

<<< FINAL APPROVED >>>

ADVISORY BOARD ON MIDWIFERY Minutes February 7, 2020

The Advisory Board on Midwifery met on Friday, February 7, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center; 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia, 23233.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kim Pekin, CPM, Chair
Mayanne Zielinski, CPM
Rebecca Banks, CPM

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Natasha Jones, MSC
Ami Keatts, MD

STAFF PRESENT:

Michael Sobowale, Deputy for Licensure
William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director
Elaine Yeatts, DHP Senior Policy Analyst
Colanthia Morton, Deputy for Administration
Beulah Baptist Archer, Licensing Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT:

Misty Ward, CPM-NA Birth Center Alliance
Lindsey Kornya, CPM-River City Midwifery
Adrienna Ross, CPM-River City Midwifery
Pamela L. Pilch, Esq.-Birth Rights Bar
Marcia Santelli-Jones-Birth Rights Bar
Marinda Shindler, CPM-VMA

CALL TO ORDER

Kim Pekin called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

EMERGENCY EGRESS PROCEDURES – Dr. Harp announced the emergency egress procedures.

ROLL CALL –Beulah Baptist Archer called the roll, and a quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Kim Pekin moved to approve the May 24, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mayanne Zielinski moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Misty Ward discussed her Board reprimand for administering medication without the supervision of a physician or other authorized medical professional. She also spoke to the difficulty she has encountered in establishing a collaborative relationship with a physician in order to have access to medication.

Pamela Pilch and Misty Ward spoke to the lack of clarification on procedures for midwives to follow in obtaining a medical professional authorized to pronounce the time of death in cases of fetal demise.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Report of the 2020 General Assembly – Elaine Yeatts

Ms. Yeatts reviewed several bills of interest to the Advisory Board. No action was required.

Dr. Brown reported that the General Assembly now prohibits firearms in its meetings. He also mentioned the Governor's efforts to decrease the disparity in prenatal maternal care and infant mortality.

2. Update Guidance Document 85-10 on high-risk pregnancy disclosures.

Kim Pekin suggested a periodic review of Guidance Document 85-10, which currently contains some errors in formatting.

Ms. Yeatts stated that guidance documents are reviewed every four years.

Dr. Harp said staff would review the document and make necessary edits.

3. Access to medications via birth assistants or by physician prescription.

Rebecca Banks asked for clarification of the definition of the "relationship" referred to in Section 54.1-3303 of the Code of Virginia. Dr. Harp explained that a "bona fide provider-patient relationship" required for prescribing could be established by a

history, physical examination, medication history, providing advice about the medication to be prescribed, and a medical record. It was discussed that a prescriber had to have a bona fide relationship with a patient of a midwife to be able to prescribe for the patient. 54.1-3408(A) and 3408(U) were also discussed. 3408(A) authorizes RN's and LPN's to administer medications written by a prescriber. The prescriber would be required to have a bona fide provider-patient relationship with the patient before prescribing the medication. 3408(U) indicates that the prescriber would need to be present for an unlicensed individual to administer medication.

Kim Pekin moved to add access to medications to the agenda for the June meeting to discuss how to proceed in bringing this issue to the full Board. The June meeting should review other states' laws and regulations on midwives and their access to medication.

Mayanne Zielinski seconded the motion, which carried.

4. Discuss and clarify procedures for known fetal demise resulting in stillbirth

Dr. Harp said these processes fall within the purview of the Virginia Department of Health, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, and the local medical examiners. He said that only physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants are authorized to complete death certificates. He suggested that midwives that deliver a stillborn baby try to get in touch with the local medical examiner.

Mayanne Zielinski suggested that the Board send an email to midwives regarding who can complete death certificates. Dr. Harp offered that this item could be placed in the next edition of the Board Briefs.

NEXT MEETING DATE

June 5, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Kim Pekin moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

William L. Harp, MD
Executive Director