



California State Board of Pharmacy

400 R Street, Suite 4070, Sacramento, CA 95814-6237
Phone (916) 445-5014
Fax (916) 327-6308
www.pharmacy.ca.gov

STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
GRAY DAVIS, GOVERNOR

**STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

DATE & TIME: January 23 and 24, 2002

LOCATION: The Furama Hotel Los Angeles
8601 Lincoln Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90045

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Steven Litsey, President
John Jones, Vice President
Caleb Zia, Treasurer
Robert Elsner
Dave Fong
Stanley Goldenberg
Donald Gubbins
Clarence Hiura
William Powers
John Tilley
Andrea Zinder

STAFF

PRESENT: Patricia Harris, Executive Officer
Virginia Herold, Assistant Executive Officer
Robert Ratcliff, Supervising Inspector
Judi Nurse, Supervising Inspector
Ron Diedrich, Deputy Attorney General
Dana Winterrowd, Department Legal Counsel
Robert Miller, Department Legal Counsel – January 23, 2002 only

CALL TO ORDER

President Litsey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 23, 2002.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Litsey introduced new Board Member David J. Fong. President Litsey announced that Mr. Fong is the senior vice president of pharmacy operations for Longs Drugs Inc. Most recently, Mr. Fong was a member of the Pharmacy Manpower Task Force for the Board of Pharmacy. President Litsey stated that Mr. Fong has served on a number of boards including the Chain Drug Committee of California Retailers Association, the Pharmacy Committee of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores and he was a member of the Provider Advisory Commission and the California Medical Assistance Commission. Mr. Fong earned his bachelor degree from the University of California, Berkeley and his Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of California, San Francisco.

President Litsey stated that David Fong replaces Board Member Holly Strom whose term expired. President Litsey added that Ms. Strom chaired the Licensing Committee and Board Member Don Gubbins will replace her on this committee. President Litsey announced that Board Members Caleb Zia and David Fong would also serve on the Licensing Committee.

President Litsey introduced Dana Winterrowd and announced that he has replaced LaVonne Powell as the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Legal Counsel.

President Litsey welcomed DCA Legal Counsel Robert Miller who also attended the meeting on January 23, 2002.

President Litsey also introduced Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Ron Diedrich who recently was appointed as the board's liaison counsel with the Attorney General's Office.

President Litsey also announced that the new pharmacy inspectors have been hired.

Supervising Inspector Robert Ratcliff introduced new board inspector Nahal Bahrampour. Mr. Ratcliff stated that Ms. Bahrampour brings with her a varied background in pharmacy that includes owning her own pharmacy and experience in both community and hospital pharmacies. Mr. Ratcliff added that Ms. Bahrampour graduated in 1997. He added that the other two new inspectors could be introduced later in the day when they arrive at the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTION

LEGISLATION AND REGULATION COMMITTEE

Regulation Report and Action

- **Adoption of California Code of Regulations Sections 1777-1777.5 and 1778-1778.3 – Citations and Fines for Confidentiality of Medical Information and Internet Dispensing Violations.**

Board Member Andrea Zinder announced that this regulation was publicly noticed for the required 45 days for public comment. No comments were submitted. However, several technical changes have been suggested to refine the regulation. She referred to the proposed additions to this regulation that remove inconsistencies between the two major elements in the regulations. Ms. Zinder stated that the changes would be subject to a 15-day notice. Ms. Zinder added that this regulation underwent an information hearing at the July 2001 Board Meeting.

MOTION: Legislation and Regulation Committee: Adopt sections to the California Code of Regulations and incorporate the modifications to remove the inconsistencies between the two major elements in the proposed regulation.

SUPPORT: 10 OPPOSE: 0

Regulations Approved in 2002

Ms. Zinder stated that the Office of Administrative Law has approved one regulation since January 1, 2002.

- **Quality Assurance Programs (1711)**

Paul Riches reported that this regulation establishes specifications for quality assurance programs for pharmacies to evaluate, study and prevent medication errors. The regulations were approved by the Office of Administrative Law on January 14, and take effect immediately. The announcement about this important regulation will appear in the board's February 2002 The Script, and on the board's web page.

Mr. Riches stated that the board release a *Health Notes* publication on quality assurance in June 2002, and provide information to licensees on public presentations as well.

Mr. Gubbins asked for feedback from Supervising Inspector Robert Ratcliff on how the inspectors plan to manage the program with licensees.

Mr. Ratcliff stated that the board is planning a public enforcement meeting in March

2002, to provide information, answer questions and provide copies of the new regulations. He added that the first six months board inspectors would focus on an educational process on how to implement the quality assurance program in pharmacies.

Mr. Goldenberg asked for clarification of the language that addresses potential lawsuits for pharmacists.

Mr. Riches stated that language in the enabling statute provides that records created solely for use in the pharmacy's quality assurance program are exempt from discovery.

Mr. Fong asked if there would be a report on how pharmacies are doing when they appear before the Northern and Southern Compliance Committees.

Mr. Goldenberg suggested that the board provide quality assurance information to those who appear before the compliance committees.

John Cronin, representing the California Pharmacists Association, asked that the board provide significant notice regarding regulations that will move forward in 2002. Specifically, the regulations that address sterile compounding and electronic prescriptions.

Ms. Harris responded that the board is holding an information hearing during the April 2002 board meeting, and the draft version of the language is available for comment now and will be discussed under the Licensing Committee report.

Legislation Report and Action

Board Sponsored Legislation

Chairperson Zinder reported on recommendations by the Legislative and Regulation Committee for board-sponsored legislation.

- **Sponsor legislation to extend the CURES program sunset date up to five years and to permit practitioners to access CURES data regarding their patients**

Ms. Zinder stated that Assemblywoman Helen Thomson has asked the board to sponsor legislation that she will introduce to extend the CURES program. She added that the CURES program sunsets on July 1, 2003, and legislation must be introduced this year to maintain the program.

MOTION: Legislation and Regulation Committee: Sponsor legislation to extend the CURES program sunset date up to five years and to permit practitioners to access CURES regarding their patients.

SUPPORT: 10 OPPOSE: 0

- **Annual Omnibus Bill – Repeal Article 2 of Chapter 3 of the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act relating to controlled substance warehouses.**

Ms. Zinder reported that Article 2 of Chapter 3 of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act permits the board to license warehouses that store controlled substances. The board does not currently issue any such licenses nor has it done so for years. Rather, the board requires entities storing controlled substances to be licensed as wholesalers.

Steve Gray representing Kaiser Permanente suggested that the board eliminate other outdated provisions in the Health and Safety Code sections addressing out-of-state ordered controlled substances to remove the reporting requirement to the Attorney General's Office within 24 hours after an out-of-state controlled substance is ordered.

Ms. Herold suggested that the board research this issue and bring it before the Legislation and Regulation Committee at its next meeting.

MOTION: Legislation and Regulation Committee: Sponsor a provision in the annual omnibus bill to repeal Article 2 of Chapter 3 of the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act relating to controlled substance warehouses.

SUPPORT: 10 OPPOSE: 0

- **Annual Omnibus Bill – Conform the California controlled substance schedules with the federal controlled substance schedules.**

Ms. Zinder stated that there are schedules of controlled substances in both federal and state laws. She added that the federal government occasionally makes changes or additions to these schedules to move to a more restrictive schedule of a drug resulting in the state's controlled substances schedules to fall out of conformity, although the more restrictive law takes precedence. Changes made in recent years to the federal controlled substance schedules have not been reflected in California law.

Mr. Riches stated that this proposal substantially deals with drugs that have been added to the schedules.

Ms. Herold clarified that this proposal will allow the Controlled Substances Act in the Health and Safety Code to conform more to the more stringent standards in federal law. If California law is already more stringent, then no change will be made.

MOTION: Legislation and Regulation Committee: Sponsor provisions in the annual omnibus bill to conform the California controlled substance schedules with the federal controlled substances schedules.

SUPPORT: 10 OPPOSE: 0

- **Omnibus bill – Require the pharmacist’s name to be included on the prescription label when therapy is initiated or adjusted by the pharmacist pursuant to protocol.**

Ms. Zinder stated that in recent years, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives have obtained the authority to prescribe drugs under protocol with a physician. Those statutes also required that the name of the physician assistant, nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife who ordered the drug to be printed on the prescription label. Pharmacists have had a similar protocol practice authority for many years and last year it was substantially expanded. However, current law does not require the name of the ordering pharmacist to be printed on the prescription label. This name is important for patients or caregivers should they have any questions regarding the prescription or their treatment.

John Cronin, representing the California Pharmacists Association, stated that this will occur more often in the future, especially with the emergency contraception law taking effect. He added that the label should list the person who ordered the prescription.

Steve Gray, representing Kaiser Permanente, explained that when the prescriber was listed on the label it was difficult to identify a nurse practitioner or physician assistant as the issuer of a drug order.

Mr. Gray stated that nurse practitioners, physician assistants and certified nurse midwives can now order prescription medication for patients. He suggested a change to the law to reflect that only the person who ordered the prescription appear on the prescription label.

Mr. Gray added that Kaiser has 250 pharmacists who order drug therapy for thousands of patients a month for conditions such as anticoagulation, congestive heart failure, asthma, etc. He noted that once patients are turned over to the pharmacist for managing, they seldom return to the physician for that particular drug therapy.

Mr. Elsner asked about possible litigation and the need for complete accountability regarding who has authorized/initiated a drug order.

Mr. Gray stated that with the modification of the law that became effective Jan 1, 2002, a pharmacist may initiate medication under a protocol and the computer records would reflect a complete history. Only a single name should be on the label as the orderer of the medication.

MOTION: Refer back to the Legislation and Regulation Committee to consider the suggestions made for a more simplified label as long as a complete patient record is maintained in the pharmacy.

M/S/C: ELSNER/TILLEY

SUPPORT: 10 OPPOSE: 0

- **AB 108 (Strom-Martin) –Provisions regarding the use of the NABP exam in California**

Chairperson Zinder reported that AB 108 was heard in the Assembly Health Committee during the last week and was approved and voted out of the committee by one vote. She added that this bill is very controversial and will go before the Appropriations Committee on January 24, and it may not succeed. She requested that any issues regarding the bill that need to be addressed be referred to the Legislation and Regulation Committee.

Mr. Tilley requested that the Legislation and Regulation Committee consider legislation that has been introduced in 19 other states to allow the Board of Pharmacy in each state the empowerment over pharmaceutical benefit management companies' practices.

President Litsey asked for public comments.

John Cronin, representing the California Pharmacist's Association, referred to the minutes of the last Legislation and Regulation Committee meeting and he stated that the minutes do not convey detailed discussions about the committee's activities.

Break

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- **Approval of Notice to Consumers Poster (Amend Section 1707.2)**

Chairperson Powers reported that the Public Education and Communications Committee reviewed four designs created by a graphic artist for the revamped "Notice to Consumers" poster. The committee made various changes to several of the designs and asked the designer to incorporate the changes with substantially less wording to build the design solely around the five questions consumers should know the answers to before taking medications. He noted that three versions of the redesigned poster were on display in the meeting room. Chairperson Powers asked the board and the public for comments on selecting the best poster or best components for the poster. The poster will include a new 800 number for consumer inquiries to the board, and will be translated into several other languages.

Chairperson Powers noted that the text for the poster, once finalized, must be adopted by the board as a regulation, the language for which was approved by the board during an information hearing for the regulation during the April 2001 Board Meeting. He added that after this meeting, staff would release the regulation for the required 45-day comment period.

Chairperson Powers added that the board is mandated by law to provide certain critical information to consumers when they fill their prescriptions. He added that most of the existing posters in pharmacies have faded and can no longer be seen.

In making the selection, the board as well as the public made several suggestions. These suggestions included:

- Red is a good color to use because it draws attention.
- Numbering the questions is o.k. if the questions appear in chronological order.
- Draw more attention to “Before you Medicate,” and use the color red.
- Make the poster more bureaucratic as opposed to commercial so it is easier to spot among all the other commercial information in a pharmacy.
- Catch attention, remove the numbers and provide shorter message, colors can help keep the language in simple term.
- Distribute the information and pamphlets too with every prescription dispensed.
- “Notice to Consumers” is intrusive. Instead, use “Talk to Your Pharmacist” in red letters and underneath that statement, list the questions.
- Add the state seal.
- Make it look more official.
- Make it a smaller size that could be easily framed.
- Provide camera-ready art for those who might want to use a smaller version of the poster for their patients.

Mr. Elsner commented on the diversity of suggestions and instead encouraged staff to move forward with the poster as quickly as possible. He added that the board lacks the resources to provide pharmacies with enough copies of a brochure that could be distributed to patients every time they receive prescription medication

MOTION: Direct the Public Education and Communications Committee and staff to develop the final poster based upon the comments heard; release the finalized regulation language after the poster is refined for 45 days of public comment.

M/S/C: ELSNER/JONES

SUPPORT: 10 OPPOSE: 0

• **Patient Fact Sheet on Emergency Contraception**

President Litsey stated that in October, the Governor signed SB 1169, which creates a “pharmacist’s class of drugs” enabling a pharmacist to furnish emergency contraception medication to patients if there is a protocol in place with a prescriber. The patients do not have to be patients of the prescriber with whom the pharmacy has developed the protocol.

President Litsey stated that the law requires pharmacists to provide patients receiving such medication with a standardized fact sheet that “includes the indications for use of the drug, the appropriate method for using the drug, the need for medical follow-up, and other appropriate information.” The board is required to:

....develop this form in consultation with the State Department of Health Services, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the California Pharmacists Association, and other health care organizations. The provisions of this section do not preclude the use of existing publications developed by nationally recognized medical organizations.

President Litsey stated that the Pharmacy Access Partnership has developed a fact sheet with the specified groups and in late October, mailed this fact sheet to the board for approval. However, the board has not been involved in the development of this fact sheet.

The development of a consumer fact sheet is an important consumer education piece, and the committee recommends that the board initiate work on the fact sheet with the specified groups and publish its own fact sheet. In the interim, pharmacists that have been trained to provide emergency contraception may do so by providing the Pharmacy Access Partnership fact sheet to patients. Approximately four to six months would be needed to pursue this project.

Mr. Elsner urged the board to support the use of this fact sheet produced by the Pharmacy Access Partnership in the interim until the board develops its own fact sheet.

MOTION: Public Education and Communications Committee:
Authorize the use of an emergency contraception fact sheet prepared by the Pharmacy Access Partnership until the board develops its own fact sheet for patients, as required by SB 1169.

SUPPORT: 10 OPPOSE: 0

- **Effect on Board’s Public Outreach and Education Activities caused by the Governor’s Hiring Freeze**

Chairperson Powers reported that in the board’s 2001/02 budget is a new position to prepare consumer education materials, coordinate public outreach activities and respond to press inquiries. The board completed its interview of applicants the same day as the Governor instituted the state hiring freeze. As no job commitment had been conveyed, the board will be unable to fill the position unless a freeze waiver is authorized by the Department of Finance. The loss of this position will hamper the committee’s activities until the position is filled.

Mr. Elsner acknowledged Mr. Powers efforts in working hard to establish the position through the Legislature.

Additionally, Board Newsletter (*The Script*) Editor Hope Tamraz retired in mid-December. The board hoped to rehire her as a retired annuitant, but the Governor's freeze prevents such a hiring. As such the board will publish its January newsletter, and then wait until someone is hired to initiate work on the next *The Script*.

John Cronin, representing the California Pharmacist Association (CPhA), acknowledged and commended Hope Tamraz for her efforts to educate board licensees through *The Script* that has become a valuable resource for licensees. He added that the CPhA might be able to partner with the board to help publish articles since *The Script* will not be published regularly.

Teri Miller, representing California Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP), also offered the board space in CSHP's newsletter.

Chairman Powers reported that the board has two issues of Health Notes under development.

- *Quality Assurance* is being developed through the auspices of UCSF and should be completed and distributed by June 20, 3002.
- *Geriatrics* is being developed by UCSF from a grant the school has obtained and the board will provide publication and postage costs. This issue should be printed early next fiscal year.

Lunch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Litsey acknowledged former Board Member Holly Strom who attended the meeting to present the report on the Pharmacy Manpower Task Force during the Licensing Committee Report.

Supervising Inspector Robert Ratcliff introduced new inspectors Rosemarie Yongvanich and Soriya Ly.

ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson Jones reported on the Enforcement Committee meeting held December 4, 2001.

- **Quality Improvement Efforts**

Chairperson Jones referred to the significant accomplishments made by the Compliance,

Drug Diversion/Fraud, Pharmacist Recovery Program (PRP)/Probationer, Complaint Mediation and Administration teams. Chairperson Jones noted that these accomplishments included the continued completion of complaints and investigations over 90 days old and the implementation of the routine compliance inspection program:

1. Currently the Mediation Team has 79 complaints pending and with the exception of a few cases, is able to achieve the 90-day performance expectation. Approximately 35 cases were reassigned to another team to assist during the leave of one of the team members.
2. The Compliance team reported 47 pending cases with only four cases over 90 days old, and the completion of 484 routine inspections in the last two months.
3. The Drug Diversion/Fraud team reported 38 pending investigations with five cases that exceed the 180-day performance expectation (the performance standard for an investigation that has a drug audit is 180 days), and the completion of 59 inspections that resulted in opening 28 cases.
4. The PRP/Probationer team reported 20 pending cases with three cases over 180 days old. This team also completed 27 probation inspections and 13 PRP participant interviews. Also an ISO was granted suspending the practice of a pharmacist until completion of the administrative case.

Chairperson Jones stated that the board has made great progress in resolving the backlog of enforcement cases and remain current with workload. He reported that most of the board's cases are handled in 90 days or less, representing a tremendous achievement by inspectors.

Chairperson Jones noted that the supervising inspectors are extremely diligent in monitoring progress towards this goal and he acknowledged Supervising Inspectors Judith Nurse and Robert Ratcliff for their efforts.

He added that handling enforcement cases within 90 days is extremely beneficial to consumers and he commended the board's staff in achieving this goal.

- **Implementation of Routine Compliance Inspection Program**

Chairperson Jones reported on the implementation of the Routine Compliance Inspection Program and the number of pharmacies that have been inspected since July 1, 2001. To date, 1,166 inspections have been assigned and 1,116 inspections have been completed (96 percent). Of the 1,116 inspections, 61 cases were opened because violation notices were issued (5 percent). From July through October, each full-time inspector on the Compliance Team was assigned 40 routine compliance inspections. In November and December 24 inspections were assigned 40 routine compliance inspections. In November and December 24 inspections were assigned due to holidays and staff meetings. In January 2002, 32 inspections were assigned.

Chairperson Jones stated that this program was originally perceived by the public as a means for the inspectors to purposely set out to find errors in a pharmacy. Mr. Jones stated that although the pharmacist will be held accountable if errors are found, the board also would educate pharmacists and pharmacies on good practice issues. He added that the board has scheduled routine inspections at various times including weekends, holidays and after usual business hours, and noted that this is important because routine inspections need to be random, unannounced, and at times other than 8-5 on weekdays.

- **Pharmacist-In-Charge (PIC)**

Chairperson Jones stated that the Enforcement Team discussed the responsibilities of the pharmacist-in-charge (PIC). He added that under Business and Professions Code section 4113(b), the PIC is responsible for any misconduct that occurs at a pharmacy, even if the PIC is not present. However, it is the circumstances, taken as a whole, that determine if the PIC will be held answerable for the misconduct (e.g., discipline, cite and fine, notice of violation, etc.).

Chairperson Jones stated that some of these factors include the nature of the misconduct, how obvious the misconduct should have been, how long did it continued, and whether the PIC learned of it and then promptly moved to correct the problem. There are circumstances under which the PIC, who may have good policies and procedures in place and can articulate them, still may be subject to discipline (or cited for the violation) for conduct occurring in his or her absence. The more egregious the violations of pharmacy law, the more likely the pharmacist-in-charge will be cited.

Chairperson Jones noted that board counsel advised the board that it has discretion in determining whether to impose sanctions on the PIC for violations of pharmacy law. The Enforcement Team discussed guidelines that would outline when it is appropriate to name the pharmacy and the PIC for violations. When the pharmacy and the PIC are charged with violations, the supervising inspector considers the mitigation when recommending the appropriate action to take. The less serious violations may be closed with no further action. For the more serious violations, with little or no mitigation, the case may be referred to an office conference with a supervising inspector, or a compliance committee for cite and fine, or to the Attorney General's office for discipline of the license(s).

- **Implementation of the Cite and Fine and Quality Assurance Regulations**

Chairperson Jones reported that the Enforcement Team discussed the procedures to implement the expanded cite and fine program and policies for the quality assurance review regulations adopted by the board.

Mr. Jones announced that President Litsey appointed Board Member Stan Goldenberg as chair for both the Northern and Southern Compliance Committees. Mr. Jones added that the goal of having one chair is to allow one person to work closely with the supervising

inspectors on the assignment of the cases for these committees, a consistency of presiding over both meetings and the administering of fines consistently for similar cases.

Chairperson Jones stated that there would be a 6-month educational period of transition before the board begins to cite and fine for violations of the quality assurance program. He added that during this time inspectors would provide this education during routine inspections and at compliance committee meetings.

- **Future Meeting Dates**

Chairperson Jones noted the 2002 meeting dates for the Enforcement Team as follows:

- March 12, 2002 with a public Enforcement Committee meeting in the morning and the Enforcement Team meeting in the afternoon. Chairperson Jones stated that suggested topics for this meeting include: quality assurance, PIC expectations by the inspectors, implementation of SB 1169, appeal of the prescriber dispensing issue, review of remote dispensing by a pharmacist from the enforcement perspective and cite and fine.
- July 3, 2002.
- September 10, 2002 with a public Enforcement Committee meeting in the morning and the Enforcement Team meeting in the afternoon and,
- December 10, 2002.

Bruce Young, representing the California Retailers Association, congratulated David Fong on his appointment to the board.

Mr. Young requested that the board allow time for licensees to comply with this regulation.

Mr. Young asked the board to address the difficulty of finding qualified PICs and to define PIC responsibilities.

Steve Gray, representing Kaiser Permanente, suggested that the board discuss the issue of wholesaler exemptees and transferable licenses. Mr. Gray asked for guidance in developing a training course that would be approved by the board for wholesaler exemptees.

Ms. Herold responded that the legislation recently enacted (SB 724) provided very broad perimeters for training. Ms. Herold added that this issue would be addressed at the next Licensing Committee Meeting.

Mr. Gray suggested that the board examine the reporting requirements regarding losses of controlled substances under current law. Mr. Gray explained that current language implies that for every single tablet of controlled substances that is missing, the loss needs to be reported to the DEA. Mr. Gray added that the DEA's approach is to report only

significant losses. Mr. Gray stated that by adding the word “significant” to the language, it would reduce the paper work and follow-up required for inconsequential losses.

Chairperson Jones asked Mr. Gray to submit a recommended definition.

John Berger noted that it is unfair to pharmacists when the board directs them to attend a compliance committee meeting but does not provide a detailed summary of violations that will be discussed. He added that the minutes of these meetings do not reflect the details of what occurred at the meeting and they do not include an explanation as to why fines were set either higher or lower than the maximum amount or why these fine amounts vary depending on the case.

Mr. Elsner stated that pharmacists are notified of the charges prior to the meeting. Mr. Elsner asked Mr. Berger to provide specific examples of his concern so the board can address the issue.

John Jones stated that because the board’s caseload closure time has been reduced to a much shorter time period, pharmacists are not likely to forget violations or the incidents. Mr. Jones added that the board provides minutes of the meetings in summary form.

Mr. Jones noted that sometimes licensees will call to postpone their appearance at the last minute and many times they do this more than once. He noted that staff is extremely flexible in accommodating licensees’ needs when scheduling appearance dates.

Ms. Harris stated that the new regulation gives the board the authority to cite and fine on any violation or when a licensee does not appear for the second time. She added that staff takes it seriously when a violation notice is issued and education has not been working.

Mr. Tilley stated that it appears that some pharmacists do not want to admit their mistakes and take responsibility for them. Mr. Tilley expressed confidence in the committee’s ability to handle these cases under Mr. Goldenberg’s direction.

John Cronin, representing the California Pharmacists Association, stated that he has made numerous complaints to the board regarding the lack of details provided in the committee minutes. He added that detailed minutes would benefit those who teach pharmacy law by identifying important board issues.

Mr. Cronin congratulated the enforcement staff in clearing up the backlog of complaints. He stated however, that the board needs to communicate better with its licensees.

Mr. Fong agreed that the board does need to improve communications with licensees. Mr. Fong stated that not only is it a liability to be a PIC, few PICs stay with a single pharmacy for a long period of time so there is little value in having a PIC be responsible for a pharmacy’s operations. Mr. Fong asked the board to outline the responsibilities of

the PIC. Mr. Fong added that the board has actually created a negative situation in holding the PIC responsible for a pharmacy's violations. Instead, there needs to be a mentoring relationship fostered.

Mr. Jones noted that the committee would be discussing this issue at the March 12, 2002, Enforcement Committee Meeting.

Mr. Gray thanked the board for scheduling a public meeting on March 12. He added that the majority of the violation letters sent to licensees include the statement that this is a "violation for unprofessional conduct." He added that this term has lost its meaning and can also have a devastating effect on the licensee's record. Mr. Gray requested that the committee determine the appropriate use of this term.

President Litsey noted that the next public Enforcement Committee Meeting would be held on March 12, 2002, in Sacramento.

LICENSING COMMITTEE

President Litsey announced that Board Member Don Gubbins replaced former Board Member Holly Strom as Chair of the Licensing Committee. President Litsey acknowledged Ms. Strom in the audience and stated that she would be reporting on the Pharmacy Manpower Task Force.

Chairperson Gubbins acknowledged Ms. Strom's efforts as former chair of the Licensing Committee.

- **Request for Waiver of CCR 1717(e) – Delivery of Filled Prescriptions to a Health Center for Outpatient Infusion Needs**

Chairperson Gubbins stated that the committee reviewed the request from St. Joseph Infusion Services for waiver of CCR 1717(e) to allow the delivery of outpatient infusion drugs to the Rohnert Park Health Services. St. Joseph Infusion Services is a department of the Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital and has a licensed pharmacy. The pharmacy supplies Remicade (and other medications) for infusion at Rohnert Park Health Center. The current recommendation is to infuse Remicade under a controlled setting and this is done at the Health Center.

President Litsey asked for comments from the board and the public. There were none.

MOTION: Licensing Committee: Approve the request from St. Joseph Infusion Services for waiver of California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 1717(e) to allow the delivery of outpatient infusion drugs to the Rohnert Park Health Center.

SUPPORT: 9 OPPOSE: 0

- **Proposed Guidelines for Compounding Pharmacies**

Chairperson Gubbins stated that SB 293 (Torlakson), Chapter 827, Statutes of 2001, became effective January 1, 2002. This bill requires pharmacies that compound injectable sterile drug products to obtain a separate license from the Board of Pharmacy. That license will require that the pharmacy comply with guidelines on sterile compounding adopted by the board. The bill also permits the board to immediately close any sterile compounding operation if an investigation indicates an immediate threat to the public health or safety. Annual inspections of the pharmacy are required.

Chairperson Gubbins stated that the board submitted a legislation budget change proposal (BCP) to implement SB 293. The BCP requested 5 positions and \$609,000 to operate the new program that was created by legislation. The Department of Finance reviewed the workload presented in the BCP and determined that the workload did not support the requested level of new funding that would be collected from the fees. Therefore, the Department of Finance only approved an augmentation that could be supported by the revenue that was estimated to be generated by the new fee established in the legislation (approximately \$75,000 in the first year and \$150,000 ongoing).

Chairperson Gubbins noted that because the funding approved by the Department of Finance was inadequate to implement the program, the board withdrew the BCP. The board has a reserve of 24 months (as of June 30, 2001), and could not justify fees for compounding pharmacies of \$1,000 or more with such a reserve.

The board decided to pursue funding for the legislation during legislative budget review of the 2002/03 State budget.

Chairperson Gubbins added that although the board does not have the resources to implement the licensing component of SB 293, the board could proceed with the adoption of the guidelines. He referred the board and public to the draft version of the guidelines. The guidelines are a combination of the standards adopted by the American Society of Health System Pharmacists and United States Pharmacopoeia.

President Litsey if there were any comments.

MOTION: Licensing Committee: The Board of Pharmacy schedule the proposed compounding guidelines for an information hearing during the April 2002, Board Meeting.

SUPPORT: 9 OPPOSE: 0

Mr. Cronin asked if the board was going to form a task force to evaluate the guidelines. Chairperson Gubbins said not, but since the draft guidelines are available, interested parties could meet to discuss the guidelines.

- **Amend California Code of Regulation Section 1732.2 to accept continuing education (CE) for pharmacists that is approved by other regulatory boards that license health professionals.**

Chairperson Gubbins stated that traditionally, the board requires pharmacists to renew their licenses every two years and if a pharmacist obtains continuing education from a provider that is not recognized by the Board of Pharmacy, he or she has two ways to obtain approval. First, the non-recognized provider can apply to the board to have the continuing education approved, or the pharmacist can apply individually for approval of the continuing education. Either way, the cost for review is \$40 per unit.

Chairperson Gubbins added that many pharmacists take CE offered by other health professions. California Code of Regulations section 1732.2 states that coursework accepted by the Medical Board of California, the California Board of Podiatric Medicine, the Board of Registered Nursing or the Dental Board of California as meeting their requirements and which meets the standards of relevance to pharmacy practice, may be approved for credit by the board upon written petition to the board. To petition the board, the pharmacist must pay \$40 per unit for review.

Mr. Jones stated that usually the CE courses that are offered by other health professions are related to the practice of pharmacy.

Ms. Harris explained the staff review process for CE courses noting that it includes an evaluation of the course content, the assessment document and the synopsis of the program.

Teresa Miller, representing the California Society of Hospital Pharmacists, thanked the Licensing Committee for reconsidering this issue and she explained that many professionals within their membership take courses relating to the medical profession or other health care professions, especially practitioners in specialty areas. Dr. Miller added that this board evaluation significantly increases the cost of continuing education.

Steve Gray, representing Kaiser Permanente, stated that Kaiser has many educational programs for physicians, nurses, and other health professionals and that it would like to encourage pharmacists to attend these programs as well. Dr. Gray added that since the Board of Pharmacy changed its policy to evaluate CE courses, Kaiser pharmacists do not participate in these programs because they must first attend the class and then hope the board approves the CE. Mr. Gray noted that it is beneficial for those attending these programs because they gain insight and an understanding of others in their professions. Dr. Gray encouraged the board to move forward with this proposal.

John Cronin, representing the California Pharmacists Association, also stated its support for the regulation change.

Morrie Goldstein, representing the Guild for Professional Pharmacists, stated that the guild receives frequent calls on clarification of the accreditation issue. He recommended that the board support this important proposal.

MOTION: Licensing Committee: Amend California Code of Regulation Section 1732.2 to accept continuing education (CE) for pharmacists if approved by other regulatory boards that license health professionals.

SUPPORT: 10 OPPOSE: 0

- **Presentation and Public Comment on the Pharmacy Manpower Task Force Final Report**

Chairperson Gubbins announced that on January 2, 2002, the final report from the Pharmacy Manpower Task Force was mailed to all board members and interested parties. Chairperson Gubbins stated that the board formed the task force one year ago to address the pharmacist shortage in California and to seek solutions to ensure that patients have access to pharmacist's care and prescription services.

Chairperson Gubbins introduced Lindle Hatton, the Pharmacy Manpower Task Force facilitator and welcomed former board member and chair of the Licensing Committee, Holly Strom.

Before the discussion began, President Litsey welcomed Avis Erickson, Executive Associate Dean from Loma Linda University, and noted that Loma Linda University is in the process of establishing a school of pharmacy.

Ms. Strom thanked the task force members for an excellent job and she acknowledged those present in the audience including Don Gubbins, Dave Fong, John Perez, Morrie Goldstein and Ralph Duff. Ms. Strom also thanked Lindle and Louise Hatton for their efforts to facilitate the meetings.

Ms. Strom reported that the California State Board of Pharmacy conducted a series of five Manpower Task Force Meetings throughout the state during calendar year 2001. The purpose of the task force was to address the pharmacist shortage in California to ensure that patients have access to pharmacist's care and prescription services. Ms. Strom stated that the board asked the task force to generate a set of proposed solutions to submit to the Board of Pharmacy for review and possible adoption. She added that all task force meetings were open to the public.

Ms. Strom stated that the task force consisted of members from various pharmacist groups including pharmacy employees and employers, consumers, academia, managed care and the Board of Pharmacy. She added that these representatives, through thoughtful and comprehensive deliberations, offered a broad range of perspectives on

solutions to the pharmacist problems in California. She added that the final report reflects the consensus of the task force in the form of proposed solutions that will be evaluated by the board during its Strategic Planning Meeting on April 26, 2002, which is a public meeting.

Ms. Harris noted that the Licensing Committee will meet on March 7, 2002, and will address the recommendation by the Pharmacy Task Force.

Dr. Hatton expressed his appreciation of Holly Strom for her commitment in chairing the task force meetings. He acknowledged Board Members Don Gubbins and David Fong, as well as task force members in the audience who were in attendance. Dr. Hatton also acknowledged the executive staff and other staff who assisted in the convening of the task force meetings.

Dr. Hatton reported that the final report represents the culmination of task force activities during the course of five meetings that consisted of many deliberations.

Ms. Strom began highlighting the final recommendations of the task force. She stated that the task force recommended that the board address the issue of expanding the role and ratios of technicians when appropriate quality assurance processes are in place. She added that the goal would be to increase the pharmacist's ability to perform patient care services.

Ms. Strom referred to technicians checking technicians and stated that the task force recommended that only technicians possessing certification by the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board be permitted to check technicians in the inpatient hospital pharmacy only for unit drug dose distribution systems.

Ms. Strom stated that another recommendation is all current and future technicians must be certified by the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board. Ms. Strom added that the task force also discussed a grandfather clause to provide an opportunity to become certified for those currently working as technicians.

Ms. Strom reported that the task force also voted to change the number of pharmacy interns that a pharmacist can supervise from one to two. Ms. Strom noted that the task force voted down to eliminate the clerk typist ratio.

She stated that the task force supported expansion of central processing of prescriptions with the following caveats: patient confidentiality is protected, patients have rights to face-to-face consultation, new prescriptions can be transmitted to the pharmacy of the consumer's choice and the pharmacist has the discretion to decide where the prescription gets "pushed." She added that another recommendation was that pharmacists working in the central processing areas must have the ability to check full patient profiles while payors crosscheck and that electronic data is available to everyone who needs it.

Ms. Strom stated that the task force recommended facilitating the increased use of technology and distributing information on how technology can improve efficiencies with a caveat that the board is empowered to authorize projects that can evaluate, test and implement new technology to enhance patient care.

Ms. Strom stated that the task force voted unanimously to administer the pharmacist exam more than twice a year, and recommends offering it on an almost continuous basis. She added that the task force also suggested considering retesting the multiple choice or essay section if only one portion is failed during the exam. The task force recommended that the board evaluate whether the essay portion of the exam adequately measures what it is supposed to measure.

Ms. Strom stated that the task force also recommended that the board assist applicants preparing for the California pharmacist's licensing exam by:

1. Developing (or fostering the development of) educational programs and information on how to take the pharmacist exam.
2. Requesting that outside agencies (schools of pharmacy and private educational organizations) develop exam workshops on how to take the California Pharmacist Exam.
3. Developing and distributing an informational brochure that contains sample essay questions for the California pharmacist licensing exam.

Ms. Strom stated that the task force recommends that the board have the authority to grant waivers to keep pace with innovative, technological and other advancements to enhance the practice of pharmacy. The board can only waive regulation requirements now.

Ms. Strom stated that the task force also recommends that scholarships be provided to students who agree to work as pharmacists in underserved areas of California.

Ms. Strom stated that one noteworthy comment is that the task force specified that the first three recommendations regarding technicians need to be considered together. Ms. Strom concluded her remarks by stating that the recommendations of the task force are only recommendations. It is up to the board to determine what, if any, recommendations need to be pursued.

Board members discussed the recommendations of the task force and thanked the task force for its deliberations.

Bruce Young, representing the California Retailers Association, commended the task force and the board for these efforts and He urged the board to take immediate action on the recommendations that are within its purview – those dealing with regulations, and noted that some of the recommendations are supported by CRA and others are not. For example changing the clerk-typist ratio would be one item to pursue now. He added that

legislative matters should be taken to the board's Legislation and Regulation Committee, and a public meeting needs to be held with those who participate actively in the Legislature on pharmacy matters before going to the Legislature as occurred with AB 108. He stated that a strong bond exists among UFCW, CRA and CPhA on legislative matters, and all of us share the same goals. So by working collectively before going to the Legislature, it will save the board's limited resources. Moreover, it is likely too late in this election year to pursue any legislative matters. He concluded that there are some bigger legislative threats -- such as reductions in MediCal reimbursement would be devastating. He added that we have to work collectively together, and CRA is committed to this.

Morrie Goldstein, representing the Guild for Professional Pharmacists, stated that although the Pharmacy Manpower Task Force provided a way to accomplish many things concerning the practice of pharmacy, he felt it was too directed in supporting the goals of the Board of Pharmacy and the State's large pharmacy retailers. For this reason the guild's representative on the task force resigned at the end of the meetings.

Mr. Zia stated that the public isn't getting what it needs. The wait in pharmacies is increasing, and also increasing is the need of patients to talk to a pharmacist. The public needs an increased number of pharmacists.

Mr. Hiura expressed concern that the public is not represented as it should be and that consumers do not get the care that they deserve. He stated that as a consumer, he has often had to wait for prescriptions and consultation on new prescriptions.

Mr. Fong suggested that the board, when moving forward with the proposed solutions, take advantage of quick solutions such as offering the pharmacist's exam more than twice a year. He suggested the board allow candidates to take portions of the exam again.

Ralph Duff, representing the California Employee Pharmacists Association, thanked the board for the honor and privilege of serving on the task force. Mr. Duff noted that the task force voted not to discuss reestablishing the Bachelor of Pharmacy four-year program. He added that one of the key problems with keeping pharmacists results from the length of time it takes students to earn a Pharm.D. degree. He suggested that the board reexamine this issue.

Mr. Duff also recommended that the board hold evening meetings to accommodate those who work during the day.

Ms. Zinder asked what the Licensing Committee is doing regarding the Intern Program.

Ms. Harris responded that the committee is looking at changes and improvements that is occurring on the national level and bring this back to the committee in June. Ms. Harris stated that the Intern Preceptor Guide was completed about 1992 and this needs information needs to be revised. There are approximately 50 institutional competencies

and 50 community competencies that preceptors must sign off on. She added that some of the skill sets may no longer be necessary for the practice of pharmacy and there may be some very valuable ones may not be included.

Ms. Harris stated that this issue would be addressed at the July Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

President Litsey adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

President Litsey asked the board to consider a request to change the October Board Meeting dates from October 23 and 24, 2002, to October 24 and 25, 2002. The board agreed to the change.

Tuesday, January 24, 2002

CLOSED SESSION

The board moved in Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section 111126(c)(3) to deliberate upon disciplinary cases and to confer with Legal Counsel pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(e) regarding the following pending litigation: Crowley v Board of Pharmacy.

Call to Order

President Litsey called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. on Tuesday, January 24, 2002.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTION

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- **Report on the Meeting of December 3, 2001**

Mr. Elsner stated that the Organizational Development Committee met December 3, 2001. Mr. Elsner reported on the following budget issues:

- The Department of Finance denied most of the board's budget change proposals for 2002/03. All General Fund agencies have been directed to make and identify program cuts to reduce their budgets for this year as well as for 2002/03; the board, as a special fund agency is not required to make such cuts at this time. Additionally the Administration was not supportive of increasing the size of the state's workforce.
- The Department of Finance approved \$267,000 of a \$847,000 budget change proposal to align board expenditures to program needs and prior years' expenditures, to cover expenses that have been subsidized in part over the years by vacant inspector positions. Since the board no longer has vacant inspector

positions, the board will need to reduce program expenditures without supplemental funding. The board received funding of \$159,776 for printing (of which 84,776 is ongoing funding), \$10,764 more for travel, \$41,635 for exam site rental and \$28,825 in outside consultant services. The board did not receive any funding for temporary staff to assist with workload surges or funding for the board's full printing needs, postage and for projected expenses at the Attorney General's Office.

- The board received \$6,000 so that it could upgrade one inspector position to a supervising inspector position. The board had sought 4 additional supervisor positions in the board to provide a more reasonable span of control. The board had requested one chief of enforcement, two supervising inspectors and one clerical supervisor for the office.
- The board requested two additional staff for the Complaint Unit; this BCP was denied by the Department of Consumer Affairs.
- Legislative BCPs were denied for SB 1169 (to develop a patient fact sheet on emergency contraception) and SB 633 (to issue hypodermic permits to any retailer selling mercury thermometers). The Department of Finance approved only minimal (and insufficient) funding to implement SB 293 (to require pharmacies that perform sterile compounding to be specially licensed), and as a result, the board withdrew its BCP and will seek funding through legislative deliberations on the 2002/03 budget in the spring.
- The Governor instituted a hiring freeze on October 23, 2001, resulting in the board's being left with seven vacant positions in the Sacramento office. New hires, transfers from other (non-board) agencies or promotions have all been "frozen" by the executive order. Exemptions from the hiring freeze have been sought for three of the seven positions with critical board impact. The Department of Finance must approve the hiring freeze exemptions.
- Mr. Elsner announced that the board has filled all of its 20 inspector positions.

President Litsey asked if there were comments.

Mr. Cronin asked if the Governor would transfer money from the board's reserve to cover shortfalls in the state's General fund. Ms. Harris stated that the surplus funds of several other boards in the department had been transferred to the General Fund, but the Board of Pharmacy's fund has not yet been transferred.

Mr. Fong asked about significant line items that are affected by the budget denials.

Ms. Herold responded that perhaps the most significant was funding for the Attorney General's office that in the past years was substantially under funded, but in 2001/02 received a one-time increase of \$500,000. The board's most recent budget projection now shows the board as closing the year with an extra \$270 left in the budget (if expenditures are similar to last year's).

Ms. Herold stated that the board's printing expenses were the largest under funded item

in the board's budget. She added that average printing costs over the last few years were \$300,000 and the Department of Finance allowed the board only \$80,000, and specifically targeted the distribution of the law book as unnecessary. Ms. Herold added that another major line item denial was postage costs that typically ran \$100,000 in each of the last three years, only \$40,000 of which is budgeted. She added that the Department of Finance has disapproved any postage increase.

Ms. Herold stated that the board also requested \$109,000 to hire temporary help to expedite application processes, issue pharmacists' licenses, cashier money and to respond to telephone calls during specific periods of heavy workload during the year, and this was also denied by the Department of Finance.

Mr. Fong stated that he was concerned about the board's lack of ability to communicate with licensees such as via distribution of the law book.

John Cronin, representing the California Pharmacists Association, referred to SB 293 that requires pharmacies that perform sterile compounding to be specially licensed. Mr. Cronin recommended that the board establish a special task force to address the issues.

Ms. Harris stated that without the additional staff resources, the board would not be able to implement the licensing requirement mandate in SB 293. She added that subsequent discussions with the Department of Finance have led to recommendations for a finance letter (a form of budget change proposal submitted late in the current fiscal year). Ms. Harris added that the Licensing Committee has proposed draft guidelines that will be presented to the full board on April 25, 2002, during the informational hearing. Ms. Harris noted that the board is not proposing to develop a task force to develop comments, but the California Pharmacists Association could establish a task force to collect comments.

- Personnel Update

Ms. Harris reported that on October 23, 2001, Governor Davis instituted a state-hiring freeze aimed at reducing state expenditures. The freeze prohibits the hiring, promoting or reinstating of state employees unless specifically approved by the Department of Finance. This approval of positions will be done on a position-by-position basis.

As implemented, the freeze requires the board to fill positions solely with other board staff – restricting the board to transfer employees from one position to another. However, the board cannot hire new staff unless the Department of Finance permits this. The result is that for the next 18 months (the duration of the freeze), the board will have difficulty in filling vacancies.

- Personnel Changes

Ms. Harris stated that prior to the hiring freeze, the board was able to (re) hire Linda

Alderman for the budget analyst position.

Ms. Harris reported that Tracy Brown retired in mid-October, after more than 13 years with the board. Most recently, Ms. Brown was one of the board's two receptionists.

Ms. Harris noted that Hope Tamraz retired in December after 15 years with the board. Ms. Tamraz was the editor of *The Script*, and oversaw its development into a full-fledged and professional newsletter for the board. Ms. Harris stated that initially the board intended to retain Ms. Tamraz on the payroll as a retired annuitant to continue handling the newsletter. Unfortunately, the board is unable to hire Ms. Tamraz because of the hiring freeze. Ms. Harris stated that Ms. Tamraz has volunteered to work on the publication of the newsletter for its release in February.

Ms. Harris reported that the board has submitted hiring freeze exemptions for three of the board's seven vacant positions (cashier, receptionist and associate analyst for the enforcement unit). Ms. Harris noted that the department has advised the board that few waivers will be approved.

Ms. Harris stated that the board's priority is to mediate and resolve consumer complaints, complete investigations and prosecute cases at the Attorney General's Office. Ms. Harris stated that the board has expectations to complete investigation of consumer complaints within 90 days and complete any case that involves an audit within six months. Ms. Harris added that the board has been very successful in meeting this expectation over the last year.

Ms. Harris reported that the board recently reinstated its routine inspection program and she commended the board's supervising inspectors on an exceptional job in managing caseloads and managing the direction of these inspections. Ms. Harris noted that the board's inspection program is not mandated by law, however, it is an expectation of the public. Ms. Harris added that routine inspections serve to provide an educational benefit to pharmacists.

Ms. Harris stated that another critical area is processing applications in a timely manner to assure that pharmacy services and care are provided to consumers without interruption.

Ms. Harris noted that due to budget reductions, the board has been forced to suspend services that the public expects, such as inspector phone duty, whereby all inspectors take turns as the duty inspector for one week handling office calls. She added that many of the questions asked of inspectors, are questions that can be answered from the law book.

Ms. Harris reported that the board receives many calls for application status from applicants for technicians and pharmacist licenses. The board has asked that applicants inquire about their application status by fax. As an example, Ms. Harris noted that one employee receives over 100 calls per day, and if she answers these calls, it greatly slows down the application process. Another service that the board must stop is licensing

candidates for pharmacist licenses “over-the-counter” and the board will suspend this service because it involves at least 10 employees and disrupts office operations during the course of a week. She added that the board will continue to take forms and documents over-the-counter, but the board will not release or issue licenses this way. She added that instead, because it is a priority, the board would immediately post the results on the Internet within 24 hours. Ms. Harris noted that a current article in the newsletter informs board’s licensees that because of budget constraints, these services will be suspended indefinitely.

Ms. Harris noted that in spite of these budget cuts, the board has a sunset review report due in September that will also require a large volume of staff work.

Ms. Harris commended supervising inspectors on their efforts to train new inspectors, noting that this required considerable time, energy and direction.

Mr. Fong asked if the board should redefine the role of inspectors as more of an educator now that the board has a full compliment of inspectors employed.

Ms. Harris stated that this is the direction the inspectors are taking especially those on the Compliance Team. She added that there will be times when inspectors will need to issue a violation notice and the board’s goal is for the investigation report to be filed in the office within 90 days.

Mr. Jones stated that the Enforcement Committee spent considerable time and energy to include inspector participation in the public enforcement meetings, in spite of concerns that it decreased work time because this interaction reinforces the valuable educational role inspectors should take during inspections.

Mr. Jones asked if the newsletter could be published from outside sources.

Ms. Harris responded that the board does not have the manpower available to do this as staff would still have to write, edit and/or coordinate production of the newsletter.

Ms. Herold stated that the board is currently faced with the uncertainty of how to proceed with a budget deficiency, possible loss of the board’s fund and a hiring freeze with no means to fill positions. She added that it is the board’s goal to resume publication of the newsletter within six months. Ms. Herold reported that the board is still proceeding with pending board projects including the consumer poster, the SB 1169 fax sheet on emergency contraception, and compilation of the sunset review report within the next four months. Ms. Herold added that the board must complete the budget change proposals for next year within the next four months and complete the *Quality Assurance Health Notes*.

Mr. Cronin acknowledged Hope Tamraz for her outstanding service to the board. Mr. Cronin commended her professional ability, and commented that she has been extremely

helpful and cooperative to the CPhA and to pharmacists.

Ms. Harris stated that the public meeting of the Licensing Committee is scheduled for March 7, 2002, in Sacramento, California.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Full Board Minutes (October 15 and 16, 2001)

President Litsey asked if there were any corrections. There were none.

MOTION: Approve the October 15 and 16, 2001 Board Meeting minutes.

M/S/C: ELSNER/TILLEY

SUPPORT: 9 OPPOSE: 0

NEW BUSINESS/AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Ms. Harris stated that the April 2002 Board Meeting will be held in Sacramento on April 24, 25 and 26, 2002. She added that the strategic planning session is scheduled on April 26, 2002, at the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Ms. Harris added that the informational hearing on the Compounding Guidelines is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2002. The guidelines are available on the board's website or from the board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Litsey asked if there were comments from the public on items not on the agenda or for future agenda items. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

President Litsey adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.