

**---FINAL APPROVED---**

**ADVISORY BOARD ON GENETIC COUNSELING  
Minutes  
December 16, 2015**

The Advisory Board on Genetic Counseling met on Wednesday, December 16, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Matthew Thomas, ScM, CGC, Chair  
Heather Creswick, MS, CGC, Vice-Chair  
John Quillin, PhD, MPH, MS  
Marilyn Foust, MD  
Lori Swain

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director  
Jennifer Deschenes, JD, Deputy Executive Director for Discipline  
Alan Heaberlin, Deputy Executive Director for Licensure  
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Regulatory Analyst  
Cynthia Bailey, Deputy Attorney General  
Erin Barrett, Assistant Attorney General  
Denise Mason, Licensing Specialist

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Janice Craft-Henry, NARAL Pro-Choice Virginia  
Katherine B. Waddell, SOC

**Call TO ORDER**

Mr. Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

**EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES**

Mr. Thomas announced the Emergency Egress Procedures.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll was called. A quorum was present.

## ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

Ms. Swain moved to adopt the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

## ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Dr. Foust moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

## PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

The guests present introduced themselves to the Advisory Board. Janice Craft-Henry, NARAL, made comment regarding the draft regulations.

## NEW BUSINESS

### #1. Review and Approval of the Draft Regulations Governing the Practice of Genetic Counselors

Ms. Yeatts reviewed with the Advisory Board the draft regulations for genetic counselors. The Advisory Board recommended several minor edits with the assistance of Ms. Bailey. The motions are as follows:

- Dr. Foust moved to revise 18VAC85-170-90.A(3) to state, “Recertification Current certification by ABGC or ABMG.” The motion was seconded and carried.
- Dr. Quillin moved to revise the language of 18VAC85-170-150(B)(1) to state, “Notwithstanding provisions of subsection A of this section, Practitioners a practitioner may exercise the conscience clause pursuant to requirements of § 54.1-2957.21 of the code of Virginia as applicable...”
- ...he shall immediately inform a prospective patient with specificity of any associated limitations on counseling resulting therefrom,...
- 18VAC85-170-150(B)(1)(a) was amended to include “... Offer to refer the patient to another licensed health care practitioner with a relevant scope of practice and direct the patient to the online directory of licensed genetic counselors maintained by the board;”

The motion was seconded and carried.

- Ms. Creswick moved to amend the language of 18VAC85-170-150(B)(2) to state, “... he shall immediately inform the patient with specificity about any associated limitations. ~~and He shall:~~
  - a. Document communication in the patient record of such information.
  - a- b. Offer to refer the patient to another licensed health care practitioner with a relevant scope of practice and direct the patient to the online directory of licensed genetic counselors; and
  - b- c. Immediately notify any referring practitioner...
  - e- d. Alert the patient and the referring practitioner...”
- The motion was seconded and carried.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

TBA

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Advisory Board was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

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Matthew Thomas, Chair

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William L. Harp, M.D.  
Executive Director

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Denise Mason, Licensing Specialist