



## **Georgia Board for Physician Workforce**

State of Georgia

# **Georgia Board for Physician Workforce Conference Call Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, November 8, 2012  
9:00 a.m.

GBPW Administrative Offices  
2 Peachtree St., NW, 36<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Atlanta, GA 30303

### **Board Members Present:**

Joe Sam Robinson, Jr., M.D., Chair; James R. Lowry, Vice Chair; Frank Carter, M.D.; Jimmy Childre; Jacinto del Mazo, M.D.; Mark Hanly, M.D.; Tommy Hatchett, M.D.; Bill Herringdine; Duncan Johnson, Jr.; William Waters, IV, M.D.

### **Board Members Absent:**

Dean Burke, M.D.; Carol Burrell; Paul Fischer, M.D.; Antonio Rios, M.D.

### **Staff Present:**

Cherri Tucker; Carol Dorsey; Colette Jeffery; Olive Jones-Golden; Pamela Smith

### **Guests Present:**

Hugh Sosebee, Jr., Mercer University; Betsy Bates, Morehouse School of Medicine; Penny Hannah, Georgia Department of Law

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Robinson called the Board Meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

### **SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SPECIAL REQUESTS**

#### **Discussion**

Dr. Caroline Abercrombie is requesting a second deferment of her scholarship obligation until which time she completes GME training. After graduating from medical school, she entered a surgery residency and attempted to transfer to anesthesiology before the end of the first year (June 2010), but was unable to secure a position. The Board granted her a 1 year deferment to

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**AGENDA ITEMS**

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**DISCUSSION/ ACTIONS/ NEXT STEPS**

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enable her to enter the match for a residency position beginning July 1, 2011. She states she attempted to apply to various programs within Georgia, but was not considered a viable candidate. She accepted a teaching position in Tennessee. She also applied for a Georgia medical license but was denied because the documentation did not show she completed a full year of residency. She withdrew her application for licensure and signed another contract to teach for another year.

**Action**

On **Motion (Hanly/Waters)**, the Board granted an extension until June 30, 2013 for Caroline Abercrombie, MD to obtain a residency position and stated that she must also obtain a Georgia medical license by July 1, 2014.

**Discussion**

Brandon Buckner submitted a letter of appeal of the Board's decision in July 2012 to require him to repay his obligation immediately. He is requesting to set up a payment plan similar to the federal loan repayment plans.

**Action**

On **Motion (Hanly/Waters)**, the Board approved Brandon Buckner's repayment proposal.

**Discussion**

Matthew Jenkins, M.D. has submitted a practice request to practice in Murray County Georgia. The county does not meet the population requirements of the program, as prescribed by law, but is in need of a physician as the current physician is leaving. The county serves several surrounding counties which do qualify for the program.

**Action**

On **Motion (Johnson/Carter)**, the Board denied the request of Matthew Jenkins, M.D. to practice in Murray County, Georgia unless he can provide documentation of 40 hours per week worked in bordering counties with populations less than 35,000.

**SPECIALTY APPROVAL FOR PRAA LOAN REPAYMENT**

Mrs. Tucker explained to the Board they are required to rank the specialties associated with the PRAA Loan Repayment Program. Mrs. Tucker provided the Board with the ranking list they approved last year as well as the need of the specialties in the rural areas. This material was reviewed by the Board and a brief discussion was held.

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**Action**

On **Motion (Hanly/Carter)**, the Board approved the FY2013 PRAA Specialty Ranking List as follows:

- 1) Pediatrics
- 2) OB/GYN
- 3) Family Medicine with OB
- 4) General Surgery
- 5) Family Medicine
- 6) Internal Medicine
- 7) Other Specialties

**NEXT MEETING**

Dr. Robinson noted the next meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, January 31, 2013 in Atlanta.

The Board meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Cherri Tucker  
Executive Director