

**DELAWARE AUTHORITY ON RADIATION PROTECTION
SUMMARY OF MEETING**

February 26, 2018

Harry Levin Center for Pharmacy History &
Education 27 North Main Street
Smyrna, Delaware 19977

Members Present: (those with checks only)

F. Esposito		F. Fisher-Tyler	√	K. Musto	√
I. Turner, Jr.	√	W. Holden, III	√	J. Dill	√
D. Andrews		T. Hitchens	√	M. Higgins	√
M. Finkelstein		N. Lippman		G. Poirier	√

Guests:

R. Brinsfield	√	K. Shaughnessy	√	D. Hill	√
N. Henry		B. Fendt	√	J. Hanes	√
J. Suder		M. Zdradzinski	√	J. Wyatt	√
J. Mack	√	D. Hill	√		

I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda

Authority Vice-Chair I. Turner, Jr., brought the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. M. Higgins introduced a motion to adopt the Agenda, with modification to move the Certification Committee proposal for approval of the User's Guide to Radiation Technology Certification up earlier, for discussion and vote. K. Musto seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. The motion passed.

II. Chairman's Comments

Authority Vice-Chair I. Turner, Jr. welcomed all present to the meeting, and thanked everyone for contributing their personal time and effort to the work of the Authority, providing radiological health protection for Delawareans. He asked all present to introduce themselves, in particular what role each Authority member plays. He welcomed in particular individuals new to the Authority and the Office of Radiation Control.

III. Committee Reports:

Certification Committee Chair T. Hitchens thanked committee members Josh Wyatt, David Hill, Jan Dill and Frieda Fisher-Tyler for their contributions to the document to be reviewed. She provided an overview of the process by which the committee transformed the Radiation Technician/Technologist Manual into a User's Guide to Radiation Technology Certification, and introduced a motion to approve the new document, for purposes of posting to the internet on the Office of Radiation Control (ORC) webpage. J. Dill stated that there had been a suggestion that an example of the

state certificate be included in the User's Guide, and that she was concerned about the possibility that it could be used for fraudulent purposes. F. Fisher-Tyler described a mammography licensure fraud case identified by ORC staffer R. Brinsfield that was prosecuted by the Delaware Attorney General with assistance from the FDA Philadelphia Enforcement Office. She described that case and its resolution, underscoring the importance of having legal counsel review the suggestion of including an example state license in the User's Guide. F. Fisher-Tyler then confirmed that a quorum of the Authority was present. Certification Committee Chair T. Hitchens introduced a motion to approve the User's Guide. J. Dill seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. F. Fisher-Tyler indicated that the document will undergo internal agency review per standard procedure, prior to approval to post to the ORC webpage.

IV. Approval of Minutes – Nov. 6, 2017

M. Higgins introduced a motion to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2017 meeting. T. Hitchens seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. The motion passed.

V. Informational Updates

F. Fisher-Tyler briefly reviewed the Radiation Control Program Report, highlighting the due dates for review of Authority internal governance documents. She reported that the Authority Bylaws are next due for review in February 2019. She reported that the Strategic Plan is due for review at the first meeting of every year. Discussion by the members was that the Strategic Plan does not require revisions at this time. A motion was introduced to approve it as written, by M. Higgins. F. Fisher-Tyler seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. The motion passed.

Action Item: Distribute Strategic Plan and link to Authority Webpage to all members, F. Fisher-Tyler.

F. Fisher-Tyler introduced new Office of Radiation Control staff members hired in January: James Hanes, Michael Zdradzinski and Ajo Rabemiarisoa (not present). W. Holden asked them to provide some background on their education & job experience, which they briefly did. J. Hanes indicated that his degree is in environmental science, and he worked for the University of Maryland as an environmental scientist doing environmental remediation and other environmental science projects for a year prior to this post. M. Zdradzinski indicated that his degree is in biomedical engineering, and he worked in the field at Bayhealth Kent General for five years, prior to opening and running a family-owned pharmacy. F. Fisher-Tyler indicated that A. Rabemiarisoa has her degree in Bioresource Engineering, a Canadian degree that includes environmental engineering and other disciplines such as biotechnology, from her college in Montreal, Quebec. She indicated that A. Rabemiarisoa has done a good bit of work in environmental remediation for chemical contaminants, primarily in the built environment. F. Fisher-Tyler reported that all three individuals were hired into the Environmental Scientist career ladder within the Division of Public Health (DPH), which provides potential for future advancement.

R. Brinsfield reviewed the ORC Monitoring Reports for calendar years 2017 and 2016, which is the practice at the first Authority meeting of each year. He indicated that the handouts were numbered, and would be collected prior to the end of the meeting. He described each category in the report, beginning with Number of New X-Ray Rooms, which are subject to shielding plan review by ORC-registered Radiation Service Provider & issuance of Approval to Construct by the DPH Office of Engineering, as well as to pre-operational inspection/issuance of Approval to Operate and registration permit by the DPH Office of Radiation Control. He reviewed the X-Ray Facility Inspection Report, Inspection Violation Report, Radiation Technologist/Technician Certification Report, and a matrix for comparison of year over year totals along with full time equivalent (FTE) metric representing number of filled inspector positions during each calendar year.

F. Fisher-Tyler spoke to the methodology of reporting numbers of facilities and tubes inspected, that there is a wide range in number and type of x-ray devices in some facilities versus others, so reporting number of tubes helps reflect time and effort expended during an inspection. She also indicated that the Office of Radiation Control uses performance metrics for inspections from the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) published "Criteria for an Adequate Radiation Control Program," with an algorithm that takes into account numbers of tubes inspected based on modality, ie. CT, radiography, dental, therapy, etc. She indicated that the performance metrics for each individual inspector are affected by their stage of training and qualification in a given modality, since some are more complicated and therefore take more time and technique to inspect, than others. The challenge is to get people fully trained and qualified, and have them on the job long enough to see the overall inspection metrics improve. She also elaborated on the number of violations and how changes in DPH reporting requirements have affected the number of violations issues that meet the level of severity necessary to prompt a formal enforcement letter, which has affected the numbers of violations listed since 2015. Numbered ORC Monitoring Report copies were returned to ORC staff.

Authority Vice-Chair I. Turner reported that the Fiscal Year 2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018) Annual Report to the Governor on activities of the Authority will be drafted over the summer, and a draft presented to the full Authority at the October meeting, for review and approval vote. Activities such as celebrations and regulatory amendments are covered.

VI. Committee Reports (con't)

On behalf of Regulations Task Force Chair F. Esposito, F. Fisher-Tyler briefly reviewed the status of the Phase 4 review of regulations (proposed rule 4465, Parts F & H), which she indicated remains in progress, with target date of April 1 or May 1, 2018 for public comment. She said that the proposed rule would be open for comment for 30 days, and unless substantial comments are submitted, would be published as a final rule June 1,

or July 1, respectively. She also reported that Rationale documents describing the detailed changes to the regulations were distributed to the members of the Authority.

Nominating Committee Chair W. Holden reported that the public member vacancies for Sussex and New Castle Counties remain in progress, with resolution anticipated very soon. He also indicated that request had been made to re-appoint those whose terms have expired, or will shortly expire. F. Fisher-Tyler mentioned that a few members are due for re-appointment, which will be pursued with the Governors office.

Public Education Committee Chair W. Holden reported that the committee will review the Authority webpage content and functionality at a meeting, with the goal of presenting an amended webpage for “test drive” at a future Authority meeting. The committee members are engaged in review of content, links and possibilities for adding new content in March and April. A meeting will take place, and volunteer Authority webmaster Leslie Poland will create a revised page in a test environment, to be demonstrated to the full Authority for review and comment. W. Holden also indicated that the committee is exploring the possibility for a public event in New Castle County for a signing of the annual Governor’s proclamation of Radiation Protection Week in Delaware in early November.

VII. New Business

W. Holden, III indicated that the FY2019 Governor’s Recommended Budget included a proposal to cut funding and eliminate the Mammography Van used to reach individuals without or with limited access to cancer screenings. T. Hitchens indicated that she had served on the van in past years, serving the Amish community and that it was very important to providing screening to those individuals. J. Wyatt indicated that he had been involved with getting the mammography van operational, and also valued that form of cancer screening service delivery to the community. I. Turner Jr. suggested that the Public Education Committee consider exploring a letter of support for the value of the mobile mammography van to cancer screening since the van delivers a beneficial use of radiation to Delawareans, per the Authority statutory mandate.

Action Item: Draft Public Education Committee letter for Chairperson review, W. Holden, III.

VIII. Public Comments

There was nothing to report.

VII. Adjournment

In 2018, the Authority is scheduled to meet on the following dates at 6 pm, at the Harry Levin Center for Pharmacy History & Education in Smyrna:

- May 7

- October 1
- December 3.

M. Higgins introduced a motion to adjourn, T. Hitchens seconded the motion, and all voted to approve. The motion passed.

My personal thanks to Robert Brinsfield and Kelly Shaughnessy, for their excellent work in preparing for and handling logistics to enable effective and efficient meetings of the Authority, on an ongoing basis! Thanks also to our new ORC staff members James Hanes and Michael Zdradzinski for helping with meeting room logistics.

Our collective thanks to Authority member Kevin Musto, who enables access to this meeting space by the Delaware Pharmacists Society! Much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Frieda Fisher-Tyler,
Administrative Agent,
Authority on Radiation
Protection,
Radiation Control Program
Director, Division of Public
Health

