

MINUTES

**UTAH
RADIOLOGY TECHNOLOGIST LICENSING BOARD
MEETING**

July 1, 2010

**Room 474 – 4th Floor – 1:00 p.m.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 1:12 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 3:00 p.m.

Bureau Manager:

Noel Taxin

Board Secretary:

Jacky Adams

Board Members Present:

Troy Dicou – Chairperson
Rex Christensen
Alexis Nieves
Ruth Potkins
Loy Ann Hunt

Board Members Absent:

Carla Willard

Guests:

Angie Ackerman – Mountain Medical
Roman Wallace – Mountain Medical
Patrick Luers – Mountain Medical
Kevin Marshall – Self
Kay Gallegos – Self
Dave Keahey
Sheri Combe

DOPL Staff Present:

Connie Call – Compliance Assistant

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Approval of the January 7, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes

Ms. Hunt seconded by Mr. Christensen made a motion to approve the January 7, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes, with corrections. The motion carried unanimously.

A substantive change was later made to the January 7, 2010 minutes. The previous motion was overturned, and they will be sent to the January 2011 Board Meeting for approval.

APPOINTMENTS:

1:15 p.m. Compliance

Ms. Call explained:

Mr. Kevin Marshall - is currently compliant with his MOU (Memorandum of Understanding), all "Employer Reports", reflecting he is not employed in this profession, have been submitted. Ms. Call requested the Board remind Mr. Marshall, due to his lack of employment, in this profession, no time is being reduced from his probationary period. Ms. Taxin recommended allowing Mr. Marshall to volunteer, his services, in this profession to help reduce the time frame; the Board expressed their support of this recommendation. Additionally, Ms. Call explained Mr. Marshall does not have a permanent address; he must stay in contact with her to ensure all Division correspondence is received.

Ms. Amy Ballard – is currently non-compliant with her MOU, due to her failure to submit her "Employer Report" as required. Ms. Call also reminded the Board at the October 1, 2009 Board Meeting, the Board had supported Ms. Ballard's request for early termination of this probation contingent upon her submitting a letter requesting her release, and explaining what she has learned from this experience. In addition a letter from her Employer was to be submitted indicating their support of Ms. Ballard's early release. The letters were to be reviewed at the January 7, 2010 meeting. Ms. Ballard has not submitted the requested letters.

1:30 p.m. Marshall, Kevin

Mr. Marshall appeared for his scheduled probationary appointment. He was reminded due to not working in this profession, no time is being deducted from his probationary period, Mr. Marshall understood. It was then explained, contingent upon Mr. Ormond's approval, he could volunteer his services, to help reduce the time frame. Mr. Marshall agreed to look into volunteering at a "free clinic". Mr. Marshall was also reminded he must stay in contact with the Division, via email, Mr. Marshall agreed.

It was determined Mr. Marshall is in compliance with his MOU, and he will next meet with the Board in January 2011.

1:45 p.m. Ballard, Amy

Ms. Ballard appeared for her scheduled probationary appointment with the Board, and submitted her "Employer Report". The Board questioned her regarding her failure to comply with the Board request at the October 1, 2009 meeting, and submit her "Employer Reports". Ms. Ballard explained due to her pregnancy she just failed to write the letters, and she "forgot" to submit the "Employer Report".

The Board explained she must now demonstrate a period of full compliance prior the Board granting a release from this probation, Ms. Ballard understood.

Ms. Ballard was then reminded her next "Employer Report" is due on December 20, 2010, and if she remains in compliance the Board will consider her release at the January 2011 meeting. It was also determined due to submitting her "Employer Report" and appearing at this meeting she is in compliance with her MOU.

2:00 p.m. Sheri Combe and Dave Keahey -
Radiology Practitioner Assistant

Mr. Dicou explained a RPA (Radiology Practitioner Assistant) or RA (Radiologic Assistant) is a RT (Radiology Technologist) with advanced training and certification through ARRT (American Registry of Radiologic Technologists). It was then added currently there is no licensure recognition in this State.

Ms. Ackerman and Mr. Wallace explained they are licensed RT's who hold certification as a RA or RPA. It was also clarified upon introducing themselves to patients they are cautious in stating they are Practitioner Assistants not Physician Assistants.

Mr. Keahey explained he is the Legislative Committee Chair for the UAPA (Utah Academy of Physician Assistants), and is concerned with the misconception that a RA or RPA are Physician Assistants. He further clarified the acronym PA implies that the individual is a medical practitioner, to which they are not. It was also explained PA may only be used by a licensed PA in this State.

Ms. Ackerman and Mr. Wallace questioned if this Board has any jurisdiction over them. Mr. Dicou explained this Board was established, in part, to assist the Division regarding RT and RPT (Radiology Practical Technicians) licensure issues. He further clarified as licensed RT's this Board would have jurisdiction over them. Due to RPA/RA's not being recognized as a licensed profession in this State, their scope of practice has yet to be determined. Mr. Dicou then strongly recommended for RA/RPA to either enact a licensure Statute or "tag" on to one of the currently licensed professions.

Mr. Keahey then explained UAPA would be in support of a licensure Bill proposed at Legislature, contingent upon the acronym being changed to not include PA. It was also explained if RPA's are representing themselves as PA's Division Investigations would be notified and the RPA may be found to be in violation of Title 58 Chapter 1 Section 501. It was then commented several other professions use identical acronyms, as RT.

Ms. Taxin recommended UAPA send a letter to CBRPA (Certification Board for Radiology Practitioner Assistants) to clarify their concerns with the usage of the same acronym. Mr. Keahey was questioned, by visitors of the meeting, regarding RA/RPA' taking a few additional courses to become a PA. Mr. Keahey explained the U of U's (University of Utah's) curriculum is specific; an individual would need to complete the full curriculum.

Prior to 2010 CMS (Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services) required direct supervision by a Radiologist for two years prior to allowing the RA/RPA to work unsupervised.

It was again stated UAPA would support a Bill requiring licensure for this profession. However, they would "fight" any Bill utilizing the acronym PA. It was then clarified RA would be acceptable.

Ms. Combe explained RA/RPA's are recognized in twenty-four States, adding only fourteen of those have legislation.

2:45 p.m. Gallegos, Kay

Ms. Gallegos appeared for her scheduled appointment with the Board. An overview of Ms. Gallegos's January 7, 2010 interview was conducted.

Ms. Gallegos explained she is now separated from her spouse, and has no intentions of returning to him. She also explained if she remains in compliance with her court probation, it would be terminated in December 2010.

Ms. Taxin questioned what she has learned from this experience. Ms. Gallegos, clarified no drugs are allowed in her home or around her family. She then added she is currently looking for employment; however, few Limited Scope positions are available. Additionally she has been accepted into the bachelor's program at Weber State.

Mr. Nieves seconded by Ms. Hunt made a motion to grant full licensure to Ms. Gallegos. The motion passed with Mr. Christensen abstaining.

The Board then explained this decision was based on her compliance with her court probation, not on her lack of involvement with her spouse. Ms. Gallegos understood.

CORRESPONDENCE:

ARRT - Examination Statistics

Reviewed, with no further action taken.

ARRT – Educator Update

Mr. Dicou reviewed the ARRT – Educator Update. He explained "Last fall, ARRT announced that beginning

January 1, 2015, an associate degree or higher will be required for candidates applying for certification in radiography, nuclear medicine technology, radiation therapy, and for those applying for sonography or magnetic resonance imaging as a graduate of a recognized educational program.” It was further clarified any associates degree will be accepted.

ARRT - Annual Report

Mr. Dicou reviewed the ARRT – Annual Report. It was noted the “Ethics” portion would be revised as of August 1, 2010.

Ms. Hunt seconded by Mr. Nieves made a motion to amend R156-54-502 (4) to reflect “failing to conform to the generally accepted and recognized standards and ethics of the profession including those established in the ARRT "Standards of Ethics", August 1, 2010 edition, which is hereby incorporated by reference.” The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN:

3:00 p.m.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

January 6, 2011
Date Approved

(ss) Troy Dicou
Chairperson, Radiology Technologist Licensing Board

January 6, 2011
Date Approved

(ss) Clyde Ormond
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing
