



STATE OF WASHINGTON
Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission
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**Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission Meeting
December 15, 2023 - Minutes**

Convene: Chair, Ken Kenyon called the meeting to order December 15, 2023, 9:11 AM.

Commission Members:

Ken Kenyon, PharmD, BCPS, Chair
Hawkins DeFrance, Nuclear Pharmacist, Vice Chair
Teri Ferreira, RPh
Jerrie Allard, Public Member
Uyen Thorstensen, CPhT
Craig Ritchie, RPh, JD
Patrick Gallaher, BS, BPharm, MBA, MPH
Judy Guenther, Public Member
Matthew Ray, PharmD
Ann Wolken, PharmD, RPh
Huey Yu, PharmD
Stephanie Bardin, PharmD
William Hayes, PharmD CCHP
Bonnie Bush, Public Member

Staff:

Marlee O’Neill, Executive Director
Lindsay Trant-Sinclair, Deputy Director
Si Bui, Inspector Supervisor
Christopher Gerard, AAG
Kseniya Policy Analyst
Irina Tiginyanu, Pharmacy Technician Consultant
Joshua Munroe, Legislative and Rules Consultant
Taifa “Nomi” Peaks, Pharmacist Consultant
Haleigh Mauldin, Program Consultant
Julia Katz, Program Consultant
Keith Bond, Operations Manager
Amy L Robertson, Communications Coordinator
and Program Support

Commission Members Absent:

1. Call to Order - Ken Kenyon, Chair.

1.1 Meeting Agenda Approval – December 15, 2023.

MOTION: Craig Ritchie moved to approve the December 15, 2023, meeting agenda. Huey Yu, seconded. Motion carried, 14:0.

2. Request for Consideration.

2.1 Collaboration Request for Midwifery Program Rules.

Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director for the Midwifery Program, Kristin Effland, LM, Dr. Deb Gleisner, ND, LM (naturopath and licensed midwife), Katherine Sauerlender, LM, and Amber Ulvenes presented the midwifery program’s draft rule to the commission for consultation. No action was taken by the commission.

3. Old Business.

3.1 Presentation on Lobbying from a Commissioner Perspective and the Public Records Act.

Christopher Gerard, AAG, led presentations on lobbying from a commissioner perspective and on the Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.

3.2 Repeal Policy Statement on Regulatory Standards Applicable to Remote Dispensing Sites.

MOTION: Craig Ritchie moved to repeal the policy statement on Regulatory Standards Applicable to Remote Dispensing Sites once the rule becomes effective. Huey Yu, seconded. Motion carried, 14:0.

3.3 Review Edits to Commission Bylaws.

MOTION: Craig Ritchie moved to approve bylaws contingent upon proposed edits to Article IV – Officers, number 5 Removal/replacement of Officer Positions to strike “a quorum of”. Huey Yu, seconded. Motion carried, 14:0.

3.4 Continue Strategic Planning.

Keegan Curry provided a recap of prior strategic planning sessions and facilitated the next phase of planning.

4. New Business.

4.1 List and Labels Request.

MOTION: Craig Ritchie moved to recognize the Institute of Brain Potential as an educational organization. Huey Yu, seconded. Motion carried, 13:0:1. (Matthew Ray – Abstain.)

4.2 Regulations on Telepharmacy and Remote Supervision.

Commissioners discussed WAC 246-945-315 and other regulations relevant to telepharmacy and the remote supervision of ancillary staff and heard comments from stakeholders.

MOTION: Craig Ritchie moved to task staff with researching what other states are doing related to the regulation of telepharmacy and remote supervision, and presenting their findings to the commission at a future business meeting where appropriate in the next 3-6 months. Hawkins DeFrance, seconded. Motion carried, 14:0.

4.3 Pharmacy Technician Final Product Verification.

Commissioners discussed pharmacy technician final product verification and heard comments from stakeholders.

MOTION: Ken Kenyon moved to task staff with further analysis of whether final product verification is within the scope of practice for a pharmacy technician. Teri Ferreira, seconded. Motion carried, 14:0.

5. Ancillary Utilization Plan.

5.1 Bellegrove Pharmacy.

MOTION: Craig Ritchie moved to table a decision on the updated AUP. Teri Ferreira, seconded. Motion carried, 14:0.

6. Legislative Bill Report.

Joshua Munroe presented the PQAC legislative bill report.

MOTION: Craig Ritchie moved to express opposition to HB 1909. Hawkins DeFrance, seconded. Motion carried, 12:1:1. (Patrick Gallaher – Nay, Bonnie Bush – Abstain.)

7. Commission Member Reports. Open discussion related to items or issues relevant to commission business/pharmacy practice.

7.1 Ken Kenyon reported out on the 2023 NABP in Jackson, Wyoming. He informed the commission that Washington will be hosting the 2026 District 6, 7, & 8 meeting.

8. Staff Reports.

8.1 Executive Director – Marlee O’Neill.

- Marlee attended the November Board of Nursing (WABON) meeting as part of a panel discussion with the executive directors for the Washington Medical Commission and Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission. The panelists spoke to the make-up of their respective commissions, its priorities, and how the commissions can work with WABON.
- Marlee and Si presented at the WSPA Annual Meeting in early November.
- Later in November, Marlee presented to the Southwest Washington Pharmacy Association and Inspector Stephanie Martin joined her.
- Marlee thanked staff for their hard work, dedication and can-do attitude.

8.2 Deputy Director – Lindsay Trant-Sinclair.

- Lindsay provided the commission with a reminder to complete the Culture on Military Spouse Training by the end of the year.

8.3 Pharmacist Supervisor – Si Bui.

- Si informed the commission that the newest inspector, Justin Sisney, has completed training and is working in the field.

8.4 Pharmacist Consultant – Taifa ‘Nomi’ Peaks.

- Nothing to report.

8.5 Assistant Attorney General – Christopher Gerard.

- Nothing to report.

9. Summary of Meeting Action Items.

3.1 Presentation on Lobbying from a Commissioner Perspective and Public Records Act

- Staff will do additional research regarding email retention, retention schedules, and statutory lobbying restrictions and how those apply to talking with stakeholder groups.

3.2 Repeal Policy Statement on Regulatory Standards Applicable to Remote Dispensing Sites

- Repeal policy statement on remote dispensing sites for opioid use disorder medications once rule becomes effective.

3.3 Bylaws

- Staff will finalize the bylaws and distribute them to the commissioners and post them to box.com. Note: The nonresident pharmacy directive task force will consist of Hawkins, Uyen, Ann, and Huey, with Hawkins as the chair. Staff will work with the task force on next steps and schedule task force meetings.

3.4 Strategic Planning

- Staff will continue to refine the objectives in the operational and licensing efficiencies goal based on commissioner feedback today and bring a final draft of the strategic plan to the commission at a future business meeting.

4.1 List and Label Request

- Communicate the commission’s decision to the department’s public disclosure unit.

4.2 Regulations on Telepharmacy and Remote Supervision

- Staff will review what other states and Canadian provinces are doing related to the regulation of telepharmacy and remote supervision and will present the research at future business meeting.

4.3 Pharmacy Technician Final Product Verification

- Staff will conduct a legal review on the commission’s authority around pharmacy technician final product verification, including an analysis of discretionary tasks.

6. Legislative Bill Report

- Communicate the commission’s opposition on HB 1909 to the department.

Business Meeting Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.