

Meeting minutes: Medical Services Review Board

Date: Oct. 10, 2019

Minutes prepared by: Anita Hess

Location: Department of Labor and Industry, Minnesota Room

Attendance

Members present

Beth Baker, chairwoman
Russell Gelfman
Jeffrey Bonsell
Elisha Harris
Elizabeth Alm
Lisa Hanselman
Bradley Kuzel (phone)
Erica Kuhlmann (phone)

Members absent

Todd Ginkel
Reed Pollack
Buck McAlpin
Joseph J. Schulte
Matthew Monsein
Dan Wolfe

Alternates present

Kimberly Olson
Natalie Haefner
Laura Breeher (phone)
Kathleen Gomez
Emily Bannister
Alternates absent
Robin Peterson
Courtney Mitchell

Visitors present

JoAnn White, CorVel
Ceil Jung, SFM
Aaron Schenck, CorVel
Kathleen Lonergan, Allina
Adriene Henderson, Strategic Group
Norma Villanueva

Staff members present

Roslyn Robertson
Ernest Lampe
Anita Hess
Chris Leifeld
Ann Tart
Lisa Wichterman
Ethan Landy

Call to order

The meeting of the Medical Services Review Board (MSRB) was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Dr. Beth Baker. Baker asked for introductions around the table.

Approval of minutes

Baker confirmed a quorum of members was met. Laura Breeher, Erica Kuhlman and Bradley Kuzel attended the meeting via phone. A motion to approve the board's June 26, 2019, special-meeting minutes was made by Natalie Haefner and seconded by Russell Gelfman. The board voted all in favor. The motion carried.

Approval of agenda

A motion to approve the July 18, 2019, meeting agenda was made by Gelfman and seconded by Elisha Harris. The board voted all in favor. The motion carried.

Business – Election of officers

- Jeff Bonsell nominated Baker as chairwoman. Haefner seconded the motion. Baker was elected by a roll call vote.
- Bonsell nominated Gelfman as vice chairman. Lisa Hanselman seconded the motion. Gelfman was elected by a roll call vote.

Department update – Roslyn Robertson

- Deputy Commissioner Roslyn Robertson reviewed drafts of legislative proposals. The legislative proposals will go before the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council for review.
- Robertson reported that Governor Tim Walz approved of the progression of the department's computer system modernization program.
- Walz wants state agencies to keep in our sights how we are contributing toward children and healthy families. Robertson reported the Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) contributes by helping people get their paychecks and helping injured workers get their benefits on time. Minnesota OSHA is helping adults to stay safe. Everything we do contributes to the governor's request.
- DLI is making an effort to use less paper. The goal is to significantly reduce waste. MSRB can help by not printing copies of information that has been sent electronically.

New business – Jeff Bonsell

Bonsell shared information about a speaking engagement that may be of interest to the board members because it relates to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). HealthPartners Occupational Medicine invited Dr. Charl Els, from the University of Alberta, to speak at the Neighborhood House at Wellstone Center. His topic is "Revisiting what happens after exposure to trauma." This will also be a Zoom webinar.

Business – Overview of expedited rulemaking process

Ethan Landy, DLI Office of General Counsel, provided an update about the progress of the PTSD treatment rules. Landy reminded the board of the statutory requirements for the rules and outlined the work the department has been doing since the board approved the draft rules at the July 18, 2019 meeting. Landy indicated the department hopes to have a notice of intent to adopt expedited rules published in the *State Register* by the end of October or early November. He briefly explained the notice process to the board and explained the requirements if the department receives 100 or more requests for a hearing on the rules. Landy said the department should have an update about the status of the rules at the next meeting.

Business – Changes to opioid statutes

- Lisa Wichterman, DLI medical policy specialist, presented a chart with the maximum recommended morphine milligram equivalents (MME) of opioids for chronic pain from several jurisdictions and other notable guidelines showing how they compare with the current treatment parameters. With the

comparisons, and new Board of Pharmacy laws, MSRB will continue the discussion at the January meeting to determine if recommendations to update the current opioid treatment parameters are necessary.

- Baker noted the board should also review the acute opioid prescribing parameters in January. Haefner asked if the department had data about how many injured workers are using opioids for chronic pain, to support any recommendations from the board.
- Dr. Ernest Lampe discussed the Department of Human Services (DHS) opioid guidelines. DHS has statistical analysis about provider prescribing and will send information annually to each provider for Medicaid patients. DHS will provide an educational program about prescribing procedures. They are looking at physicians and the number of claims in which opioid use has gone down. Regulation does make a difference in public health. The DHS guideline for acute opioid prescribing is four days with a total 100 MMEs. DLI does not want injured workers undertreated.

Adjournment: Baker and board

Baker thanked everyone for coming. Bonsell moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Kathleen Gomez. All voted in favor and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

2020 meeting dates: Jan. 16; April 16; July 16; and Oct. 8.