licensure by reciprocity in Maryland. Eighteen (18) candidates took the examination; two (2) candidates - Shridhar Iyer and Angela Odunlami, failed; and six (6) applicants; Rayna DeRosa, Christy Felder, Elizabeth Gitau, Juliette Janos, Payal Pandya, and Nancy Williams are pending passage of the oral competency exam.

Candidates - Passed

Shui Au	Jiyang Hu
Robert Morris	Anh Nguyen
Ngoc Nguyen	Zarna Patel
Jameson Reuter	Deborah Sturpe
Cindy Wong	Destenee Zachary

Board Action

Ms. McCarthy-Hawkins moved to license the ten (10) candidates who passed the exam and to approve the six (6) candidates pending their meeting oral competency requirements. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yee and passed by the Board.

Mr. Dyke requested that the Board revisit the discussion regarding ending the reciprocity examination and adopting the MPJE examination. He asked Ms. James to present information on how the Board could switch from directly administering the reciprocity exam to having applicants sit for the MPJE exam in their own states. She provided information on other states that procedures for testing reciprocity candidates, and which states required candidates to sit in person for the exams. Ms. James indicated that Berlitz Language Centers (administrators of the oral competency exam) were located in most states throughout the country. Mr. Dyke expressed concern about the English oral competency component of the exam being difficult for some applicants to obtain based on the list of Berlitz Language Center locations. Ms. James indicated that she contacted NABP regarding foreign graduates required to take the Toefl exam. She is looking into using centers used by NABP to augment testing locations provided through Berlitz. She is also researching whether the Board is required to contract with two oral English vendors. Ms. Costley is researching the cost for the two vendors.

Ms. James reported that Mr. Ballard does not feel that the regulations would have to be amended to change the reciprocity examination process. Ms. James reported that if the Board voted to re-vamp the reciprocity exam, it would take approximately 2-3 weeks to revise the reciprocity requirement application and pharmacists and establishments would require a notification period of three month (in the October newsletter and on the web site). Thus, the changes could become effective as early as January 1, 2003.

Board Action

After much discussion regarding the reciprocity examination Dr. Love moved that the Board adopt the MPJE examination as the necessary exam for reciprocity once the Board is able to make administrative arrangements to implement the process. The Board would no longer mandate reciprocity applicants to appear before the Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lottier and passed by the Board.

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Ms. Naesea indicated that this might have a fiscal impact. Ms. James replied that the only change the Board needs to make is to convert over to the MPJE exam and to submit a letter informing MPJE. Mr. Dyke suggested that the mechanics of the changes be inserted in the next newsletter.

Wet Lab Examination

Mr. Dyke reported that 193 candidates took the wet lab examination and passed. Currently 100 have been issued a license.

Mr. Dyke stated that since he has been on the Board there has been much debate about the value of the laboratory examination. The Board is one of 6 states that still administer the wet lab exam. Mr. Dyke stated that administering and grading the wet lab exam have become very labor intensive. Questions were raised regarding whether the administering examination serves to protect the public welfare and what purpose the wet lab serves. Mr. Dyke asked the Board to revisit the wet lab concerns to explore other alternatives.

There was much discussion and concern about eliminating the wet lab examination. Most of the concern centered on the compounding component of the exam. Specifically, is the Board meeting goals and basing decisions on the wrong reasons and are there alternatives to meet the goal of insuring that pharmacists have basic compounding capabilities. Mr. Dyke suggested that the Board look at possible alternatives such as developing and piloting another exam or some type of written test. It was noted that very few pharmacies require pharmacists to employ compounding skills and that most pharmacies have pre-arrangements with pharmacists and pharmacies that compound; to which prescriptions are sent when required. It was also pointed out that many Maryland pharmacists have bypassed taking the lab exam because they reciprocated from one of the over forty states that do not require wet lab examinations.

Board Action

Mr. Rubin moved that the Board initiate the process of changing the regulations to eliminate the wet lab examination to be effective as soon as regulatory changes take place. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yee and passed by the Board.

Technology and Automation Report

On Line Renewal System

Ms. Banks submitted the Board's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to MHCC for both the establishment and pharmacist online renewal systems. MHCC will forward these documents to their attorney for review. MD State Archives also received a copy of the Board's MOU between the two parties.

Ms. Banks stated that the establishment renewal application instructions, which are being revised by Ms. Naesea and Ms. James, would be included with the MOU.

Ms. Banks and Ms. Costley will meet with the Bank of America next week to discuss the program proposed for electronic check processing. The program is a pilot that state is testing. BPQA was the first to use the program. Ms. Banks commented that BPQA has been helpful with this process.

IT Status Report

Ms. Banks reported that Brenda Seaman, database person, resigned on the day of the meeting. The Board will file for an exemption to hire another temporary person. Ms. James has volunteered to provide staff assistance with printing licenses.

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Shortage of Pharmacy Survey

Ms. Banks reported that the Shortage of Pharmacy survey is on the Board's website and responses are being submitted. She forwarded an email to the University of Maryland to ask if Mr. Konstantinov could re-design the survey format because of design issues. Since, Ms. Seaman has resigned, the Board will re-direct the responsibility to input the survey into the database.

Pharmacy Inspection Form Automation

Ms. Banks reported that Ms. Naesea would schedule a meeting with Drug Control to determine whether the Board will design the old form on the laptops or wait for the new questions to be developed before placing forms on-line.

Web Site

Ms. Banks reported that the website end of year report shows a 55% increase in email and 13,438 more visitors since last fiscal year.

Public Relations Committee

Pharmacy Week

Ms. Lawrence reported that Maryland Coalition contacted the Board to schedule a meeting to discuss partnering with the Board during National Pharmacy Week in October. A meeting is schedule between the Coalition, Ms. Lawrence and Ms. Naesea the week following the Board meeting to discuss details.

Board's 100th Year Celebration

Ms. Lawrence reported that the Board had mentioned that they wanted to partner with AARP and the Office on Aging on a joint initiative. A meeting is scheduled for July 31, 2002. Ms. Naesea and Ms. Lawrence will be in attendance.

As of the date of the meeting, the Board received the names of 94 persons to invite to the planned luncheon. Invitations have been sent to Governor, and Lt. Governor for comments responses are expected in August. The Baltimore Mayor is not available but will send a representative. Dr. Benjamin is also not available. Pres. Ades stated that he received a response from Lt. Governor Kennedy-Townsend stating her schedule may not allow her to attend.

Ms. Lawrence stated that a "Save the Date" card for the 100th year celebration would be mailed sometime in August. A draft invitation will be presented at the August Board meeting. The proposed budget to date is approximately \$6,000; which includes printing invitations and the program, a luncheon, a four-page insert in the October newsletter and postage.

She mentioned that she received an email from ASCP requesting the Board's attendance and reserving a booth at their annual conference. Pres. Ades will be attending the conference; however, he plans to leave early. Mr. Balch was appointed to represent the Board at the conference. The Board decided not to sponsor a booth this year.

Ms. Lawrence publicly thanked Jennie Corwell, Governor's Summer Intern, for all her support and hard work at the Board.

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Informational

Ms. Naesea noted that NABP is holding its 2002 District II meeting in Hershey, PA, October 24-26, 2002. She requested that additional Board staff be approved to attend this conference since it will be held so close to Maryland. .

Pres. Ades publicly thanked Phil Cogan for his tireless support to the Bio-terrorism meetings.

Disciplinary Committee Report

Dr. Love moved that the Board close the Public Session at 12:10pm for the purpose of discussing an investigation of an applicant for licensure and the grading of specific wet lab examination candidates. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yee and passed by the Board.

The Board re-opened public session to discuss the Board's decision on Mr. Gregory Danylyk's case.

Gregory Danylyk

The Board had asked Mr. Danylyk at its last meeting to provide the Board with additional documentation in order for the Board to make a decision. Ms. Gale reported that Mr. Danylyk has submitted all documentation requested by the Board with the exception of a mental evaluation report from Dr. Giandrea.

Board Action

Dr. Love moved that the Executive Committee make the decision based on Mr. Danylyk's mental evaluation report. The motion was seconded by Rev. Johnson and passed by the Board.

The Board re-opened public session for the Board's recommendation related to wet lab exam concerns.

Wet Lab Examination Candidates

There was a lengthy discussion related to the incident that occurred during one of the wet lab exam sessions which involved 3 candidates who were disrespectful to Board members, disruptive during testing, and/or who may have possibly cheated on the exam.

Board Action

The Board decided to perform a full investigation of the candidates and faculties involved in the incident. The Board instructed Ms. Gale to work with Ms. Bethman and Mr. Ballard to begin the investigation along with assistance from Mr. Yee and Ms. McCarthy-Hawkins.

The Public Session adjourned at 1:01pm.