

**West Virginia Advocates, Inc.
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Charleston Office, Charleston, WV**

May 9, 2009, 1:15 p.m.

Members Present: Pam Akers, Clifton Clark, Robert Hardesty, Ted Johnson, and Paula Mieczkowski

Members by Telephone: None

Members Absent: Jamie Bailey (unexcused); Terry Dilcher (excused) Stuart May (excused); Terri Roberts (unexcused) and Joellen Zacks (excused)

Guests: None

Staff Present: Clarice Hausch and Barbara Criner

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The meeting immediately went into executive session in order to discuss a personnel matter. The executive session concluded at 3:10 p.m. and Mr. Johnson reconvened the Board meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Mr. Johnson asked for any additions or deletions to the agenda.

Motion: Mr. Clark moved that the March 14, 2009 minutes be approved as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hardesty. Motion carried; none opposed; no abstentions.

Finance Committee

Mr. Clark reported that the committee had met and had discussed the 12% increase for WV PEIA health insurance premiums effective July 1, 2009. The committee recommended that WVA increase the current capped amount paid by the agency in order to offset this increase.

Motion: Mr. Clark moved that WVA increase the current capped amount for employee health insurance coverage to allow for the 12% PEIA increase for the upcoming year (Jul 2009-Jun 2010). The Board will review the information for the next year at the May 2010 Board meeting. Seconded by Mr. Hardesty. Motion carried; none opposed; no abstentions.

Mr. Clark reported that the committee had reviewed a proposed 2.50% merit increase for eligible staff. The committee recommended that the merit increase be approved.

Motion: Mr. Clark moved that the Board approved the proposed 2.50% merit increase for eligible staff. Seconded by Ms. Akers. A discussion followed. Mr. Hardesty suggested that this be tabled until the July Board meeting for additional review. Motion tabled.

Mr. Johnson stated there were no additional committee reports.

Executive Director and Program Director Reports

Ms. Hausch referred to both reports and asked for any questions. A discussion was held concerning the DHHR motion.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Johnson discussed the P&Os Public Forum scheduled for May 19 at the Hampton Inn in Bridgeport. He encouraged all members to be present. Ms. Hausch noted that the P&Os are a Board responsibility. Mr. Johnson noted that he would attend the forum.

Ms. Hausch stated that the P&O Committee had been formed. Both Ms. Akers and Ms. Mieczkowski asked to be on the committee. Mr. Hardesty stated that he would attempt to serve. Ms. Hausch noted that the committee will need to meet at least twice; once after the public forum and again during the first week in July. She suggested meetings for mid-June and the first week of July. Mr. Hardesty noted that he would be available either June 16 or June 18. Ms. Hausch will discuss the dates with the Interim Program Director.

Ms. Hausch stated that we will do advertising by both radio and newspapers. Ms. Mieczkowski stated that she would try to get some input from her part of the state. Ms. Hausch noted that we have a staff member that lives in that area and she could do presentations. She also asked Ms. Mieczkowski if any targeted outreach is needed.

New Business

Mr. Johnson referred to the proposed bylaw change to eliminate the Vice President position. He noted this position is not required as there is a President-Elect position.

Motion: Mr. Hardesty moved that the Board accept the change to the bylaws to remove the position of Vice President. Seconded by Mr. Clark. Motion carried; none opposed; no abstentions.

A discussion was held concerning Board vacancies. Ms. Hausch noted that we need to recruit a parent of a child with a disability.

No further business appearing, the meeting adjourned at 3:45p.m.

Transcribed by Barbara Criner