

**MINNESOTA RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S RETREAT
OCTOBER 27, 2006
10AM-2PM
MAPLE GROVE, MN.**

Minutes

Present:

Jennifer Beech
Maddy Forsberg
Jack Geller
Duane Nelson
Mark Schoenbaum
Tim Stratton, FAPhA
Robin Weiss
Liz Quam
Nancy Franke Wilson

Ex Officio Members:

Marnie Moore-Lindman, MRHA Legislative Counsel
Judy Neppel, Executive Director

Guest:

Marnie Bureau

Absent:

Barbara Muesing	Ray Christensen, M.D.
Greg Thorson	Tiffany Yen
Vickie Trauba	David Borgert
Mary Page	

Agenda

- I. Introductions and Approval of Agenda** – Participants introduced themselves. The agenda was approved with the inclusion of a discussion on membership.

- II. Business Meeting:**
 - Minutes** from July 17, 2006 and September 8, 2006. Approved.
 - Financial Report:** Mr. Nelson reported the audit is complete and meets all public accounting standards for best practices. Approved.
 - September financials** were presented. Approved.
 - Ms. Neppel reported that the **website continues to be improved**. The graphics are being completed. The new looks should be available soon and will be presented to the Board for approval.

Membership in MRHA: The Board discussed the need to improve the membership and outlined some of the benefits including MRHA legislative priorities. The Board determined that this agenda item should be discussed further at the end of the meeting when the legislative agenda is complete.

- III. MRHA Cyber conference plans:** Ms. Quam announced that CDI will contribute the technical support needed to facilitate the up to six cyber case conferences which will take place on the dates listed at 8AM-8:30AM. All conferences will be comprised of a video power point presentation delivered via the internet and a telephone conference for Q & A. The cyber case format will include approximately 20 minutes of presentation time followed by 10 minutes of Q & A. Email questions can be followed up if all questions are not answered during the conference.

Cyber Conference topics and dates: Individuals presenting

- **E-health record** – December 8, 2006 – Mark Schoenbaum
- **Pharmacist access in rural MN** – January 5, 2007 – Tim Stratton
- **Pharmaceutical options for elderly** – January 12, 2007 – Robin Weiss
- **Pay for Performance** – January 19, 2007 – Liz Quam and Jenni Beech
- **Seat Belt Primary Law** – February 2, 2007 – Nancy Franke Wilson

Undergraduate Research: Board Members discussed MRHA’s role in undergraduate student rural health research. Could it be the information node to share ideas and to target student research? For now, MRHA will continue to discuss undergraduate research partnership opportunities.

- IV. Discussion of MRHA Legislative Priorities 2007 ensued. The concepts agreed on are as follows:**

- **Encourage focus on urban/rural balance during anticipated discussions on improving health care access;**
- **Assure Consumers have access to quality and cost data about rural providers;**
- **Reduce the demand for long term care by supporting initiatives that help rural residents age in place , possibly with some recommendations for “healthy aging” communities, and addressing long term care facility viability ideas;**
- **Assure rural health care consumers access to Interpreter services; and**
- **Support a primary law for seat belt enforcement.**

- V. Adjournment 2PM**

Respectfully submitted by:
Judith Neppel
Executive Director

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