

Oregon State Board of Radiologic Technology (OBRT)

July 10, 1998 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; Erica Hovet, Public Member; Darrell Hocken, RT, Advisory Member; Betty Palmer, LRT; Glen Plam, LRTT, Chairman; Chris Stewart, Clerk; Lianne Thompson, Executive Officer; Doug Van Fleet, Clerk.

Members Absent: Ken Stevens, MD, Radiologist.

Also Present: Randy Harp, LRT, Oregon Society of Radiologic Technologists (OSRT); Frank Mussell, Assistant Attorney General; Steve Uroshevich, LRT, Apollo College; Anne Warden, LRT, OSRT.

Committee Meetings held to consider agenda items, 9:00 a.m. –

A quorum was established and the meeting called to order at 9:29 a.m.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Mercedes Herrera, LRT, was introduced as the board member replacing David Taylor, LRT. Erica Hovet was introduced as the board (public) member replacing Kenneth Faulkner, Ph.D.

MINUTES APPROVAL [Attachment 1]

April 10, 1998: Mr. Buckingham moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Ms. Hovet seconded. Passed, Ms. Flanders abstaining.

CHAIR REPORT

Mr. Plam took exception to an article in the American Society of Radiologic Technology's *Scanner*. The author referred to Oregon as a place where one could learn to do chest exams in a morning and practice radiologic technology in the afternoon. Mr. Plam would like the author to've done more research. Ms. Palmer suggested sending an article to the magazine. Mr. Hocken said that that would be a good idea—as a matter of clarification. Ms. Hovet wondered about an editorial letter. Mr. Buckingham: "Just offer facts." Mr. Plam's greatest concern is with Society members in

Oregon. Mss. Flanders and Palmer are more concerned nationally. Mr. Plam will compose an answering letter.

BOARD OFFICE REPORT

Ms. Thompson welcomed the new board members.

Activity Report

Budget

Ms. Thompson's item of highest priority is the financial basis for the 1999-2001 biennium. She reminded the board that she had already sent them figures ("Budget Figures --- Board of Radiologic Technology" [Attachment 2] and memo package to Kristine Adams-Wannberg ("OBRT's Budget and Staffing Needs" [Attachment 3])). She's considering a total of \$58,284, exclusive of (most of the) personnel costs

Oregon Administrative Rules

Ms. Thompson reminded the board that an agency's administrative rules are to be reviewed every three years. Unfortunately, no review had been done within the three years before her arrival. The current review and revision are progressing.

Personnel

The network administrative contract has been signed. Ms. Thompson can begin moving Grant Moyle exclusively to database reporting.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Thompson's memo of 07/07/1998—"OAR Suggested Language" [Attachment 4] —was opened to discussion. Rule 337-001-0005 was accepted without change. 337-010-0031(8)—requiring limited-permit-program sponsors to open their courses to the public—was accepted with minor change. 337-010-0060—re the board's reporting disciplinary actions to the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists—was accepted with change, Mr. Mussell taking the lead in requiring the reporting. (He also suggested the suitability of an internal management directive.) 337-010-0061—requiring chemical and alcohol evaluation of certain applicants—was made less generally applicable. It also needs a statutory basis. 337-010-0080—was accepted without change. Again, an internal management directive would be appropriate.

The meeting was recessed at 10:42 a.m. and re-called to order at 10:51 a.m.

BOARD OFFICE REPORT

Database Count and Number of New Licenses/Permits [Attachments 5 and 6]

- < 2,684 active licenses and limited permits, including
- < 245 "initial" (having not yet been required to renew), including
- < 59 approved during the second quarter.

LIMITED PERMIT

Initial and Continuing Competence

Ms. Thompson suggested that the board not require continuing education of those physician assistants and nurse practitioners who might wish to renew after more than two years of expired status. [The preceding sentence changed in 10/09/1998 meeting.] The Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems is expected to continue to assert its belief (through Ed Patterson's legislative activities) that continuing education isn't necessarily indicative of continuing competence.

Possible New Course of Instruction

Steve Uroshevich, LRT, submitted his resum⁹ [Attachment 7] in support of his **application for an approved course of instruction**. The course is proposed to serve rural areas. **The committee has recommended approval and the motion therefore comes with an automatic second.**

Mr. Plam asked Mr. Uroshevich about the possibility of his students' failing board exams. Mr. Uroshevich said that his school should be investigated if the failure rate exceeded 25%.

Ms. Palmer asked how positioning instruction would be accomplished: "With phantoms?" Mr. Uroshevich: "When affordable." Ms. Palmer: "In rural areas, what machine access would there be?" Mr. Uroshevich: "Access is a prerequisite."

The motion passed.

Results of May Limited Permit Examinations [Attachment 8] – Mr. Van Fleet expressed concern with what he saw as a semi-annual oscillation in the (spine) scores. He worried that the two (spine) exams are not equally difficult. Mr. Plam cautioned that the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists has found that repeating examinees have lower scores; he implied that the confounding influence of repeating examinees must be accounted for before concluding re exam differences. Graphs showing school trends (requested by Mr. Plam in the July 1997 meeting and developed [Attachment 9] by Mr. Stewart) were again presented by Mr. Van Fleet.

Policy for Renewals of Limited Permits for Past-Due NPs and PAs

Ms. Thompson presented her memo (of July 7, 1998) [Attachment 10] concerning physician assistants and nurse practitioners with long-expired limited permits. She has discerned three options: (A) Tell them that we cannot accept them under our auspices; (B) (A bill being planned by nurse practitioners and physician assistants) Exempt only them from our statutory requirement that any LP holder more than two years in expired status must start over; (C) Reexamine the board's policy and support revisions for anyone holding an LP expired for more than two years.

Ms. Thompson favors (C) because of its combination of customer service and opportunity for the board to analyze the entire limited-permit program: "If the Board were to accept (C) it would need to discuss its willingness to define the elements of initial and continuing competence and **what** [it would be that] **measured achievement of that competence**, including conditions for challenging the LP exam...." Mr. Hocken expressed uncertainty that exam re-passing would have meaning. Mr. Plam: "Test passing provides documentation." He suggested: **Those who can prove that they've been previously permitted and that they've been continually working in radiologic technology during the past two years may challenge exams in Radiation Use and Safety and relevant anatomic areas.** Ms. Flanders moved and Mr. Buckingham seconded. The motion passed unanimously. This decision establishes the likelihood that Option B will fail as a bill.

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.

(Tracking is occurring on previous cases.) (Not much new activity.)

All motions and seconds (except as indicated) originated with the Investigations Committee; all board decisions were unanimous.

Case 97-6: (This case awaited Ms. Thompson when she arrived in October 1996. She commends Mr. Mussell for his energy in producing the resolution.) **\$200 fine paid** (on 06/22/1998).

Ms. Thompson touted web access because a four-page-complaint's reception. Mr. Plam cautioned re electronic-mail communications' authenticity. Ms. Thompson assured that she'd requested hard copy.

Case 97-12-05: Ms. Thompson presented the default order. Ms. Flanders wanted to know whether the initial communication said "Cease and Desist." Ms. Thompson: "No; it was not a clear and present danger." **Default-order approval was moved by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Ms. Flanders and passed unanimously.**

Case 98-05-01 [Attachment 11]: Practicing without a valid license, less than six months, \$100 fine. **The fine was suspended.**

LEGISLATION

(No report.)

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE)

(No report.)

OLD BUSINESS

Policy Manual Review: "OBRT Policy Manual" [Attachment 12] was subjected to a repeated item-wise discussion because of the missing decisions originally reached in the January 1998 meeting. ("Policy [#] is to be [whatever].") 1 deleted, 2 deleted, 3 deleted, 4 deleted, 5 deleted, 6 deleted, 7 converted to an administrative rule, 8 converted to an administrative rule, 9 deleted, 10 deleted, 11 deleted, 12 deleted, 13 converted to an administrative rule, 14 deleted, 15 deleted, 16 deleted, 17-28 to be completed at the next meeting.

Ms. Thompson urged the members to study the Public-Law-Conference materials ("Basic Public Law – Parts I and II) [Attachment 13] which were distributed for this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.