February 6, 2012 Meeting Minutes

4:00 p.m., Public Hearing Room, DEP, Trenton

Board Members:


Absent: Jorge Berkowitz

Others Present: Liaison Karen Hershey, DAG Niel Lewis substituting for DAG Kimberly Hahn, Executive Assistant David Haymes.

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to Order at 4:05 by Chairman Sweeney.

- Statement by Chairman Sweeney that adequate notice of the meeting was provided pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

- Approval of the January 23, 2012 minutes.
  - Motion by Constantine Tsentas to accept minutes as amended, seconded by Richard Dewling; approved unanimously except for those who abstained due to absence at the January 23rd meeting - David Sweeney, Lawra Dodge and Ira Whitman.

- Chairman’s Report
  - Chairman Sweeney reported that Board nominee Ben Alter officially withdrew his candidacy; Board discussed ideas for finding a replacement candidate.
  - Chairman Sweeney also reported on efforts to find additional Board staff.
  - The Chairman gave a presentation on the reorganization of the Site Remediation Program.

- Committee Reports
  - Audit: A report was given by Committee Chair Phil Brilliant on behalf of the Audit Committee.
- Phil Brilliant reported on the progress of the audit, noting that an additional five names were selected for the month of February.

- Continuing Education: A report was given by Committee Chair Lawra Dodge on behalf of the Continuing Education Committee.
  - Lawra Dodge reported that the Committee continues to receive requests for course approval, noting that the Committee will soon be presenting to the Board another course approval request.
  - Lawra Dodge reported on other matters relating to continuing education including an upcoming stakeholder session at DEP on February 21, 2012, posting approved courses on the Board’s website, comments received from the LSRPA on continuing education rule language and ongoing efforts to explore tracking software.

- Finance: A report was given by Committee Chair Richard Dewling on behalf of the Finance Committee.
  - Richard Dewling reported that total charges to the Board for 2011 totaled $200,000 including DEP, Treasury and DAG charges.

- Licensure: A report was given by Committee Chair Ira Whitman on behalf of the Licensure Committee.
  - Ira Whitman reported on the ongoing efforts of the Licensure Committee, noting that the Committee is working with the contractor and DEP on matters relating to the candidate bulletin and examination dates. He also noted that the Committee is reviewing draft licensing rules.

- Website/Outreach: A report was given by Committee Chair Christopher Motta on behalf of the Website/Outreach Committee.
  - Chris Motta’s report included an update on the Committee’s ongoing evaluation of the Board’s website.

- Rulemaking: A report was given by Committee Chair Joann Held on behalf of the Rulemaking Committee.
  - Joann Held discussed the progress of the Committee’s rulemaking efforts, reporting on the progress of each of the rule sections.
Professional Conduct: A report was given by Chairman Dave Sweeney for Jorge Berkowitz on behalf of the Professional Conduct Committee.

- Chairman Sweeney’s report included a discussion of the status of the complaint form and the upcoming February 14, 2012 Open Forum.
- Motion by Chairman Sweeney to enter into closed session to discuss disciplinary matters; seconded by Joann Held; Board approval was unanimous.
- Following closed session, a motion was made by the Chairman to dismiss Complaint #003-2011 without admonition or warning.
- Seconded by Lawra Dodge. Motion adopted (8Y, 0N, 2 Abstain).
- Roll call vote as follows:
  - Berkowitz Absent
  - Brilliant Y
  - Dewling Y
  - Dodge Y
  - Held Y
  - Motta Y
  - Muessig Y
  - Pisauro Abstain
  - Tsentas Abstain
  - Whitman Y
  - Sweeney Y

- Ongoing Business
  - None

- New Business
  - None

- Public Comment
  - Rodger Ferguson, LSRPA
    - Requested that the date of the first exam be moved to the end of May 2012.
  - Steve Senior, Attorney with Riker Danzig
    - Requested that the Board include provision in rules to address time frame for Board to respond to adjudicatory hearing requests.
    - Requested that the Board also include provision in rules regarding dispute resolution, mediation, and settlement.
• Requested that the Board put more focus on compliance assistance rather than enforcement.

• The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.