

**Board of Chiropractic Examiners**

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**BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS  
MEETING MINUTES  
Continuing Education Committee  
September 4, 2008  
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Ste. 100  
Sacramento, CA 95833**

**Committee Members**

Richard Tyler, D.C., Chair  
Hugh Lubkin, D.C.

**Staff Present**

Brian Stiger, Executive Officer  
LaVonne Powell, Senior Staff Counsel  
John Melendez, Staff Services Manager  
April Alameda, Staff Services Analyst  
Genie Mitsuhara, Senior Staff Analyst  
Valerie James, Office Technician

**Call to Order**

Dr. Tyler called the meeting to order 2:29 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Dr. Lubkin called the roll. All committee members were present.

**Approval of Minutes**

April 24, 2008

**DR. LUBKIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 24, 2008, MINUTES; DR. TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION; VOTE 2-0; MOTION CARRIED.**

**Process to Review and Approve Continuing Education Courses**

Dr. Tyler provided a brief overview of the past review and approval process for continuing education courses. The process involved committee members meeting with Board staff to review and approve staff recommendations for course approval. Dr. Tyler emphasized that in the prior review and approval process licensed chiropractors were involved.

Dr. Tyler raised concerns with the current process in that it does not include a chiropractic presence

for the final approval.

Dr. Lubkin provided the highlights of a discussion he had with Mr. Stiger regarding the current approval process. He recommended that staff consult one of the Board's experts to assist staff review and evaluate continuing education courses. The experts would be selected by their specialties. Dr. Lubkin also cautioned that the staff should not be micro-managed to the extent that they become ineffective.

Dr. Lubkin also mentioned that appeals should be heard by the Continuing Education committee if the appeal was not resolved by the Executive Officer.

Ms. Powell raised concerns about a three tier appeal system, which slows down the process and the final decision is ultimately made by the full Board. Under the committee's proposal the appeals would include the Executive Officer then the Continuing Education Committee then the full Board. Ms. Powell indicated that course providers have not raised any complaints to the Board regarding the current review and approval process.

Dr. Tyler raised concerns with staff making determinations on course approvals without being a chiropractor. Dr. Lubkin stated that Board staff has the ability to consult a Board trained subject matter expert when issues arise.

Ms. Powell stated that state employees are professionals and that Genie Mitsuvara is a professional in reviewing and approving continuing education courses and probably knows more than anyone in the state about these courses.

Dr. Tyler mentioned that after the continuing education regulations are revised, what would be the purpose of the continuing education committee? Ms. Powell said that the committee needs to focus on policy issues.

Mr. Stiger explained how chiropractic experts are selected, trained, and used during the review and approval process of continuing education courses.

Dr. Charles Davis, International Chiropractic Association of California stated that many courses are repeated on a yearly basis, which does not require an expert to be involved in every single continuing education course. He stated that some courses need to be audited.

Dr. Lubkin stated he would like to see the Board audit 10% of the continuing education courses approved by the Board on an annual basis.

**DR. TYLER MOVED THAT MR. STIGER DEVELOP A REVIEW PROCESS THAT INCLUDE THE USE OF BOARD EXPERTS THAT WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE FULL BOARD; DR. LUBKIN SECONDED THE MOTION; VOTE 2-0; MOTION CARRIED.**

### **Update on the Draft Proposal to Amend the Continuing Education Regulations**

Dr. Davis recommended that chiropractors be required to take the same courses required of all health care providers and let chiropractors select the remainder of the courses to make up the required number of hours.

Mr. Stiger provided a brief update on the progress of the workgroup created to draft a proposed rewrite of the continuing education regulations. Mr. Stiger indicated five areas of change including: increase CE hours from 12 hours to 24 hours; up to 12 hours could be earned through distance

learning; a combination of mandatory and elective courses; the 50 minute hour; and a new fee structure.

Dr. Tyler believes that adjustive technique should be a mandatory course. Dr. Davis recommends that adjustive techniques should be an elective course.

Dr. Ray Welch expressed appreciation for being on the work group. He also opposes the increase in required number of hours and supports mandatory hours for adjustive technique.

Kristine Shultz, California Chiropractic Association, made positive comments about the work group.

Dr. Tyler asked Mr. Stiger to prepare an update of the working group's progress at the next meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Tyler adjourned the meeting at 3:17 p.m.