

**Missouri College of Emergency Physicians  
Board Meeting  
November 15, 2006  
Terrace Conference Room  
213 E Capitol Ave., Jefferson City, MO**

Dr. Jotte called the meeting to order. Members present included Doctors Barry Spoon, Chad Boulware, Michael Szewczyk, Randy Jotte, Rob Poirier and Brian Robb. Betsy Morgan and Margie Wilson represented the Chapter offices. Doctors Doug Char, Ted McMurry, Chris Forrer, Amber Mounday and Kevin Jourganan participated by phone.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the General Membership and Board meetings in August were presented for review. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Board meeting minutes. They were approved. The General Membership meeting minutes will be approved at the next General Membership meeting in August of 2007.

Government Affairs

Medicaid

President Jotte reported on the meeting several Board members had with Dr. Ditmore. While it was to very productive, subsequently, Dr. Ditmore resigned his position. Betsy reported that he was replaced by Steve Renne as interim director. She noted that the department and the Governor's office have been working on a major overhaul of Medicaid. The current program will sunset in January of 2008. Not much has been released about the new plan. A large increase in dollars is planned for physicians, but not specifically for ED docs. Dr. Poirier asked about the process for deciding where the physician funding will go. Betsy discussed this and noted that it would be important for MoCEP to work with the key decision makers. It was suggested that we promote ourselves as a resource to help the legislators understand the Medicaid issues. Dr. Szewczyk asked if we should meet with Mr. Renne, as we did with Dr. Ditmore. Betsy will touch bases with him and let us know. Dr. Char questioned whether the increase was enough to cover the ED charges. Betsy indicated that given the expected surplus in revenue, it was reasonable to assume we could see an increase.

Seat Belts

President Jotte reported on the Primary Seat Belt Summit sponsored by MoDOT. It was agreed that this was an important issue for MoCEP to promote. Dr. Spoon reported on Battle of the Belt and brought up some promotional ideas. Discussion followed.

The board worked on a strategy of how to promote MoCEP's issues with the legislature. Discussion followed. The tentative date for the next board meeting is January 24, 2007 with legislative visits after.

## Executive Director's Report

Betsy Morgan reported that membership to date is at 421. The operation of the Chapter offices seems to be running well.

The elections are over and Ms. Morgan discussed the implications of the Democrats having a larger presence in the legislature -- both at the state and the federal level. She noted that the Governor's popularity remains low and it is possible that that office could change parties. At the state level, the committees will now have to either work together or there will be a deadlock. Discussion followed.

Dr. Jotte asked about what the majority party was planning on getting done. Betsy noted that the hot topics for 2007 will be MOHELA, the budget, Medicaid, the stem cell initiative passed (and the push to repeal it), the tobacco tax and minimum wage (without an inflation adjustment). Discussion followed.

The amendment to increase the tax on tobacco products was discussed. Dr. Szewczyk asked why the Fire Chiefs were against it. Dr. Jermyn noted that there was concern about how money would be allocated and that ultimately, there may be less for EMS expenditures. Dr. Robb wondered if it would help for us to meet with the Fire Chiefs.

Emergency Preparedness and the pandemic flu were discussed. Dr. Jermyn reported on meetings he attended and the various issues that were brought up. Dr. Szewczyk noted that legislative relief was critical for medical personal to feel comfortable about participating in relief efforts. Dr. Jermyn noted that the State is looking at these issues and that he had provided names of MoCEP members to be on a committee looking at altered standards of care, including Dr. Jotte's name.

## Treasurer's Report

Dr. Szewczyk discussed the Chapter's finances, income and expenses to date. He noted that he and Margie were looking ways to control expenses, such as batching our web postings to avoid one hour minimum charges. He asked the Board if they felt we needed to post ACEP Press Releases on our web site. It was felt that linking our web site to ACEP should be good enough. If there is a press release of local interest, it may be posted.

A fairly large budget item is the dinner at the CCC. There was discussion on how that money is best spent. Dr. Poirier suggested a reception/cocktail hour for members and then attendees could go to dinner on their own. Timing was discussed. Several options were discussed. Consideration was given to having the General Membership meeting over lunch, the Board of Director's meeting at the end of the day, followed by the reception for all members. Dr. Szewczyk offered to work with Jim Tune to explore the options MoCEP may have. The CCC Committee will meet in January.

Dr. Szewczyk discussed the Chapter's reimbursement policy. No changes were recommended.

ITLS was discussed at length. Bob Page had requested \$3000 in funding to send faculty to the ITLS national meeting. This was presented to Dr.'s Spoon, Szewczyk and Jotte and it was agreed to provide \$2100 in funding. Dr. Szewczyk noted that ITLS does have a surplus in its bank account but that if the program is not revitalized and course revenue is not increased, the surplus will not last long. It was the consensus of the board that Bob Page needs to come to the January board meeting. Discussion followed regarding the Chapter's role in the ITLS program and ways to improve it. It was agreed that a turn around needs to occur and it was hoped that that is in the process of occurring.

### EPIC

President Jotte complimented Dr. Poirier on the Fall EPIC. Dr. Poirier passed around other states' EPIC's and reported on ways to make the Missouri EPIC more professional. He stressed that MoCEP's newsletter needs to stay focused on local state issues. There was discussion about ads and who should be receiving the EPIC.

### CME and Awards/Grants

Dr. McMurry reported that 4 grant proposals were received by the chapter and that all were from St. Louis. After careful review it was decided to present the full grant award money budgeted to just one. Ted McMurry then reviewed all 4 studies proposed. He gave reasons why the one was selected for the grant award. The original request was for \$8,000 but the budget is for \$4,500. MoCEP's current policy is to pay half the grant up front and the other half upon completion. There are concerns that the current grant winner may need the full amount up front. Clarification and discussion followed. It was the consensus of the board that how the grant money is awarded should be on a case-by-case basis. There was a motion made by Dr. Jermyn that for this grant half the award should be paid up front and the remainder when 50% of the planned participants are enrolled. Dr. Spoon seconded and the motion carried.

Dr. McMurry reported that 56 physicians attended the CCC with 37 being MoCEP members and 19 non-members. He noted that under Dr. Char's leadership there has been a nice increase in the numbers of attendees. He praised Dr. Char for doing the lion's share of the work and deserves credit for the success of the CCC. A draw for participants has been the LLSA and ultrasound labs. Hands-on courses appeal to the physicians. Discussion followed regarding speakers, labs, etc. to be included at the CCC. A slit lamp lab was suggested. 2007 will be a national year so a speaker from ACEP will need to be chosen and that person will take up two sessions. The board was asked for the name of a Missouri physician to showcase and have as a local speaker at the CCC. It was noted that the pre-conference airway course was slightly profitable.

### EMS

President Jotte asked for a volunteer to serve on the Advisory Committee for 911 Services Oversight to replace him on that committee. Discussion followed. Dr. Robb volunteered.

### EMPAC

Betsy Morgan reported that Donna English no longer does PAC fundraising. Dr. Robb and she will continue the work on EMPAC.

### ACEP

Dr. Poirier provided a report on the Council meeting including elections a discussion of resolutions concerning expert witnesses and the pursuit of medical liability reform on the national level.

Dr. Jermyn asked for any concerns on the ACEP National Report Card to be given to him.

### Next Board Meeting

The Winter Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 24, 2007 with a meeting followed by legislative visits.

With no further business to discuss this meeting was adjourned by President Jotte.