

**Board of Respiratory Care
Task Force Regarding Board Surplus Funds
Minutes**

Date: February 12, 2015

Time: 1:00 p. m. C.S.T.

Location: Health Related Boards
Iris Conference Room
665 Mainstream Drive, Ground Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

Members Present: Anna Ambrose, Board Chair
Dr. Delmar Mack, Secretary
John Schario, Board Member
Lisa Caldwell, Board Member

Staff Present: Michael Sobowale, Unit Director
Lakita Taylor, Board Manager
Mary V. Webb, Board Administrator
Mary Katherine Bratton, Assistant General Counsel

Guests Present: Julia Bayles, Assistant Director, Division of Health Planning TDOH
Zack Gantt, Jr., RRT, TSRC President
Candace Partee, Board Consultant
Colleen Schabacker, AARC Representative

Purpose

The task force was convened to discuss how the Board of Respiratory Care could properly utilize some of the excess surplus funds on activities and projects that would protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in the State of Tennessee.

Board Chair, Anna Ambrose called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Julia Bayles, Assistant Director in the Division of Health Planning of Tennessee Department of Health, made a presentation to the Board. Ms. Bayles explained to the Board that her office's role is to implement programs which promote healthy lives in Tennessee. Ms. Bayles stated that the primary duty of the Division of Health Planning is to create, develop and adopt health plans for the State of Tennessee and her office views the various Health Related Boards as relevant partners and stakeholders in this task. Ms. Bayles stated that Tennessee ranked 45th on the list of the least healthiest states in the nation and that some of the contributing factors are: obesity which ranked 46th; smoking which ranked 45th; high school graduates which ranked 20th; violent crimes, ranked 50th; children in poverty, ranked 45th; lack of insurance ranked 26th; low birth

weight ranked 44th ; availability of primary care physicians ranked 19th ; diabetes ranked 46th; infant mortality ranked 41st; cardio vascular deaths, ranked 44th; cancer deaths, ranked 44th; and premature deaths, ranked 43rd in the nation.

Ms. Bayles explained that as the task force is looking at ways by which could utilize some of the Board's surplus funds, perhaps, they could come up with ideas by which they could partner with the Department in fulfilment of their joint mission to promote and protect the public's health. She stated the Department looks forward to working with the Board of Respiratory Care and to please contact her and Rick Long's office for any questions or concerns.

Zack Gantt, TSRC President, stated that the TSRC asked the Board Attorney, Mary Katherine Bratton, if the TSRC could use some of the excess funds for scholarships for Respiratory Care students, however, the excess funds cannot be allocated for scholarships because the State of Tennessee already has a scholarship program in place with the Tennessee Lottery Education program. Mr. Gantt also suggested help in funding a smoking cessation program, which the board found a need for due to smoking being the major cause for other cardio vascular diseases. Mr. Gantt also suggested that some of the excess funds could possibly help support seminars on behalf of the TSRC, by helping to provide keynote speakers to represent the Board of Respiratory Care and the TSRC.

Mr. Gantt also suggested possibly being able to use email addresses to inform licensees of things that are going on in the community.

Dr. Mack suggested that a board member travel to some of the universities and colleges to give a brief seminar to graduating students to inform them of the difference between the Tennessee Board of Respiratory Care and the National Board of Respiratory Care.

Lisa Tittle, Office of Finance, stated to the Board, that the recommended application and renewal fee decreases, of a combined ninety (\$90) in total, suggested at the November meeting board meeting, will decrease the net annual fee by about sixty thousand dollars a year. Ms. Tittle also explained to the Board that compared to 2014, the direct expenses to the Board are about fourteen thousand (14,000) dollars more for legal expenses.

Ms. Tittle cautioned the Board that the Board's association is a great support system for the Board, however, to be careful not to cross over by promoting and advancing the association.

Ms. Tittle stated that going forward, it is the Board's duty to use the surplus funds to promote, protect, and improve the life, health and prosperity for the public and welfare of the citizens Tennessee. Ms. Title stated that she's glad that Ms. Bayles and other presenters talked about looking at smoking cessation programs as this could be one area of support for the Board to consider.

Candace Partee, Board Consultant, suggested COPD screenings and pediatric asthma education training would probably have a larger impact on healthier lives as opposed to smoking cessation.

Colleen Schabacker suggested that the Board could possibly use some of the surplus funds towards an educational campaign about the hazards or against the use of E cigarettes. Ms. Schabacker stated that children are smoking them because the E cigarettes taste like candy.

Regarding the TSRC state conference being held between April 9-10, 2015, in Memphis, TN, Anna Ambrose, board chair, would like for the Board to have a speakership slot if one was available; however, if a slot was not available, then setting up a booth would suffice. Ms. Ambrose stated that it would be a good idea to have the Board of Respiratory Care to represent the State and to be able to answer any questions that the attendees may have.

The Board approved to allocate funds for Mr. Winston Granville and Mary Bratton, board attorney to attend an exhibit at the TSRC State meeting in April 9-10, 2015 in Memphis, TN.

A motion was made Mr. Granville to allocate funds to seek booth space so long as the booth is free at the TSRC 2015 state conference in Memphis, TN on April 9-10, 2015. Dr. Mack seconded the motion.

The task force meeting was adjourned for further discussions at 2:25 pm.

These minutes were ratified at the May 28, 2015 meeting for Respiratory Care.