

Minnesota Rural Health Association Board of Director's Meeting

Meeting Minutes
Conference Call
September 8, 2006
12 Noon – 1 PM

Present

Liz Quam
Jenni Beech
Ray Christensen
Maddy Forsberg
Nancy Franke-Wilson
Ex Officio:
Marnie Moore
Judy Neppel

Mark Schoenbaum
Barbara Muesing
Duane Nelson
Greg Thorson
Robin Weis

Absent

Dave Borgert
Jack Geller
Mary Page
Vickie Trauba
Tiffany Yen
Tim Stratton

I. Introductions

- A. Each of the Board of Directors introduced themselves and discussed their interest in rural health issues.
- B. The MRHA Office established at UMC was discussed and a ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled soon.

II. Agenda

- A. The agenda was approved as presented.

III. Board Schedule

- A. The Board Schedule is as follows:
 - October 27, 2006 10AM-2PM Board Retreat – Maple Grove
 - December 8, 2006 12 Noon-1:30 PM Conference Call
 - February 20 or 21, 2007 Day at the Capital
 - May 4, 2007 Conference Call
 - July 2007 – Rural Health Conference – Dates TBA

IV. Finance Report

- A. Balance Sheet – effective August 31, 2006 reviewed by Duane Nelson, Treasurer, and approved Board
Profit and Loss Statement – effective August 31, 2006 reviewed by Duane Nelson, Treasurer, reviewed and approved by Board
- B. Audit Responsibilities – Audit will be conducted on October 27, 2006. Mark Schoenbaum and Jenni Beech will do the audit.
- C. Grants to fund MRHA- seeking and applications forthcoming.

V. Areas of Focus

The Board agreed on the following focus areas for the Fall; a webcast will be offered on each, open to MRHA members, policy makers and others. Those with leadership for each focus will present a written action plan before or at October 27 retreat.

- A. Pharmacy: Tim Stratton and Robin Weis
- B. E-Health: Liz Quam and Mark Schoenbaum
- C. Pay For Performance – Jenni Beech and Liz Quam
- D. Undergraduate Research Projects: Barbara Muesing, Greg Thorson, Ray Christensen, Mark Schoenbaum, and Judy Neppel
- E. Collaboration with North Dakota – Mark Schoenbaum and Barbara Muesing

The Board agreed to focus on its positions on universal coverage issues at the 10/27 meeting as well; Ms. Quam promised to circulate an agenda for the day with enough lead time to assure adequate addressing of everyone's interests.

VI. Website Content

- A. Dr. Ray Christensen and Judy Neppel will work together to determine the MRHA website content.

VII. Membership

- A. Discussion on Membership levels and drive ensued. Decisions will be made at Oct 27, 2006 meeting. An annual membership drive will follow.

Respectfully Submitted

Judith Neppel
Executive Director
MRHA