

**North Carolina Board of Pharmacy
Durable Medical Equipment Committee Meeting
Minutes of April 27, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 am by Mel Elliott, acting Chairperson. Present for the meeting were Betty Dennis, and via telephone, Joey McLaughlin, Bill Griffin, and Clint Pinyan, Board Counsel. Also present were Karen Matthew, Constance Manion, Wendy Watson, Debbie Stump, and Krystal Brashears. Committee member Karen Womack was not present.

Mr. Elliott read the ethics statement.

The minutes for the November 3, 2009, meeting was approved by all, following a motion by Mr. Griffin, and a second by Dr. Dennis.

Old Business:

On advice of Board Counsel, another election of a new committee chairperson was held since Ms. Womack had declined to accept the position following the November 3, 2009, meeting. Mr. Griffin offered to serve as chairperson, and was approved by all.

New Business:

The election for the 2010 DME for the committee seat for Rehabilitation Technology Supplier Representative was discussed. A tentative timeline was provided for all committee members (see attachment). Election for the seat will be done electronically through the Board's website.

The next election will be in 2011 for the seat of Medical Oxygen Supplier Representative.

Mr. Griffin then asked about an update on the number of DME permit holders who had renewed for 2010. Ms. Watson advised that 772 DME permit holders had renewed for 2010, with 65 being closed between November 1, 2009, and April 1, 2010. She provided a printout of permit renewals and other information to the committee (see attachment).

Ms. Watson stated that statistics for DME permit holders can be found on the Board website at ncbop.org.

Also, it was pointed out that DME permit applications can also be found on the Board website.

Mr. Griffin then opened the discussion about the clarification of prescriptions for medical equipment or devices. Board rules and laws provide that a prescription is considered legitimate for one (1) year from the date a prescriber issues it. There are no provisions in the rules or law for a "lifetime" prescription for equipment or device to be issued by a prescriber to a patient.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting for the DME committee will be sent to members via email and will be held at the Board office at 10:30 am.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. on April 27, 2010.

Betty Dennis

Mel Elliott

William (Bill) H. Griffin (Via Telephone)

Robert (Joey) McLaughlin, Jr., (Via Telephone)

(Not Present)

Karen Womack