

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 22, 2020

Meeting Location:

Due to COVID-19, the meeting was conducted virtually on the WebEx platform.

Members Present: Jonathan Brunswig, PharmD., President; Bill Walden, RPh., Vice President; Terica Gatewood, PharmD., Investigative Member; Tiffany Strohmeier, PharmD.; Erick Axcell, PharmD.; Andrew Truong, PharmD.; Cheri Pugh, Public Member

Staff Present: Alexandra Blasi, JD, MBA, Executive Secretary; Jim Kinderknecht, R.Ph., Licensed Pharmacy Inspector; Carly Haynes, R.Ph., Licensed Pharmacy Inspector; Shelley Rosebrook, R.Ph., Licensed Pharmacy Inspector; Melissa Martin, Compliance Inspector; Jennifer Donnelly, MPH, K-TRACS Assistant Director & Sr. Epidemiologist; LaTonyua Rice, PharmD, K-TRACS Pharmacist; Reyne Kenton, K-TRACS Program Manager; Gayle Donaldson, K-TRACS Public Information Officer; Jackie Yingling, Assistant Director; Rachel Gardner, Administrative Assistant; Janay Davis, Administrative Assistant; Randy Forbes, JD, General Counsel

Opening

The President called the open meeting to order at 11:05am.

Virtual roll call was taken at 11:07am, following which the Executive Secretary went over the process for conducting closed sessions and public comments. The Executive Secretary then introduced new staff and welcomed Ms. Katie Foster, PharmD, of Stormont Vail Health. Ms. Foster was selected from a roster of hospital pharmacy professionals who, as subject matter experts, will be drawn upon by the Board to attend its meetings, answer questions, and voice considerations in any relevant matters.

Board Discussion

Pharmacy Intern Remote Rotations – Following concerns the Board has received regarding pandemic intern rotation limitations, the Executive Secretary will update the Board’s pandemic remote work guidance document to reflect the following expansion of duties for interns: all academic learning being remote, only P4 interns, APPE or paid, may work beyond the scope of technician duties, with the preceptor determining whether the necessary practical experience was gained. Non-P4s will continue to be limited to technician responsibilities. Concerning a permanent response to intern limitations - due to necessary statutory review, the Board agreed to push language for the 2021 legislation list around preceptor acceptance of responsibility, security regarding access to electronic records, and defining remote supervision versus remote work.

COVID-19 Updates –

- **Guidance:** A recommendation was made that the current COVID-19 guidance issued by the Board remain in place through the month of February, extending any talk of changes until the February Board meeting. A motion was made and seconded to allow pharmacy remote work to continue from home through such time as the matter is revisited at the February meeting. (Gatewood/Truong) Motion passed.
- **Immunization Authority:** The Board has been reviewing changes to the Federal PREP Act which enable pharmacists and interns to administer immunizations to minors ages 3-18 and the COVID-19

vaccination to individuals during the emergency declaration. The Board previously determined that this does not allow for protocol updates, that the Board is not the authority for reimbursement questions, and that no clear answer has been given regarding whether minors will be eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination. On October 21st, DHHS extended this authority to technicians. Discussion was had on whether this federal law supersedes Kansas state law.

Legislation 2021 –

The Executive Secretary gave an overview of the proposed changes to the Pharmacy Act for 2021 Legislation. Several proposed updates to the Controlled Substances Act will include the descheduling of Epidiolex. Other expected bills during the session include a possible change in marijuana scheduling, and allowance for foreign importation of drugs & the related responsible agency. The Board deferred to the Executive Secretary to ultimately determine whether to create individual bills or a comprehensive one, which she will proceed with following the outcome of the November election. Legislation will also include increasing fee caps.

Recess: The Board recessed at 12:50pm.

Reconvene: The Board reconvened at 1:02pm.

Public Comment

None.

Board Discussion (cont.)

Legislation 2021 (cont.) –

The Executive Secretary gave an overview of the proposed changes to the Prescription Monitoring Act for 2021 Legislation.

Reports

Board Member Reports – None.

Director Report –

- The December 10th Board meeting is currently scheduled to be virtual.
- Board staff have spent significant time reviewing and proposing changes to the KsPRN contract. The new contract period will be a five-year term beginning January 1, 2021. The draft language is being reviewed by counsel and will be proposed to KPhA for consideration soon. One change involves KPhA employing an individual with experience in rehabilitation, substance use disorder, and assisting in recovery from other impairment issues.
- The NABP Interactive Board Member Forum will be held virtually on January 27, 2021. The Board's President plans to attend. If another spot is available, Mr. Truong or Mr. Axcell will attend.
- The Board's receipt of the 2020 BJA Grant Award is the result of outstanding work by the K-TRACS team, as well as Ms. Yingling, for the hours, effort, and numbers poured in. The grant, which is one of our largest ever, began October 2020 and will run through September of 2023, extending our newest grant positions and allowing them to continue their work. For K-TRACS, the grant will cover several salaries, required travel, office equipment & software, and K-TRACS web enhancements. Some K-TRACS enhancement objectives include fact of death data linkage, a prescriber and dispenser outlier module, targeted outreach and education, and data quality improvement.

K-TRACS Report –

Ms. Donaldson, K-TRACS Public Information officer, gave an overview of the K-TRACS July survey results, in which 3,373 pharmacists, prescribers, and delegates equally participated. The survey showed that integration mattered for daily usage, and that the largest barrier to integration was interstate data sharing. K-TRACS will continue to encourage integration to allow this, as well as continue to improve data accuracy and compliance. Ms. Donaldson's provided a demonstration of the new K-TRACS website: separate consumer information site; interactive materials for professionals; toolkits; and emphasis on patient safety. One month in, the website and social media enhancements are showing strong numbers. The K-TRACS Advisory Committee has asked for benchmarking against other states – Arizona has a survey out, so K-TRACS staff will be able to compare to their results and continue to evaluate over the next couple years.

Executive Session

A motion was made and seconded at 1:46pm to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing matters of non-elected personnel per K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1), to include the Board's Executive Secretary, with the virtual meeting to resume at 2:15pm, at which time the meeting will be adjourned. (Strohmeier/Truong) Motion passed.

Reconvene: The President reconvened the open meeting at 2:15pm.

Adjourn: The President adjourned the meeting at 2:15pm.