

Arizona State Board of Homeopathic and Integrated Medicine Examiners

Minutes of the Finance Committee

**Held at 1400 West Washington, Room 230, Phoenix, Arizona
at
11:00 a.m. on
October 20, 2011**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting of the Rules Committee of the Board of Homeopathic and Integrated Medicine Examiners was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Don Farris who was present along with Alan Kennedy.

Christine Springer the Executive Director was also present. No members of the public were present.

II. Discussion of FY2013 Budget and various measures to enhance revenues

Mr. Farris pointed out that statutory fee caps had not been revised since 1984 when the Board was formed.

Mr. Farris and Mr. Kennedy discussed what factors were affecting the declining number of licenses issued by the board. They agreed that some of the prime factors include:

- negative publicity surrounding the difficult performance audit in 2008 and 2009
- age of current licensees
- trepidation with the written examination requirements which test applicants on all of the practice modalities
- stringent licensing requirements incorporated into law following the performance audit

The Committee discussed what level to set fee caps for each of the fees in A.R.S. §32-2914.

Mr. Farris indicated that in his conversations with professional licensees that the Board may want to consider requiring all medical assistants be registered. Mrs. Springer pointed out that current rules require only those assistants that provide assistance in therapeutic modalities related to the practice of homeopathic medicine to register. Mr. Farris inquired about why all assistants were not registered, noting that these were individuals that were working in homeopathic practices and that the Board may want to revisit this rule.

Both committee members expressed concern with the number of dispensing permits issued noting that some of the licensed physicians may not be in full compliance with the requirement. There was a brief discussion of inspections to determine compliance. They also commented that the dispensing fee was set very low.

Committee members reviewed the fee schedules of similar medical licensing boards, commenting that the low number of licensed homeopathic physicians and registered medical assistants required higher fees, which were still not sufficient to support operations of the Board over the next two fiscal years.

Mrs. Springer stated that the Office of Budget and Strategic Planning had expressed concern with the Board's declining revenues and that the Board may have to consider other methods of raising revenue or face possible consolidation. Mrs. Springer's salary and ERE were also reviewed in relation to the overall budget. Mrs. Springer commented that there were fees that should be considered which were not currently in statute:

- Application to review CEUs (sponsors only)

- Examination fee (currently applicants can take the examination multiple times for a one time fee)

- License Issue Fee should match the one year renewal fee. Currently the issue fee grants a new license for one year at \$250. The two fees should match.

Mr. Farris and Mr. Kennedy agreed to approach the AZHIMA Governing Board to explain the situation to the Association and seek their input on possible fee increases.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully,

Christine Springer
Executive Director

Accepted in Regular Meeting on November 8, 2011 by Board Members that were in attendance at the Finance Committee Meeting