

**ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
November 15, 2017**

President Buddy Bunch called the November 15, 2017, meeting of the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy to order at 9:16 a.m. to conduct necessary business and determined a quorum was present. The following Board members were present:

Buddy R. Bunch	President
David S. Darby	Vice President
Donna C. Yeatman	Treasurer
Ralph E. Sorrell	Member
Brenda R. Denson	Member
James S. Ward	Attorney

Other Alabama Board of Pharmacy staff members present were:

Susan P. Alverson, Ph.D., Executive Secretary	Rhonda Coker
Edward R. Braden, Chief Drug Investigator	Terry Lawrence
Cristal O. Anderson, Director of Compliance	Wendy Passmore
Glenn A. Wells, Drug Investigator	Dr. Mike Garver
Scott Daniel, Drug Investigator	
Casey Shaw, Drug Investigator	

Members of the public present were:

John Tanga	Haley Phillippe	Chris Piszczatoski
Robin Bellomy	Jon Linna	Whitney White
Tracy Davis	Brad Wright	Joseph Nguyen
Tim Martin	Kimberly Braxton Lloyd	Cherry Jackson
Charlie Cook	Greg Peden	Michael Crouch
George Hiller	Jennifer Fever	Gordon Sacks
Leanna Barker	Paige Patterson	Michael Thomas
Walker Mason	Tommy Cobb	Lee Evans
Meagan Higdon	Julie Lasseigne	Ronda Lacey
Alex Sturdivant	Kellye Knight	Rachel Thomas
Mike Gong	Jim Easter	Alanna Alexander
Matthew Malachowski	Chris Riviere	Lauren Ward
Jonathan Fowler	Jeenu Philip	Brooke Jaramillo
Bart Bamberg	Emily Tsiao	Clemice Hurst
Allison Souders	Madeleine King	Kelli Newman
Taylor Steuber	J. T. LouAllen	Richard Hansen
Bruce Harris	Julie Hunter	Bobby Giles

Louise Jones	Kristi Kelley	Mike Kendrach
Becky Sorrell	Kelly Hester	Eddie Vanderver
Kaitlyn Ledbetter	Melissa Pharo	Rebecca Maxon
Morgan Frawley	Kelsey Romano	Malia Manning
Alston Poellnitz	Renee DeHart	Aseala Abousaud
Logan McCall	Bruce Waldrop	Dee Thomason
Chris Robinson	Sally Sims	Jessica Rivera
Sarah Barker	April Yarbrough	Alex Norton
Wes Averett	Frank Tant	Blake Johnson
Dana Carroll		

1. MOTION TO ADOPT AGENDA

President Bunch called for a motion to adopt the agenda. A motion was presented by Mr. Sorrell and seconded by Mr. Darby. A vote was taken and the motion passed with aye votes from Mr. Sorrell, Mr. Darby, Dr. Denson, and Ms. Yeatman.

2. WELLNESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Garver gave the Wellness Committee report. There are currently 154 people in the screening program. This includes those with signed contracts and orders of some type but does not include individuals who decline to work with the Wellness Program. There are four pharmacists and two technicians in treatment or halfway house and three pharmacists and two technicians who are being held for six months before being presented to the Board. The total number of pharmacy professionals identified and worked with in 2017 is 35: 20 pharmacists, 13 technicians, and two students. The total number of pharmacy health professionals identified during this time period in 2016 was 41. All individuals who are in treatment or in evaluation or undecided are presently out of the workplace and without a license. Dr. Garver will return for the January meeting with all year-end statistics.

3. PRESENTATIONS

Dr. R. Lee Evans of Auburn University gave an extensive presentation with a following discussion regarding the proposed Collaborative Practice Act for the State of Alabama.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Donna C. Yeatman, presented the treasurer's report. The Board began its new fiscal year. Technician registrations have started and the Board is at seven percent of its annual income. As always, Dr. Alverson is doing a good job controlling expenses.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Darby and seconded by Ms. Yeatman to approve the abbreviated business meeting minutes from the October 11, 2017, business meeting. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Darby and seconded by Ms. Yeatman to approve the interview minutes from the October 11, 2017, interviews. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

6. INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Chief Inspector Edward R. Braden was called upon to give his report of activities of the investigations and inspections. His report in the Dropbox listed the statistics and activities for the month of September.

7. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dr. Susan Alverson gave the Secretary's report, which consisted of the following:

- Dr. Alverson attended a fraud and compliance meeting in Washington DC. Most all speakers mentioned the *Escobar* case. The Supreme Court has said when charging people with violations related to fraud, there should be materiality to those charges.

Two of the speakers worked with compounding pharmacy charges in Miami. The new fraud scheme is that businesses in Florida will advertise in for drug treatment programs on the beach. The programs require participants to have two urine screens a day but do not do a lot of drug treatment. Urine screens generate a lot of income.

- Governor Ivey has put a lot of emphasis on travel. The State office handling travel is behind in processing approvals. For anyone needing to travel, requests should be made as early as possible.
- A large contingency of people attended Maltagon. Discussions were held regarding the opioid problem, including pharmacists' difficulty with refusing to fill prescriptions from physicians overprescribing and the possibility of DEA charges for not meeting your responsibility in controlling the opioid business.

Other discussions at Maltagon was the tech-to-pharmacist ratios. Some states have as many as five or six technicians to one pharmacist.

Collaborative practice and scope of practice was also among discussions. Many medical associations are fighting this issue.

- Dr. Alverson provided several articles for the Board to read. One of them refers to prenatal vitamins and the FDA voted a few years ago to not review and label them as prescription products. Even though companies are sending unapproved prenatal vitamins, the Board cannot regulate it.

Another article deals with how the FTC has brought charges against companies making false claims for diet drugs, one of which is against the use of HCG for diets. Charges have been brought for diet products which claim they work when there is no proof of that, charges against companies advertising for erectile dysfunction drugs. Advertising for an