



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

(Updated June 24, 2009, for the July 8-9, 2009 Board meeting)

SPENDING PLAN FOR FY2010 -- The Board's spending plan (budgeted expenses) for fiscal year 2010 will top \$3 million, making this plan the agency's largest. What's driving this plan to \$3.06 million is a carryover of approximately \$510,000 -- money collected in FY08 and FY09 for the database project. With these funds removed, the operating plan is \$2.55 million, which is down from \$2.62 million. Some of the carryover would have been spent in FY09 had the database project started sooner.

* * *

DATABASE INSTALLATION NEARS -- It is anticipated that work will begin on the new database in July. A statement of work, which outlines the expectations for installation, was completed in June. System demonstrations for the staff will be held later this summer.

* * *

EXPEDITED LICENSURE -- The Board continues to be a "partner state" in the Office for the Advancement of Telehealth grant with the Federation of State Medical Boards. Ann Mowery, former executive director of the Board, is a consultant on the FSMB grant and will be working with the Board as we pursue expedited licensure by endorsement.

* * *

STAFFING RESOURCES EVALUATED -- Amy Van Maanen, director of licensure and administration, and Russell Bardin, chief investigator, is evaluating staff positions to look for ways to increase collaboration among licensure and compliance staffs. The review comes as we seek to make the workplace more efficient with the resources we have. Van Maanen and Bardin are starting with support staff, and will inventory responsibilities to determine the common functions that could be integrated.

* * *

WEBSITE UPDATE -- Fresh information on Board members, including photographs, and updates on the role the Board, are being added to content on the Board's Website, www.medicalboard.iowa.gov In addition, more news releases about the Board are being offered on the Website.

* * *

MEETING OF BOARD CHAIRS -- Chairpersons and executive directors of the Boards of Medicine, Dental, Nursing, and Pharmacy will meet August 4 to discuss issues of common interest, including expense restraints, legislative lobbying, and collaboration on technology and other services.

* * *

LETTERS TO HOSPITALS -- Iowa's hospitals are receiving a letter from the Board this month, reminding them of their lawful obligation to report disciplinary action (limitation, suspension or the revocation of privileges) to the Board, and advising them about the Board's public outreach program. The Iowa Hospital Association has been invited to attend the Board's September 2-3 meeting to talk about the hospitals' obligation. Mark Bowden will discuss the importance of hospital reporting at an Association workshop in October.

* * *

OFFICE EVACUATION PLAN CREATED -- A year after a hasty exit from the RiverPoint Office because of flooding threats, Board staff is developing a plan for a more orderly evacuation to protect records and technology and to alert the public. A component of this plan is more collaboration with other boards and the Iowa Department of Public Health. A draft plan has been reviewed and supported by the emergency response division of the IDPH.

* * *

FSMB's "STATE OF THE STATES" REPORT -- The Federation of State Medical Board's 2009 report on physician regulation is now available on the federation's Website, www.fsmb.org The report includes an update on streamlining physician licensure with a uniform application, a review of physician investigations, and a look at how the federation is helping medical boards fulfill their mandate to protect the public.

* * *

BOARD CALENDAR (July, August)

Hearings

July 29-30 -- Angel Martin, M.D.

August 12-13 -- Narinder Kumar, M.D.

Meetings

August 6 -- Teleconference, 7:30 a.m.

August 21 -- Iowa Physician Health Program Committee, 8:30 a.m.

September 2-3 -- Regular Board meeting