



TENNESSEE COUNCIL OF CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL MIDWIFERY
Regular Council Meeting

April 2, 2015

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Tennessee Council of Certified Professional Midwifery was held in the Iris Conference Room, at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, TN 37243 on April 2, 2015.

Members Present: Carol Ann Nelson, CPM, Chairperson
Carolyn D. Reisman, CPM
Rufus R. Clifford, MD
Talitha Mills, CPM

Members Absent: Margaret M. Fulmer Brasel, MSN, CNM
Reyna Leigh Gordon, PhD, Consumer Member

Staff Present: Candyce Waszmer, Administrator
Stacy Tarr, Administrative Manager
Maegan Carr Martin, Executive Director
Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs, Deputy General Counsel

The necessary number of council members joined the meeting and a quorum was established. Council of Certified Professional Midwifery Chair, Carol Ann Nelson, CPM, called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

Election of Officers

Pursuant to TENN. CODE ANN. § 63-29-106: The council members shall elect annually from their membership a chair and vice chair. Accordingly, elections were held.

Ms. Reisman made a motion to nominate Ms. Nelson for chair and Ms. Mills seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ms. Nelson made a motion to nominate Ms. Reisman for vice chair and Dr. Clifford seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Minutes

Dr. Clifford made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2014 meeting of the Council and Ms. Reisman seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Review and Ratification of Licenses

Ms. Mills made a motion to ratify all new professional midwifery licenses. Ms. Resiman seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The following licenses were ratified:

Rachel Leah Chandler, CPM #64
Carolyn Marie Shafer Hansen, CPM #60
Donna Michelle Lafferty, CPM #61
Rebekah Diane Mustaleski, CPM #63
Chloe Ellen Raum, CPM #62
Katherine Gray West. CPM #65

Ms. Mills made a motion to ratify all new professional midwifery reinstatement of licenses. Ms. Reisman seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. The following reinstatement was ratified:

Kimberly Dawn Spencer, CPM #38

Office of General Counsel

Kyonzte Hughes-Toombs, Deputy General Counsel confirmed there were no open cases on professional midwifery licensees.

Manager's Report

Ms. Stacy Tarr provided the following statistical information: between April 1, 2014 and March 31, 2015 there were five (5) new professional midwifery applications received, seven (7) new licenses issued and one (1) reinstatement. Of the 15 renewals processed during that time, one (1) was completed online, bringing the online renewal percentage to 6.67% for the Council. The total number of active professional midwifery licensees at the end of March 31, 2015 is 45.

Report from the Office of Investigations

Rachel Talley informed the Council that there is one (1) open complaint against a certified professional midwife in the Office of Investigations. There is one (1) certified professional midwife currently being monitored.

Other Board Business and Discussions

Meeting time change – Ms. Martin mentioned that the minutes from last year's meeting suggest that the members requested to move the meeting time to 10AM CT but that this request had mistakenly not been fulfilled. The committee members then agreed that moving the meeting to 10AM CT is preferred.

Summary of Application Process – Ms. Martin mentioned the applicable Certified Professional Midwifery and Board of Osteopathic Examination review, denial and approval rules. Ms. Martin further clarified that the application process begins when the administrator, Candyce Waszmer, receives and processes an applicant's application and supporting documentation. Once the application is complete, it goes to Ms. Nelson for the initial review/approval and then to a consultant on the Osteopathic Board for review/approval. After both reviews have resulted in approvals, the applicant is then licensed as a Certified Professional Midwife, is issued a license number, and may commence practice. The licensee will receive his/her certificates in the mail after the Committee and the Osteopathic Board ratify the individual's license at each next regularly scheduled meeting. Ms. Martin stated that the process can be rather lengthy due to the Committee's infrequent meeting schedule.

Ms. Nelson inquired if the Osteopathic Board consultant would accept her electronic approval when she is unable to send the signed approval sheet immediately. Ms. Waszmer confirmed that the Osteopathic Board consultant has requested the approved, signed, check sheet be submitted prior to the Osteopathic Board receiving the file for review and issuing an approval.

Possible New Midwifery Program – Ms. Martin stated that a discussion regarding midwifery educational programs in Tennessee was included in last year's meeting and the members may or may not want to discuss this more. Ms. Nelson stated that she is aware that there is one school attempting to open in TN and they are still working on the administrative processes but no further information was discussed about this program or others.

New Emergency Care Form – Ms. Hughes-Toombs discussed that the Council had addressed a new form at last year's meeting and that Ms. Nelson stated she would bring an emergency care form and a form that could be completed by midwives that would allow data to be compiled regarding births and transfers to the April 2, 2015 meeting. Ms. Nelson stated she did not have the example forms with her but that she would send an electronic message to Ms. Hughes-Toombs, with the forms, attached for her to review. Ms. Hughes-Toombs suggested she could look at the forms prior to the next meeting and feels that a standard Emergency Care form would be beneficial to professional midwives.

Division of Health Licensure and Regulation

Lisa Tittle presented the June 2014 revenue report to the Council. Ms. Tittle advised the Council that they are in a stable financial stance to proceed with reducing the application and renewal fees. Rule 1050-5-.06 (1) regarding the application fee and (2) Biennial renewal fee. Based on her projections, Ms. Tittle suggested that the Council consider lowering the application fee from \$1,000.00 to \$500.00 and to lowering the biennial renewal fee from \$1,000.00 to \$700.00. Ms. Tittle estimated these fee reductions would reduce annual revenue by about Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000). The Council discussed different fee options and ultimately decided to adopt Ms. Tittle's recommendation. Ms. Reisman made a motion to move forward with changing the application fee to \$500.00 and the biennial renewal fee to \$700.00. Dr. Clifford seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Martin stated that the fees are codified in rule thus a rule change would be necessary. Pursuant to applicable statute, the Commissioner of Health must sign off on the fee change. Ms. Hughes-Toombs stated that the rule change would require an in-person hearing which could either be scheduled at the Council's April 2016 meeting or sometime this fall. The Council agreed to schedule a meeting for fall 2015.

Legislation

Ms. Hughes-Toombs discussed current bills of interest to the Council which are pending before the Tennessee General Assembly. Ms. Reisman inquired for clarification on Senate Bill 98, which would require a certified professional midwife to provide access to records to the Commissioner of the Department of Health during any public health threat investigation.

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 am.

These minutes were ratified by the Council of Certified Professional Midwifery on April 7, 2016.