

Minnesota Rural Health Association

Board of Director's Meeting

Meeting Minutes
Employers Association

Plymouth
April 15th, 2005
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

PRESENT

Ray Christensen	University of Minnesota
Maddy Forsberg	SW MN Area Agency on Aging
Jack Geller	Center for Rural Policy / Development
Duane Nelson	Eide Bailly, LLP
Mary Page	Volunteer Extraordinaire
Liz Quam	CDI
Mark Schoenbaum	Office of Rural Health and Primary Care
Tim Stratton	University of Minnesota
Vickie Trauba	Rural Health Resource Center
Nancy Frank-Wilson	Community Health Liaison
Robin Weis	SW MN Senior Linkage
Julie Larsen	Director

ABSENT

Eric Weller	ISJ-Mayo Hospital
Lynette Engeswick	Minnesota State University of Mankato
Barbara Muesing	University of Minnesota
Arnie Graff	Family Practice
Dave Borgert	CentraCare Systems

Guests: Sue Eskedahl of Employer's Association and Senator Rod Skoe

Meeting brought to order at 10:00 by Ray Christensen.

Minutes from October 26, 2004 and January 28, 2005 moved and approved.

MRHA educational session presented by Sue Eskedahl of Employer's Association on a new product for small business / manufacturers and Liz Quam, CDI on the MN Health Care Purchasing Alliance project. Sen. Rod Skoe from NW Minnesota spoke with the board on the challenges of health care for rural communities and the challenges for legislators to address the issue. Senator Skoe is interested in working with MRHA on a series of listening sessions around health care.

The executive committee for 2005 is: Liz Quam, Maddy Forsberg, Duane Nelson, Ray Christensen, Mark Schoenbaum, Arnie Graff, Vicki Trauba, and Julie Larson, Director.

Treasurers Report

Jack Geller moved to approve report, Mark Schoenbaum seconded. All approved. Discussion on the need of a organizational budget. Finance committee will look into this.

Director's Report

Ray asked the board consider that the officers would serve two years instead of one to provide stability for the organization at this time. Julie has requested that her position be an interim position. Maddy Forsberg moved and Duane Nelson second the motion to extend this years officers for two years. All approved.

Coordinator's Report

Julie reported on progress of work plan, building of partnerships with Health Education Industry Partnership and Office of Rural Health. A contract has been signed with HEIP for administrative services. Work is progressing on a grant application and membership data base.

Committees – no reports

Discussion Items:

Rural health conference in Duluth was discussed. MRHA is responsible for a public policy panel. Discussion occurred around the intent of the panel and possible panel members. Liz, Ray and Julie will continue to work on this with Gary Wingrove.

A grant has been received from the NRHA to support the board meeting in Duluth. A facilitator has been hired to work with the board.

General discussion around MRHA background for a grant, letterhead, and fact sheet.

Strategic Planning: Julie lead the board through a short planning activity on the work plan so as to be able to complete it.

Action Items:

By-Law changes: Duane Nelson proposed a policy change in the by-laws that signatures on all checks drawn on accounts over \$250 shall be two people shall now be on amounts over \$2500. Tim Stratton moved and Jack Geller second. All approved.

MRHA board of directors agreed that Julie Larsen was approved to seek funding on behalf of MRHA. Vicki Trauba moved and Nancy Frank-Wilson seconded. All approved.

MRHA will send out an editorial on MNCare. Julie and Mark will work on it and Jack will distribute it using CRPD media list. Nancy will provide MRHA with an electronic copy of a statewide media list for its use. Tim Stratton moved and Mark Schoenbaum seconded. All approved the sending of the editorial.

Nancy Frank Wilson requested MRHA support of a universal standard seat belt law. Tim Stratton moved and Maddy Forsberg seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting: July 18th, 2005

The July board meeting will be held at the Rural Health Conference, July 18th from 8-12.

Meeting Adjourned – 2:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Julie Larsen

Director

Minnesota Rural Health Association