

Oregon State Board of Radiologic Technology (OBRT)

April 9, 1999 Minutes

State Office Building ☐ 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 407 ☐ Portland, Oregon

ATTENDANCE

Members and Staff: Brian Buckingham, LRT; Lee Flanders, LRT; Mercedes Herrera, LRT; Darrell Hocken, RT, Advisory Member; Erica Hovet, LCSW, Public Member; Betty Palmer, LRT; Glen Plam, LRTT, Chairman; Ken Stevens, MD, Radiologist; Lianne Thompson, Executive Officer; Doug Van Fleet, Clerk.

Members Absent: (None.)

Also Present: Carina Abernathy, Oregon State University (OSU), MBA Quality Assessment Program (MBAQAP); Hank Hirsh, LRT, ConCorde Career Institute; Yayoi Nakatani, OSU, MBAQAP; Jennifer Norris, OSU, MBAQAP; Kathy Tate, OSU, MBAQAP; Steve Uroshevich, LRT, Apollo College, and X-ray Education Services; Ann Van Fleet.

Committee Meetings held to consider agenda items, 8:00 a.m. –

A quorum was established and the meeting called to order (9:37 a.m., executive session) for considering the Investigation Committee report. At 10:12 a.m., the public session was called to order.

MINUTES APPROVAL [Attachment 1]

January 8, 1999: Mr. Plam moved the minutes' approval; Ms. Flanders seconded; **unanimously favorable**.

BOARD OFFICE REPORT

Personnel Matters

Ms. Thompson, acknowledging Mr. Van Fleet's retirement from full-time responsibilities, presented a framed Board certificate "in appreciation of faithful public service." The certificate had been prepared by Pam Judd, new staff member. Ms. Thompson had obtained original signatures of Gov. Kitzhaber and Mr. Plam. Mr. Van Fleet, taken so completely by surprise that he'd attempted ushering his wife from the room upon her arrival at the meeting, could manage little more than a comment about how nice the Board was.

MBAQAP Team

Ms. Norris received answers re the Board's strategic goals and planning, and steps in reaching goals. Ms. Abernathy was told the measurements that disclose to the Board its quality. Ms. Tate asked about the average salary in radiologic technology. Ms. Thompson volunteered "\$14 [maximum] with an average of 10." Ms. Herrera estimated "12.50" (all for limited permits). For licenses, Mr. Buckingham volunteered "\$10 at least," Ms. Herrera estimating "15.25."

Ms. Abernathy noted the public-education program in the budget. Ms. Thompson explained that that would be the Board-shared standards for good radiation practice. She added that the idea of public education would not be implemented soon for want of the desired legislatively-approved budget.

Ms. Tate asked how the Board intentionally stimulated involvement of stakeholders. Mr. Buckingham answered that they don't wish to be stimulated, their frequent response being "Don't spend my money writing to me; leave me alone"!

Ms. Norris asked "How do you find out how the majority is feeling"? Ms. Flanders suggested that a questionnaire would be sent. Ms. Thompson suggested that an Outreach Committee be formed within the Board.

Ms. Tate, asking the Board to identify the support functions in the organization, handed out a questionnaire with self-addressed stamped envelope (to each Board member). Ms. Norris assured all that she could be called at (541) 754-0158 or e-mailed at Jnorris@militarybrats.com.

The meeting was recessed at 11:29 and re-called to order at 11:43.

Statute Changes

Ms. Thompson reported on HB 2178, the Board's housekeeping bill. Objections are contained within Geraldine Krummel's (LRT) letter [Attachment 2]:

1. There should be no allowance for an examination equivalent to that of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).
2. Limited-permit categories should not be removed from the current statute.
3. Instructional hours in radiation use and safety should remain specified in the statute.

Additional oppositional testimony was provided by Randy Harp, LRT, and Anne Warden, LRT, after the Board had requested to withdraw the bill. (A "tap-tap" committee session had been suggested—to open the bill for discussion and then immediately close the session. Ms. Thompson and Mr. Plam, acting on the assurance of the perfunctory session, departed; testimony was then accepted.) Objections are largely those of Bart Pierce, LRT, Chairman of the Board, Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists [Attachment 3]:

1. Same as Point 1 above.
2. Same as Point 2 above.
3. Same as Point 3 above.
4. Examination fees should not be left to the Board to set.
5. Chemical dependence irrelevant to practicing radiologic technology should not be a concern of the Board.

Ms. Thompson reported on HB 2465, a reprise of the super-board bill of the '97 session. The bill hearing will be next week. The super-board's funding would be \$2 per transaction of each "small" board. The super-board would take over some of the small boards' operations. The official Board opposition continues.

HB 2702 [Attachment 4] would establish a joint interim taskforce, money to be obtained from a public or private source.

The bill (SB 1127 [Attachment 5]) offering the Board semi-independent status Ms. Thompson characterizes as the Board's most important decision. The Board members would be chosen by the licensees—not by the governor. The Board budget would not go through a Ways-and-Means subcommittee but be left to the licensee-chosen Board, thus strengthening the more direct connection between the Board and licensees. The Board would be even more responsive than now—and more vulnerable—no longer being within the "governor's shield." The Board would have more freedom to set its own course, and more responsibility—principally in the budget-fiscal-cash management area.

Ms. Thompson handed out the "Overview" of the bill. Mr. Plam: "We'll read this over and get back." He expressed favor toward independent status, citing quicker responses to permittees and licensees.

Ms. Thompson assayed the various bills as presenting substantial challenges. She would favor semi-independent status if the Board, staff, permittees and licensees shouldered the responsibility. That responsibility she would see as enabled by additional automation. She denoted the opportunity "high-risk, high-potential." She offered the Board a conference call or special Board meeting, citing a deadline of April 19.

Credit Card

Ms. Thompson reported that the Treasury has advised the Board that it will face increased processing charges. Mr. Plam moved to quit accepting credit-card payments; Mr. Buckingham seconded; **unanimously favorable**.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE)

Ms. Palmer urged the Board to write criteria for emergency approval situations—instances when a program has been presented before approval has been requested. Ms. Hovet moved that there be no *ex post facto* CE approval; Mr. Plam seconded. Dr. Stevens said that it might be better to leave the individual decision to the CE Committee. The motion failed.

Ms. Palmer presented approval requests for alternative methods of patient care. Those requests concerned nutrition, chiropractic, pain management by acupuncture, and massage—disciplines often calling down pejorative comments from those in conventional therapies. Ms. Palmer cited the American-Society-of-Radiologic-Technologists' "guardlines" against negative utterances, but she communicated her doubt that approving the requests would agree with Board requirements that CE be in radiologic technology.

Dr. Stevens asked: “How about personal finance”? Mr. Hocken “...wouldn’t bend [the requirement] one bit.” Dr. Stevens asked Ms. Thompson to get from the ARRT their CE guidelines.

Ms. Palmer suggested that the chiropractic presentation be approved for diagnostic technologists and spine limited-permittees only. That was generally agreeable to the Board. The acupuncture: generally not agreeable. The massage: generally not agreeable. Then Ms. Palmer mentioned a five-hour presentation in pelvis/lower extremities and foot/ankle—with much of the material pertaining to areas above the ankle. The Board generally agreed to adjust the credit hours for foot/ankle to half of those for pelvis/lower extremities.

Dr. Stevens noted (in the CE calendar [Attachment 6]) approval number 20-99—“Current Care of the Diabetic Patient.” He guessed that the subject might be encompassed within “infection control.” He pointed out that other calendar entries seemed of borderline relevance to “radiologic technology.”

A negative CE evaluation [Attachment 7] was shared with the Board. The general feeling was that the evaluation should be copied to the sponsor.

Ms. Palmer took from the meeting a number of tasks for the CE Advisory Committee.

INVESTIGATIONS

NOTE: In accordance with ORS 688.605(2), the identities of some individuals and facilities are confidential and withheld from public disclosure during the period of investigation.

Except as indicated, **the motion and second originated with Mr. Plam and Ms. Flanders, respectively; all board decisions were unanimous.**

Case 98-08-03: Consent order approved. (Randall Stroot, DPM, knowingly employing an unlicensed person to practice radiologic technology. Consent order effective 03/19/1999.)

Case 98-09-05: Default order approved. (Toni Baker, unprofessional conduct.)

Case 98-11-02: Consent order approved. (Gloria Pullam, practiced radiologic technology on an expired limited permit. Consent order effective 11/20/1998.)

Case 98-12-03: Further investigation. (The Board directed the staff to send all disciplinary communications *via* “certified” mail.)

Case 99-01-02: Unfounded.

Case 99-02-01: Consent order approved. (Michael Ball, LRT, practiced radiologic technology on an expired temporary permit. Consent order effective 02/04/1999.)

Case 99-02-02: Consent order approved. (Marcella Sario, practiced radiologic technology prior to being issued temporary permit. Consent order effective 02/17/1999.)

Case 99-02-03: Consent order approved. (Virginia Torres, practiced radiologic technology on expired temporary permit. Consent order effective 02/08/1999.)

Case 99-02-04: Consent order approved. (Gordon McKenna, LRT, practiced prior to being issued license. Consent order effective 02/22/1999.)

Case 99-03-01: Unfounded.

Case 99-03-02: (There is little record of this case other than a notation that papers were faxed on 03/04/1999. The staff was instructed to start a fax file.)

Case 99-03-03: Mr. Strayer is investigating.

Case 99-03-05: Consent order approved. (Removal of Hologic as an approved course of study. Consent order effective 03/23/1999.)

Case 99-03-06: Mr. Strayer is investigating.

Sunsetting Disciplinary Records

Mr. Plam suggested asking the assistant attorney general for advice. Ms. Thompson opined that a pertinent Board policy would suffice; Mr. Plam agreed.

Emotionally-impaired Technologist

Mr. Van Fleet reported having called Springbrook Northwest for information re licensee or permittee rehabilitation. No information having been received, Mr. Van Fleet will seek it again.

LIMITED PERMIT

Limited-permit Advisory Committee Proposal [Attachment 27]

Some courses' responses have been received (to the request for examination questions). Ms. Palmer will give those questions to a disinterested panel.

Graphs Showing School Trends [Attachment 8]

Messrs. Hirsh and Uroshevich offered various suggestions for enhancing the graphs. The suggestions were difficult of quick reconciliation. Mr. Plam, noting that the graphs didn't seem to be accomplishing any broad purpose, directed that they be abandoned.

Course-of-Study Approval

The committee recommended that the course prepared by Don Silva, LRT, be approved. The decision was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

Policy Manual Review—Progress on rule revisions
Automatically forwarded to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned. F:\RADTECH\Administrative\BOARD\MINUTES\99-APR.doc