



**Government of the District of Columbia
Department of Health
Board of Respiratory Care**

**899 NORTH CAPITOL ST. NE – 2ND FLR.
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

March 9, 2015

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**OPEN SESSION
MEETING MINUTES**



ATTENDANCE:

BOARD MEMBERS:		
	CAROLYN WILLIAMS, CHAIRPERSON	Present
	JEAN WILLIAMS, BOARD MEMBER	Present
	TIMOTHY MAHONEY, BOARD MEMBER	Present
STAFF:	ROBIN Y. JENKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Present
	ERIC YEAGER, HEALTH LICENSING SPECIALIST	Present
	REBECCA ODRICK, INVESTIGATOR	Present
LEGAL STAFF:	PANRAVEE VONGJAROENRAT, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL	Present
GUESTS:		



OPEN SESSION: Call to Order

OS-0309-01	SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT Board Action: There was no report.	
OS-0309-02	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT Board Action: The Executive Director announced that there would be training for all members of the Allied and Behavioral Health Boards on March 26, 2015, at the Department of Health building. The training will allow Board Members to learn more about the regulatory process.	
OS-0309-03	BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT Board Action: The Board Attorney reported that the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on the North Carolina Board of Dentistry case argued before it and found that a state licensing board must be actively supervised by the state to be exempt from antitrust scrutiny. She noted that the North Carolina board in this case was not insulated from scrutiny because its board members were elected, not appointed.	
OS-0309-04	CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT Board Action: The Board Chair announced the following upcoming events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Virginia Society of Respiratory Care will hold the "Capitol City Symposium" in Richmond, Va., on March 13, 2015. 6 CEUs will be offered. b) The University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore will have a Symposium, "Respiratory Care On the Cutting Edge," on April 3, 2015. 6 CEUs will be offered. c) The Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore, Md., will have its "Spring Respiratory Conference" on May 5, 2015. A total of 6 CEUs, with one (1) in Ethics, will be offered. d) The American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) will have a Pulmonary Educator Course in Arlington, 	



	<p>Va., on March 16th – March 1, 2015. 12.5 CEUs will be offered.</p> <p>e) The Maryland/DC Society for Respiratory Care is hosting Hill Day on March 18, 2015. Respiratory Therapists from the State Societies are coming to Washington, D.C., to meet with their members of Congress to advocate for support of The Medicare Telehealth Parity Act. Respiratory Therapists are specifically included in this bill which expands opportunities for Medicare beneficiaries to improve health outcomes through telehealth services. The Maryland/DC Society for Respiratory Care will be represented with Respiratory Therapists, Respiratory Therapy Students and Patient Advocates.</p>	
OS-0309-05	<p><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES</u> Board Action: The Open Session Minutes of the February 9, 2015 meeting were approved.</p>	
OS-0309-06	<p><u>THERAPIST DRIVEN PROTOCOLS</u> Board Action: Board Member Timothy Mahoney, the proponent of this proposal, suggested the Board should reach out to other professional Boards at DOH for support. He also asked the ability for therapists to provide educational training be inserted into the Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA). However, the Board Attorney noted that the HORA’s language is already sufficiently broad to allow this training, and that changes to the HORA can take several years. Further, pointing to the latitude already provided to physical therapists, occupational therapists, nurses, and an array of other licensees under the current language of the HORA, the Board Attorney doubted that other licensing groups will see any need to support Respiratory Therapists in this endeavor. Further, the Board Chair Carolyn Williams and Board Member Jean Williams noted that their hospitals already allow their therapists the practice freedoms sought by Member Mahoney, and that perhaps the change he seeks to effect is more institutional</p>	



	<p>than anything else. When Board Member Mahoney mentioned that therapists should also be reimbursed for the cost of teaching, the Board Attorney noted that this problem could be addressed by the Office of Health Care Finance. The Board Attorney said that she would begin drafting regulatory language and move forward with amending the Respiratory Care regulations.</p>	
OS-0309-07	<p><u>AUDIT</u> <u>Board Action:</u> The Board agreed to audit twenty (20) percent of the licensees and include those licensees who failed the 2013 audit.</p>	
ADDENDUM	<p><u>FUTURE MEETING DATES</u> <u>Board Action:</u> The Board agreed that, following the next meeting on April 13, 2015, meetings will be held every other month. However, the Board Members noted that they would carefully monitor licensing activities and the number of complaints and consider whether may be necessary to return to a monthly meeting format.</p>	

	<p>OPEN SESSION CLOSED AT 10:25 a.m.</p>	
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