

**MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**

LICENSING PROGRAM
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**Agenda Item 2****Midwifery Committee**

**Hilton Los Angeles Airport
Century C&D Room
5711 West Century Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90045-5672**

February 1, 2007

MINUTES**Agenda Item 1 Call to Order**

The Midwifery Committee (Committee) of the Medical Board of California (Board) was called to order by Chair Richard D. Fantozzi, M.D., at 2:03 p.m. A quorum was present, and due notice had been mailed to all interested parties.

Members Present:

Richard D. Fantozzi, M.D., Chair
Hedy Chang
Laurie C. Gregg, M.D.
Barbara Yaroslavsky

Staff Present:

Kathi Burns, Staff Services Manager I, Licensing Program
Kim Kirchmeyer, Deputy Director
Armando Melendez, Business Services Assistant, Business Services Office
Kelly Nelson, Legislative Analyst, Legislative/Regulatory Unit
Gary Qualset, Chief, Licensing Program
Regina Rao, Analyst, Business Services Office
Paulette Romero, Associate Analyst, Executive Office
Kevin Schunke, Regulation Coordinator, Legislative/Regulatory Unit
Anita Scuri, Supervising Senior Counsel, Department of Consumer Affairs
Pam Thomas, Analyst, Licensing Program
Linda Whitney, Chief, Legislative/Regulatory Unit
Curt Worden, Staff Services Manager I, Licensing Program

Members of the Audience:

Dorene Dominguez, Medical Board Member
Faith Gibson, L.M., California College of Midwives (CCM)
Donna Russell, California Citizens for Health Freedom

Carrie Sparrevohn, L.M., California Association of Midwives (CAM)
Tonya Brooks, L.M., Association for Childbirth and Home International (ACHI)
Diane Holzer, L.M.
Karen Ehrlich, L.M., Birth Network of Santa Cruz County
Sandra Bressler, California Medical Association (CMA)
Zennie Coughlin, Kaiser Permanente

Agenda Item 2 Approval of Minutes from the November 2, 2006 Meeting

It was M/S/C (Yaroslavsky/Gregg) to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2006 Committee meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 3 Establishment of Midwifery Advisory Council

Dr. Fantozzi stated three criteria of the Midwifery Advisory Council (MAC) that needed to be determined were size, term, and constituency. He explained it was his goal that midwives licensed and regulated by the Board have credibility, authenticity, and participation in the process, which is the intention of the MAC. He added the MAC is a forum where vested parties can discuss midwifery issues and make recommendations to both the Committee and the Division of Licensing (DOL).

Regarding the issue of size, it was suggested there be representatives from the key groups and stakeholders to develop and assure credibility and a successful level of quality of care. Discussion ensued regarding the MAC consisting of six members, including three licensed midwives, two public members, one from the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) and one a nominee of the CMA, and one board member. Dr. Fantozzi recommended Ms. Yaroslavsky serve as the board member.

Carrie Sparrevohn, L.M., CAM, indicated in drafting the legislation, “public member” was interpreted as someone who had a stake in midwifery services as a member of the public and was not connected to a profession licensed by the board, including physicians.

Discussion continued regarding either adding a consumer public member after the MAC has been implemented, or presenting issues to the Committee as reported by consumers who attend the publicly-held MAC meetings.

Tonya Brooks, L.M., Director of the Natural Birth and Women’s Center and Head of the ACHI, asked about the function of the MAC, pointed out that no members were from urban Southern California, and indicated midwifery practice in urban versus rural areas and physician supervision are two issues that need to be addressed.

Karen Ehrlich, L.M., Birth Network of Santa Cruz County, commented that there has always been a split in the midwifery community between Northern and Southern California. She recommended a Southern California licensed midwife representative serve on the MAC. She also recommended a consumer of midwifery services be considered as a full member on the MAC.

It was M/S/C (Yaroslavsky/Chang) to accept the staff recommendations as to the size, term of appointments and current membership of the MAC, with Barbara Yaroslavsky named as the board member.

Staff was directed to schedule MAC meetings approximately one month after each Midwifery Committee meeting, with the first MAC meeting anticipated to occur in early March 2007. Staff was directed to set the meeting date and work with Dr. Fantozzi to develop agenda items for the first meeting, including: appointment of a chairperson; discussion and development of meeting protocols, roles/responsibilities, and mission/visionary statement; Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act requirements; ideas for development of a coding system for annual reporting; and re-training of licensed midwives.

Agenda Item 4 Program Update

Mr. Qualset introduced the new Licensing Operations Manager, Kathi Burns. He reported there will be a meeting with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) on February 15, 2007, regarding development of a system for midwife annual report coding. He indicated the *ACOG Practice Bulletin, Number 54, July 2004*, containing "Vaginal Birth After Previous Cesarean Delivery" standards of care was now a link on the Board's website, as required by patient disclosure regulations.

Staff was directed to notify all licensed midwives regarding the annual reporting requirements after the February 15, 2007, meeting with OSHPD.

Agenda Item 5 Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Carrie Sparrevohn, L.M., CAM, suggested employing the same type of mechanism for licensed midwives that is used to address issues for physicians under investigation, i.e., implementation of a competency exam specific to a particular deficiency that is drafted by expert reviewers.

Faith Gibson, L.M., CCM, stated licensed midwives had spent the past dozen years attempting to assemble a midwifery council and the expectation of the midwifery community was the MAC would be an opportunity for licensed midwives to bring issues of concern to the Board and not vice versa. She indicated she had received several e-mails regarding issues midwives would like addressed by the MAC and would prefer that midwives draft their own agenda.

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Donna Russell, California Citizens for Health Freedom, expressed her organization's disappointment with the current membership of the MAC. She asked the Committee to take a closer look at the function of the MAC and the membership component and consider working in collaboration with the licensed midwives to use the MAC as a forum for discussing midwifery issues.

Agenda Item 6 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.