



**Office of Mississippi Physician Workforce  
Spring 2018 Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date and Location:** Thursday, May 10, 2018, Norman C. Nelson Student Union, UMMC

**Attendees:** Hugh Gamble, Jennifer Hicks, MD; Ashley Hood, DO; Ed Ivancic, MD; Loretta Jackson Williams, MD; Tom Joiner, MD; Aurelia Jones-Taylor, MBA; Katie Patterson, MD; Shirley Schlessinger, MD

**Via Conference Call:** Tad Barham, MD; Jamie Miller, Rance McClain, DO; Tim Moore, MHA; Andrew Ouzts, MD; Shannon D. Pittman, MD

**Absent:** Tim Alford, MD; Claude Brunson, MD; Nicole Borges, PhD; Mary Currier, MD; Janice Sherman, MPA; Wayne Slocum, MD

**Staff:** John R. Mitchell, MD; Zonzie McLaurin, DHA; Evelyn Walker, MD; Glenn Thomas, Julie Paul

Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m. Quorum met.

Dr. Mitchell introduced Dr. Evelyn Walker to Board members. Dr. Walker has joined OMPW as a consultant and will serve as the Designated Institutional Officer (DIO) and Family Medicine Program Director of the Mississippi Education and Research Consortium.

Minutes from the November 28, 2017 and March 27, 2018 Executive Committee and October 26, 2017 Advisory Board meetings were reviewed and unanimously passed without amendment.

**New Business – Annual Election of new Vice Chair and members of OMPW Executive Committee**

OMPW-prepared ballots were circulated for election of new Vice Chairman and members of 2018 Executive Board Committee. Executive Board appointments begin July 1, 2018.

Results: Dr. Tom Joiner will serve as the new Vice Chairman.

Newly elected Executive Committee members include: Katherine Patterson, MD, Chair; Thomas Joiner, MD, Vice Chair; Hugh Gamble, MD; Ashley Hood, DO; Rance McClain, DO; Tim Moore, MHA; Andrew Ouzts, MD; Shannon Pittman, MD; Shirley Schlessinger, MD.

OMPW recognized Dr. Schlessinger for her outstanding service as both Chair of the Executive Committee and Advisory Board.

## **Legislative Update**

**Mississippi Delta Medical Education and Research Consortium (MDMERC) Update:** Dr. Mitchell engaged Bradley, Arrant, Boulton, Cummings, LLP law firm to form the consortium's legal structure in February 2017. As OMPW prepared to move forward, counsel discovered that, depending upon interpretation, state constitutional provision could potentially prohibit community hospitals from collaborating and forming a consortium. After meeting with the Attorney General, counsel was instructed that no such prohibition applied. OMPW is moving forward with the formation of the consortium as 501c3 tax-exempt non-profit organization.

OMPW has contracted with Evelyn Walker, MD to lead the consortium development as DIO/Executive Director and Family Medicine Residency program director. She will work with the Bradley Law Firm, PKFHealth consultant, Chris Francazio, and possibly other experts to develop the infrastructure, bylaws and ACGME Sponsoring Institution application. Financial support for this project is secure.

### **Review of Application for Inquiry and Financial Assistance**

OMPW presented Advisory Board members with a finalized version of its information/financial assistance inquiry policy. The policy was previously presented as the March 2018 Executive Committee meeting. The procedure will establish a uniform response procedure regarding OMPW inquiries and/or requests.

## **Budget Update**

OMPW presented a summary of GME project requests and OMPW operating projected budgetary costs. Project requests were submitted by Baptist Memorial Hospital - DeSoto, Baptist Memorial Hospital - Golden Triangle, Baptist Memorial Hospital - North Mississippi, Magnolia Regional Health Center, and Merit Health Wesley. The Mississippi Delta Medical and Research Consortium is classified as a separate funding category. Estimates were based on consultants work. Actual contracts may vary depending upon funds availability and final documentation.

Since December, two programs Baptist Memorial Hospital - DeSoto and Baptist Memorial Hospital - Golden Triangle (highlighted in yellow), have not identified program directors. Money earmarked for their programs has not been spent.

OMPW was awarded \$1.425 million in legislative funding for current fiscal year. Project funding is not limited to 12-year timeline. As a result, OMPW will have residual funds remaining from the last fiscal year. OMPW will forward the surplus (\$1,134,678.16) to next year's budget.

As current financial requests exceed available funding, discussion focused upon prioritizing projects based on the merits, obstacles, and estimated start dates of each proposal. The Board voted that all five programs merited OMPW support. Funding priority will be based upon OMPW policies described in the information/assistance policy and the program's readiness to proceed. The Executive Committee will send updates to the Advisory Board as each program is ready to launch.

## **Project Updates**

Board members reviewed an informational handout and map that detail GME programs developed prior to and post-OMPW involvement (2012) and those still in planning stages. With the exception of Internal Medicine (IM) at Merit Health Wesley, residency programs are ACGME accredited. All programs will be ACGME-accredited by 2020.

Baptist Memorial Hospital- DeSoto is experiencing difficulty identifying a Family Medicine Program Director. Dr. Anne Sullivan, GME Director, inquired if the planned residency could be created as an extension of the existing Memphis Family Medicine Residency Program. The proposed residency would operate in DeSoto and work in collaboration with a nearby FQHC. Dr. Mitchell will meet with Dr. Sullivan and hospital leadership on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss next steps.

The Board also reviewed a one-page summary of the Mississippi Medical Education and Research Consortium (Attachment 10).

## **Old Business**

### **MSMED Certificated Program Update (Attachment 11)**

The first class of five fellows graduated from the MSMED Certificated program on January 31, 2018. Fourteen participants initially enrolled. Six withdrew before the first retreat, three others exited before program completion. The five graduating fellows are faculty of William Carey College of Osteopathic Medicine (WCUCOM) or the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Although the program was well received, participants found the extensive curriculum to be extremely time challenging. OMPW is revisiting the existing curriculum to tailor it to the needs and time schedules of community hospital faculty. The revised course will focus on educational leadership, teaching and learning, and educational scholarship. Teaching will take place at various venues including OMPW-onsite learning, participating hospital sites, and state association meetings. The planning committee will be spearheaded by OMPW staff member Nicole Borges with assistance from Zonzie McLaurin and WCUCOM faculty Makayla Merit and Elizabeth McClain.

Once developed, MSMED could be used as a model for community based hospital leaders seeking ACGME career development

### **ROMP Follow up and Review**

The third annual Rural Opportunities for Mississippi Physicians Career Fair (ROMP) was held on April 21<sup>st</sup> in Jackson in conjunction with MAFP's Spring Fling. Although medical student and resident participation is greater than past years, ROMP has not had success attracting rural/small town/ healthcare and community exhibitors. The Executive Committee will review and re-examine options at next scheduled meeting.

## **Mississippi State Medical Association (MSMA) Sesquicentennial Event**

OMPW cannot sponsor or contribute to an event using state-supported funds. OMPW is supportive of this event and appreciative of MSMA's efforts to support and assist our office. OMPW and MSMA are excited to announce a collaborative workforce research project.

## **Mississippi Board of Medical Licensure**

OMPW met with Dr. Kenneth Cleveland, new Executive Director of the Mississippi Board of Medical Licensure. The licensure board is very supportive of OMPW activities and data collection collaboration.

## **IT Update - OMPW Data Resource Center**

OMPW is collaborating with the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure and Mississippi State Board of Nursing to collect data components that will be stored in the OMPW Data Resource Center. The office has contracted with Gary Hennington, President of the Geospatial Group, to work through processes for data recovery and reconstruction, new data, data sharing, and public availability of the OMPW products.

## **Project Updates**

- **Pioneer Community Hospital (Aberdeen)** - Pioneer Community Hospital was recently purchased by an orthopedic surgeon who is interested in starting a rural track surgery program. OMPW will meet and discuss possibilities.
- **River Region Health System** is Vicksburg's sole community provider. There may be some interest in establishing a family medicine residency.
- **Southwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center (McComb)** - Dr. Mitchell will continue to meet with representatives. Interest and need remains in establishing a family residency program in the region.
- **UMMC – Grenada** - Donald Hutson, who served as CEO, left his position in March. Dr. Mitchell will meet with new leadership and gauge level of interest in participation in Mississippi Delta Medical and Research Consortium.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.