

**BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
MEDICAL / HOSPITAL COMMITTEE
HELENA, MONTANA
DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2011**

MINUTES

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

The Department of Labor and Industry is committed to providing meeting access through reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact the Board office prior to the proposed meeting date for further information.

ITEM # 1: Call to Order

Dr. Kristin Spanjian called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

Members Present: Dr. Kristin Spanjian, Dr. Anna Earl, Dr. Dean Center

Staff Present: Mr. Ian Marquand, Mr. Jerry Morse

Guests: Ms. Jean Branscum with the Montana Medical Association, Dr. Anne Williams and Ms. Jessica Grennan with Compassion & Choices.

ITEM # 2: Approval of the September 13, 2011 Agenda

MOTION: Dr. Dean Center made the motion to approve the agenda and Dr. Kristin Spanjian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM # 3: Open Forum: Public Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT:

In accordance with 2-3-103(1), MCA, the Board will hold a public comment period. Please note that Open Forum is the public's opportunity to address the committee on any topic that is not on the agenda for this meeting. While the committee cannot take action on the issues presented, the committee will listen to comments and may ask the issue be placed on a subsequent agenda for possible action by the Board. The Chair of the committee will determine the amount of time allotted for public comment.

ITEM # 4: Itinerant Surgery

Dr. Kristin Spanjian stated this item came to the Board as a result of a letter received from a surgeon in Great Falls requesting the Board investigate itinerant surgery in Montana. They stated there is a group of surgeons in Seattle WA that travels to Montana to perform surgeries and then leave post operative care to the local providers. Their position is that this may not be adequate medical practice. The Committee discussed the issue and agreed to contact the Medical Legal Panel and the Doctors Company and request any statistics they may have if any, regarding itinerant surgery to see if there is a problem in Montana.

ITEM # 5: Maintenance of Licensure

Dr. Kristin Spanjian stated this is becoming a growing issue nationwide and it should be investigated more before the Board takes any action. She suggested developing a survey for providers to participate in addressing certain aspects of this topic. The Committee agreed Dr. Spanjian would prepare a survey with the help of Dr. Anna Earl and Dr. Dean Center to take to the full board meeting for review.

ITEM # 6: Physician Assisted Death

Dr. Kristin Spanjian stated the Board and staff have received correspondence from interested parties addressing the issue and requesting they take action on this subject, possibly a position statement. The Committee discussed the item and agreed they would take this to the full Board meeting in October for direction. Dr. Dean Center will look into the American Medical Association's code of ethics to see if this issue is addressed.

Adjourn: Dr. Dean Center made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Anna Earl seconded. The motion passed unanimously.