

**Minutes to the Meeting of the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy
Durable Medical Equipment Committee
July 24, 2007**

Chairman Marcia Ladd called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. at the Board of Pharmacy Office. Present for the meeting were Committee members Joey McLaughlin, Parker Chesson, Marcia Ladd and Karen Womack. Also present were Board staff Karen Matthew, Krystal Brashears, Wendy Watson, Rachel Paris, and Board counsel, Sarah Phillips. Also present was visitor Todd Jacobus.

Chairman Ladd read the ethics statement.

Minutes of the April 24, 2007 meeting were approved by all.

Old Business:

Chairman Ladd stated she had announced at a recent NC Association for Medical Equipment Services convention in June 2007 that the question regarding DME organizations holding Division of Facility Service permits and whether they needed Board permits had been posted on the Board website.

New Business:

Phillips brought up the recommendation from a pre-hearing conference held on July 24, 2007, in front of member Parker Chesson involving Apria Healthcare. All committee members present approved the recommendation of a staff Letter of Warning be sent to Apria and a follow-up inspection be conducted in six months to determine if Apria was in compliance with all Board rules and regulations. The recommendation was to be placed on the Board consent agenda at the September 2007 meeting.

Chairman Ladd requested that Wayne Link, a former DME committee member, be recognized for his 10 years of service to the committee. A resolution was adopted to thank Link for his service. Chairman Ladd also requested that Matthew obtain a plaque to present to Link for his service.

Matthew mentioned that information was obtained indicating that CPAP machines were offered for sale on eBay and other websites. Matthew would be following up to research the sellers of such devices to determine if they were in violation of NC law and rules, and if necessary, send cease and desist letters to them.

The next date for a DME committee meeting was set for 10 a.m., October 23, 2007.

Rachel Paris brought up that notices were sent out in August to DME permit holders advising them of the on-line renewals for 2008. On-line renewals would start on November 1, 2007.

The meeting adjourned at 11 am.

NEXT MEETING

The committee set the next date for a meeting on Tuesday, October 23, 2007.

Marcia Ladd, Chairperson

Karen Womack

Joey McLaughlin

Parker Chesson

Not Present

Mel Elliott