

**Indiana Graduate Medical Education Board**

**Date:** Friday, October 28, 2022

**Time:** 11:00am ET

**Location:** 101 West Ohio Street # Ste 700, Indianapolis, IN 46204

**Virtually:** Microsoft Teams

**Meeting Minutes**

Board Members Present: Tricia Hern, Rob McLin, Michelle Howenstine, Clif Knight, Beth Wrobel (virtual), Curt Ward (virtual), Steve Becker (virtual), and Tom Sonderman (virtual)

Advisory Members Present: Sarah Hopfer

Commission Staff Present: Greg Harrell

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 11:00am Eastern Time.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum was determined to be in place.

**REVIEW OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes from the August 5, 2022, meeting were reviewed. Mr. McLin moved to approve and Dr. Howenstine seconded the motion. Motion to approve passed 8-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Hern requested that Greg Harrell speak on the first order of new business, which was to present suggestions for meeting dates for the 2023 calendar year. Greg stated that the proposed meeting dates were quarterly and would be February 17, May 19, August 18, and November 10. He also shared that the board would need to vote to approve these dates. Further, Greg highlighted that in person attendance at board meetings should be prioritized for the initial two quarterly meetings because the board will be reviewing program development and expansion grant applications.

Dr. Hern added that a more formulaic process will allow the board to be more proactive and effective in outreach to grant recipients with regards to the application renewal process. She used the example of a recipient completing a program development grant and how the board could encourage the recipient to pursue an expansion grant by the established deadline. She stressed the need for an annual cycle that is clear and user friendly. Dr. Hern explained that this will add to the board's workload for the two meetings at the beginning of the year.

Tabitha Arnett, executive director with the Indiana Osteopathic Association, raised her hand and she was called on by Dr. Hern. Mrs. Arnett said that she wanted to point out that the Q4 meeting, proposed for November 10, fell on a holiday for state employees, Veterans Day. Dr. Hern thanked Mrs. Arnett for her comment.

Dr. Howenstine followed by asking Dr. Hern if she foresaw anything changing with respect to the requirements for in-person meetings. Dr. Hern answered that based on the conversations she had had

with Eugene Johnson prior to his departure, she had learned that this is standard and the expectation. Dr. Howenstine asked if this policy is the result of a state mandate. Greg Harrell stated that he would look into this and report back to the board during the Q1 meeting in 2023.

Dr. Hern transitioned back to the 2023 proposed meeting dates and offered November 3 as an alternative to November 10 due to the latter conflicting with a state holiday. Beth Wrobel motioned to approve February 17, May 19, August 18, and November 3 as the meeting dates for 2023 and Mr. McLin seconded the motion. The motion to approve passed 8-0.

Greg Harrell then began the second order of new business which was discussing the reporting process for grant recipients. Greg mentioned that there is a need to make the reporting process more uniform and streamlined and any potential change to the reporting process will be brought to the board for a vote during the February 17, 2023, meeting. Dr. Hern then spoke some about the topic and the need for a shorter report that is done at the same time each year in the form of an annual submission. Additionally, Dr. Hern noted that the goal is to have this framework in place for the board to vote on during the February 17, 2023, meeting. Beth Wrobel suggested that staff focus on outcomes while building this process for the board to vote on and referenced looking at the RFPs. Mrs. Wrobel highlighted the need to know how many residents stay in Indiana to practice and mentioned that legislators want to know this. Paul Umbach then shared a few comments related to outcomes, stating that for the Economic Impact Analysis his team had used the statewide numbers from the AAMC and ACGME.

### **TRIPP UMBACH ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT PRESENTATION**

Paul Umbach thanked Dr. Hern and the GMEB for their partnership. He noted that his organization has been working with GMEB since 2016. Mr. Umbach previewed the report.

Mr. Umbach explained that the report tells the story of what GMEB has done since 2016 and there are three pieces of good news:

- 1) The program is positioned geographically throughout the state
- 2) There is a big return on investment. For every dollar invested in GME, the return is \$8.46
- 3) GME funding is expected to contribute more than \$1.2 billion to Indiana's economy by 2026

Mr. Umbach estimated that there are now 29 doctors that are practicing in the state who were funded by GME dollars. He used state averages from AAMC and ACGME to generate this figure and for every doctor practicing, \$1.3 million in economic impact is being produced. This impact is cumulative in nature, so by 2026, there will be an estimated 103 doctors practicing who were beneficiaries of GME funding. Mr. Umbach explained that this group will have \$1.2 billion in total economic impact. Subsequently, he mentioned that what is not currently being measured by the report are the things beyond doctors practicing, such as societal cost savings, that health care is more accessible and of a higher quality, and individuals obtain more preventative support. He explained that these pieces were not included, but his team focused on the program, planning, and the residents who become doctors and stay in Indiana.

He then began detailing other parts of the report, such as a section dedicated to physician workforce needs. According to Mr. Umbach, Indiana still needs 817 primary care doctors. He then highlighted the importance of the program and how it is imperative for it to continue so that Indiana's goals are met.

Mr. Umbach then acknowledged that the report is not final until feedback from the board is received. Once the report has been finalized Mr. Umbach advocates for the board to share the report with stakeholders and highlight GME's high return on investment and the compelling case for strengthening the program.

Upon the conclusion of Mr. Umbach's presentation, Dr. Hern thanked him and his team for their hard work and partnership.

Dr. Becker then asked what other states are doing compared to Indiana. He noted that a few years ago with the establishment of the GMEB, Indiana was a thought leader in this area. Mr. Umbach answered that in his opinion Indiana is still among the leaders, but there are many good things happening across the country. He cited Nevada and Montana as examples. Mr. Umbach said he couldn't think of a state that has established so much in 5 years. Mr. Umbach said he could share an email to show developments and how Indiana stands compared to other states.

Dr. Hern told board members that Greg Harrell would send the Economic Impact Report to them at the conclusion of the meeting. Once the board's suggestions are incorporated the report will be finalized.

Beth Wrobel suggested looking into the Governor's Public Health Commission Report as there is a section dedicated to talent issues. This information could be leveraged alongside the work done by Tripp Umbach. Greg Harrell said he would look into it.

#### **ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Hern mentioned another new order of business which is the timing of when applications are sent to and reviewed by the board. Greg Harrell led off by saying that he discussed the timeline for applications with Josh Garrison recently. He said there were two applications for expansion grants sent on June 29, 2022. Because of the timing there was not enough lead time for the board to review and approve the applications before the residencies commenced. For that reason, Greg asked if the board would vote to review them during the February 17, 2023, meeting. Dr. Hern explained that the process before was that programs had to submit by the first of the month of the month during which the board met. She said we want to make sure that we honor precedent. Dr. Hern then asked if the board is comfortable bringing these for a vote during February 17, 2023. Dr. Howenstine offered that the proposed suggestion by staff and Dr. Hern sounded very reasonable.

Rob McLin motioned to bring the two expansion grants submitted on June 29, 2022, to the board for a vote during the February 17, 2023 meeting and this was seconded by Dr. Howenstine. The motion to approve passed 8-0. Following the motion being approved, Dr. Hern reminded the board that in-person attendance should be prioritized for the meeting.

Greg Harrell then expressed that there was one more point of new business he wanted to discuss that was related to the budget. Speaking on behalf of Josh Garrison, he wanted to know if the board was comfortable in providing sustained funding for past recipients. Assuming the board was, he asked what circumstances might influence approval or denial of applications. Dr. Hern added that in the past the board more or less has seen programs come to an end, but what would it look like to sustain those programs. Dr. Hern suggested we may want to include a CMS tab in the scoring rubric. Dr. Howenstine noted her interest in the conversation and that economics of various hospital systems will be different.

The board then spent time discussing in detail the grant application and rubric. Following this, Dr. Becker expressed his hope that we wouldn't have to arrive at a point in which we were short on funding for applicants. He cited the original fiscal note of HB 1323-2015 that created GMEB, which detailed over \$20 million would need appropriated during year 8 of the program. Dr. Becker finished by saying that he hopes we can convince the legislature of our program's success. Rob McLin responded by saying that if funding is available, it should be our first instinct to continue to fund successful programs. Secondly, he said there will be programs that change their number of residents based on a number of factors, such as economics. He suggested dialoguing with these groups because we will see changes and we need to understand them. Sarah Hopfer noted that she hasn't seen the rubric herself, so she's not sure what suggestions she has, but agrees with the feedback from all other members. Curt Ward followed by stating that an earlier comment about CMS funding is an important one to consider and helps us prioritize; however, we don't want this to be used to exclude programs.

Dr. Hern concluded this discussion by requesting a motion to approve the practice of approving grants in perpetuity contingent on funding being available and acceptable outcomes being met. Rob McLin motioned to approve and Dr. Sonderman seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

#### **BOARD APPOINTMENT**

A new board appointment was announced by Greg Harrell. Dr. Kevin Gebke was approved by the Governor's Office today to join GMEB and is the representative from a Teaching Hospital in the Indiana Hospital Association required by statute.

#### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Tabitha Arnett with the Indiana Osteopathic Association stated that they have their annual meeting at Sheraton at Keystone during the first week of December. Additionally, the Indiana Osteopathic Association signed on to the letter with the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, which was sent to congress regarding the Fair Access in Residency Act.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date was announced as Friday, February 17, 2023.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Howenstine made a motion to adjourn, and Dr. Knight seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0 and meeting adjourned at 12:15pm ET.