



Fields of Opportunities

STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER
GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE
LT. GOVERNOR

IOWA BOARD OF MEDICINE
MARK BOWDEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director's Report

(Prepared November 30, 2009, for the December 16-17 Board meeting)

BUDGET UPDATE -- Although the Board of Medicine is funded exclusively with licensure fees and does not receive a general fund appropriation, this agency is affected by the Governor's 10 percent across-the-board budget cut to reduce \$565 million in state spending. Four non-contract positions (director, chief investigator, director's secretary and medical advisor) must take seven days of unpaid leave by June 30, 2010. The agency's other staff members, all covered by the collective bargaining contract, must take five days of unpaid leave during the same period. Meanwhile, restrictions remain on certain expenditures, such as out-of-state travel, staff training, and membership fees. The agency was notified in November of a reduction in legal services provided by the Iowa Attorney General's Office.

PERSONNEL -- Interviews of candidates for two Board jobs should be completed by mid-December. The Board is hiring a secretary 1 position for work in licensure and a health professions investigator for compliance.

DATABASE -- The analysis phase of the project has been completed. Staff will receive a report with all the information collected from the analysis phase in December to review. Various trainings are occurring with the IT staff and project managers.

2010 SCHEDULE -- The Board's meetings will be moved from a Wednesday-Thursday schedule to Thursday-Friday in the 2010 calendar year. The Board adopted this change on April 2, 2009. The 2010 meeting schedule: February 4-5, April 8-9, June 10-11, August 19-20, October 21-22, and December 16-17. The Board's 2010 teleconference meeting schedule: January 14, March 4, May 6, July 8, September 9, and November 18.

DECEMBER-JANUARY CALENDAR

Hearings

(Subject to delays or continuances)

December 16 – Adel S. Al-Jurf, M.D. (contested case)

December 17 – Norman J. Prevo, D.O. (contested case)

January 5 – 11 a.m., amendments to physician licensure rules (expedited endorsement)

Meetings

December 4 – Iowa Physician Health Program Committee meeting

December 16-17 – Regular Board meeting

January 14 – Teleconference meeting

January 22 – Iowa Physician Health Program Committee meeting

Holiday closings

The Board's office will be closed Friday, December 25 (Christmas), Friday, January 1 (New Year's Day), Monday, January 18 (Martin Luther King Day)