

## NC BOARD OF PHARMACY

### Durable Medical Equipment Subcommittee Minutes

October 30, 2012

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The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am by Chairman William Griffin. Present for the meeting were William Griffin, Joey McLaughlin, Mel Elliott, David Keesee, and Clint Pinyan, Board Attorney (all via telephone). Also present for the meeting were Karen Matthew, Wendy Watson, Krystal Brashears, and Connie Manion.

The Ethics Statement was read by Chairman Griffin.

The minutes for the April 24, 2012, meeting were approved by all following a motion by Mr. McLaughlin, which was seconded by Mr. Elliott.

Recognition was made of all attending the meeting.

#### **Old Business:**

There was no old business to be presented to the subcommittee.

#### **New Business:**

Wendy Watson, Permitting Specialist with the Board brought up that renewal season for DME permits would begin on November 1, 2012. She stated that the renewals are done on-line, and a reminder would be sent out by email to all DME permit holders prior to November 1, 2012. She stated that, at the end of the year, another email reminder would be sent out that all DME permits need to be renewed by March 1, 2013, as the grace period for renewal ends on that date. She also stated that the Board only accepts Visa, MasterCard, and Discover cards as payment for renewals and no longer accepts cash or checks.

Mr. Griffin mentioned the Medicare Competitive Bidding and renewals. He mentioned that the NC Association of Medical Equipment Suppliers (NCAMES) had provided information about that subject. He also mentioned that no one from the Board was present for the NC AMES summer session. Ms. Matthew stated no notice was sent to her about the meeting.

Ms. Brashears added that there had been few complaints filed with the Board about DME suppliers. She stated the majority as complainants were either patients complaining about equipment, or DME companies filing complaints against a competitor.

Mr. Pinyan stated that there had been a pre-hearing conference heard in August 2012, regarding a DME supplier about not venting oxygen tanks correctly. He stated that the Board had taken no action against the DME supplier.

Ms. Watson stated that, as of the date of the meeting, there were 890 DME suppliers permitted with the Board. She stated for 2012 to date, there were 183 new permits issued, including 71 in-state and 112 out of state. She also stated that those 183 new permits included 138 permits for new businesses and 45 for transfers of ownership.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am, following a motion by Mr. Elliott, seconded by Mr. Keesee, and approved by all.

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Mel Elliot

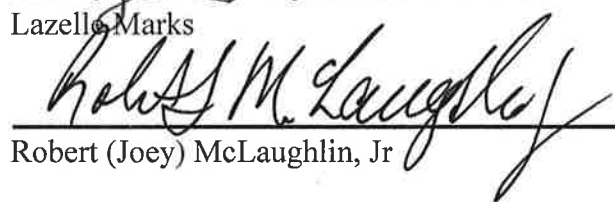
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William (Bill) H. Griffin

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David Keese

  
Lazelle Marks


  
Robert (Joey) McLaughlin, Jr

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William (Bill) H. Griffin

4/23/2013

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David Keese

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Lazelle Marks

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Not Present

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Robert (Joey) McLaughlin, Jr