

# NEVADA STATE BOARD OF HOMEOPATHIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Telephone Board Meeting  
Wednesday December 15, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.  
Sierra Integrative Medical Center  
6512 S. McCarran Blvd. Suite E  
Reno, NV 89501

## MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND STAFF:

Bruce Fong, President, DO, HMD - Present  
Robert Eslinger, Vice President, DO, HMD - Present  
KJ Smith, Secretary Treasurer – Present  
Diane Kennedy, Member - Present  
Cyrus Pourzan, Member – MD, HMD Present (telephone)  
Leticia Gardea, Member - Absent  
Corazon Ibarra, Member, MD, HMD - Present  
Nevada Attorney General Office, DAG Colleen Hemmingway - Present (telephone)  
Nancy Eklof, Executive Director - Present

## MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Tiffany Van der Stoker  
Dennis Grover  
Michael Gerber, MD, HMD  
Royal Fuller, MD, HMD (telephone)  
Martha Boyce

## MINUTES

### A. OPEN SESSION

1. **Call to order** – The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by President Fong with a quorum of five members present.
2. **The Chair will set the time for adjournment** – The meeting time for adjournment was set for 8:00 p.m.
3. **Verification of Posting and Mailing** – Nancy Eklof, Executive Director, verified that the meeting was duly noticed by posting and mailing in accordance with Open Meeting Law.
4. **Welcome all visitors/Determination of Press Presence** – President Fong welcomed the visitors and members of the public present. There was no press present.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING** - Diane Kennedy moved to approve the meeting agenda. Cora Ibarra seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS**

- 1. Random Audits for Compliance with CME requirements:**  
Background: Many licensees and certificate holder have not been submitting their CMEs. It was suggested that the Board begin random checks of files to determine level of CME compliance.

**Robert Eslinger moved to approve the motion to conduct random checks for CME Compliance. K.J. Smith seconded the motion.**

**The Deputy Attorney General Colleen Hemingway then suggested that this matter be tabled until she has the opportunity to reword the document with Bruce Fong, President. This motion was unanimously carried.**

- 2. NRS 630A Proposed Bill for amendment or approval for submission to the Legislative Counsel Bureau.** Background: President Fong stated that during meetings with the Chief of Staff, from the Governor's office, there was considerable discussion about combining like-minded Boards under the oversight of the Nevada Homeopathic Medical Board. This would allow for oversight of unlicensed/uncertified individuals and boards. There was also a proposal to change the name of the Board so that it encompasses all of natural medicine. President Fong stated that the Board needs to be proactive in order to demonstrate that they have a future and are making an impact.

**Diane Kennedy made a motion not to approve the document as currently written. Robert Eslinger seconded the motion.**

Discussion: Diane Kennedy is opposed to a name change in this economy. She noted that each doctor would incur innumerable costs to update their websites, prescription pads, stationary, business cards, brochures, signage, etc.. She asserted that it is not prudent at this time to require them to incur these additional costs.

Dr. Fong stated the current Board is a classic Homeopathic Board and keeping the name as it currently is could jeopardize the future of the Board because it limits its scope. The Board needs to be able to expand to encompass other practitioners of such alternative medical practices as aqua fit, aromatherapy, etc. Dr. Fong asserted that the Board needs to be

able to oversee these alternative practices. In the past, the Board has had a lack of “teeth” and has been unable to address issues and practices of these alternative practitioners.

Robert Eslinger asked that there be a transitional period before the new name would take effect in order to give the doctor’s time to use up their current supply of brochures, business cards, etc.

Royal Fuller stated that the Board needs to stay centered on the purpose of this committee. He stated that they must recommend legislation to encompass alternative & homeopathic medicine. The State Legislature wants this Board to be more proactive about meeting the mandate of the legislature. The Board needs to make as many recommendations as possible about integrating as many of these other disciplines within the purview of the homeopathic medical board. He reiterated that the Board must remain focused on the mandate of the legislature.

Royal Fuller read NRS 634.08. He then stated that the Board does not have to put everything into the bill at once. He suggested that they work out the oversight and exams later. The proposed NRS 630A establishes a skeleton of what the Board is trying to achieve. Later the specifics can be worked out in the NACS.

President Fong asserted that practitioners such as music therapists, aroma therapists, etc. should be governed under a fourth category – not as practitioners or technicians as that would undermine the considerable work and standards currently in place for practitioners and technicians.

**Dr. Eslinger withdraws his second of the motion to reject the document. Dr. Corazon 2nds the motion**

Call for a vote to arbitrarily reject the document. A yay vote indicates an agreement to reject the document.

Diane Kennedy – Abstain

Eslinger – Nay

KJ – Nay

Ibarra – Nay

**The motion to reject the document fails.**

**Robert Eslinger makes a new motion to accept the document with changes. Cora Ibara 2nds the motion. The motion carries unanimously.**

**Robert Eslinger makes a motion to change the name of the Board to “Nevada Complementary & Integrative Medicine Board”. KJ Smith seconds the motion.**

Colleen Hemingway states that that they may not have the authority to change the name.

Royal Fuller counters by reading NRS 6308.155 Paragraph 5 which gives the Board that authority. We insist that they have the authority to propose a name change to the legislature. The Legislature can either confirm or deny the change.

A vote was taken to change the name of the Board to the Nevada Complementary & Integrative Medicine Board.

Cora Ibarra – Yay  
KJ Smith – Yay  
Cyrus Pourzan – Abstain  
Diane Kennedy – Nay  
The motion was approved.

**Robert. Eslinger made a motion to create a fourth category for the alternative practitioners. Cora Ibarra seconds the motion.**

A discussion ensued about whether or not the Board has the authority to supervise practitioners other than HMD, APH & HAs. Fong asserted that the Board needs to do this to establish their expanding scope for the legislature. Diane Kennedy questioned whether these alternative practitioners would voluntarily license or certify themselves under the Board’s supervision.

A vote was taken to create a fourth category:

Robert Eslinger – yay  
Cora Ibarra – Yay  
KJ Smith – Yay  
Diane Kennedy– Yay  
Cyrus Pourzan – Nay

Motion passes.

**Robert Eslinger moved to name the fourth category: "Complementary/ Integrative Technician". K.J. Smith seconded the motion.**

Robert Eslinger – Yay

Cora Ibarra – Yay  
Diane Kennedy – Yay  
Cyrus Pourzan – Nay

The motion passes and the name for the fourth category will be passed on to the LCB

**KJ Smith makes a motion to return the document to Committee for revision. Robert Eslinger seconds the motion.**

Cora Ibarra – Yay  
Diane Kennedy – Yay  
Cyrus Pourzan – Yay

The motion carries.

3. **Annual Report to the Legislature, NRS document.** This item was tabled for a later meeting. The Annual Report should include proposed changes to legislation. Nancy will find out when the annual report is due to the LCB.
4. **Public Comment:** Dr. Gerber believes we need to move forward with expanding scope but the Board needs to begin reaching out to these alternative practitioners.

**KJ Smith moved to adjourn. Robert Eslinger seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.