

## Physician Assistant – Professional Advisory Group March 29, 2012 Minutes

### **Chair Report/ CAPT Christopher Walsh**

Chair's Input:

1. COA upcoming conference. Please contact LCDR Been about PA group meeting at the conference. Consider Phillip Lafleur's offer of lodging. His email is [Philip.lafleur@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Philip.lafleur@fda.hhs.gov) and cell is 859-797-6428.
2. PAPAG President elect position election is upcoming. Two have expressed interest. Survey Monkey will be generated soon.
3. Consider attending teleconference on leadership on April 5th with RADM Babb. Contact info will be sent in separate email.
4. Please consider nominating yourself/colleague for the Garcia/Kissel awards/COA Wagner awards.
5. HS-PAC is conducting an HSO Job/Career Opportunity assessment project. Please see attached document and complete and return to me for compilation and forwarding to the HS-PAC.



HSO jobs-career  
assessment proj\_Mar

### **Subcommittee Reports**

#### **Awards Subcommittee/ Capt George Carter**

Nominations for PHS PA year award will be accepted until April 26, 2012. All are encouraged to submit their applications particularly prior applicants. Additional information regarding nomination procedure is available on our website.

#### **Communications Subcommittee/LCDR Rodney Sluss**

Minor Roster update sent to website. Have to wait on positions to update Roster on website for completion. The Application Form for membership was updated. HSPAC wanted their nomination information sent, and this was sent out. Information for the PAPAG Awards page sent for update again. The nomination form was updated and sent. Secretary is out for now, Minutes reports gathered, minutes sent for voting. We will have to get November minutes later. New conference line made. Reminder sent for upcoming meeting. Update sent to website manager for meeting dates. However, when they created the new page, some things were missed. These changes were sent in one at a time for correction. Membership information updated.

#### **Membership Subcommittee/LCDR Futch**

No news to pass for the membership committee.

#### **Policy and Procedure Subcommittee/ LCDR Paul Hager**

No new information.

#### **Professional Development Subcommittee/ CDR Anthony Bryant**

No reports received

**Readiness Subcommittee/ LCDR Scott Klimp**

All personnel are reminded to go to Direct Access to review their readiness status prior to the March 31st report. It is each officer's responsibility to maintain basic readiness at all times. Officers who are up for promotion this year will not be eligible and will be dropped from the promotion list if they are not basic qualified. Please contact me if I can assist in any way with getting any discrepancies resolved.

**Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee/ LCDR Pieter Van Horn**

HSPAC recruitment encouraging for Pas to come in as civil service then transition to USPHS

**Welcoming Subcommittee/ LT Lee Witter/LCDR Randy Grove**

No updates

**Ad Hoc COF Subcommittee/ LCDR Ulgen Fideli**

No updates

**Ad Hoc AMSUS Subcommittee/ Capt Gary Cole**

Continued planning takes place for both PHS Plenary Session as well as PA Breakout session. The Plenary is expected to include some of the original Navaho Code Talkers over lunch. A small honorarium is usually requested and we are working out the details for that will provide payment. We are still trying to get the daily rate so that we may introduce local officers to a great conference. PA breakout committee has been selected by USAF- LTC Tim Howerton who took over for Col Gregorio after her recent retirement as PA Consultant for USAF. I spoke to him at length this week and we will get all parties on conference in a week or so. Army has been conspicuously absent from planning at all levels and the SG's are going to discuss this within the next few weeks.

**Liason Reports****JOAG/ LCDR Pieter Vanhorn**

No new information

**BOP/ LCDR Pieter Vanhorn**

No reports received

**IHSC/ LCDR Suzie Garza**

IHSC is aware that a lot of final billets were returned at a lower billet than expected. The agency is looking to put an action plan together to address errors and other concerns related to the final billets. IHSC is also looking to find other ways to foster physician assistant growth without having to have them sacrifice a clinical role. They are starting by creating a Chief Physician Assistant position which will be a collateral duty for a practicing physician assistant. IHSC has been successful in implementing some regional positions in other categories which are also collateral duties with 06 billets.

IHSC has a physician assistant position available in Tacoma Washington. Web address for IHSC jobs: <https://jobs-dihhs.icims.com/jobs/intro?hashed=0>

On a personal note, I recently took on an administrative role so I guess I am one of the few that left clinical practice. (I know it was mentioned earlier in the call) I was not disappointed by the final billet decision that was given to me as a clinician so that was not the reason for entering the administrative world.

**IHS/ Capt Gary Cole**

CAPT Cole is accepting responsibility of Liaison from CAPT Placide. Monies transfer from Cherokee to PIMC is almost complete and should be by the next meeting. Ongoing Recruiting and Site scoring performed by LCDR Cruz and LCDR McCreary. Two Supreme Court justices mentioned the Indian Health Funding in their hearings this week as part of their review of law. Nobody is worried- we still have vital mission serving American Indians and Alaskan Natives.

**FDA/ LCDR Stephen Smith**

FDA remains mostly under a hiring freeze with occasional positions offered to the public. What this means is that PHS officers who desire to leave other non FDA positions, may only enter if it is offered on <http://www.usajobs.gov/> . If you enter "FDA" or "FDA Consumer Safety Officer" you can find entry level positions for the O-2 or O-3. REC positions for FDA are occasionally offered, but require FDA experience. If you have any questions, please email. At the moment there is one position for a CSO... Miami, FL United States. The O-4 and O-5 billet positions are for managers with the new billet restructure and you need FDA experience for those positions.

**NOAA/ CDR Michelle Pelkey**

NOAA is mid downsizing. No open position. Hawaii ship taken over by another Hawaii ship, Marine Operation Center in Oregon.

**PHSAPA/ LCDR Stephen Smith**

LCDR Smith is no longer part of PHSAPA board. LCDR Pieter Van Horn is helping with this.

**Summary and Status of Action Items:**

Last conference call, we discussed election for chair elect. Survey monkey will be available for PAPAG chair elect survey.

Contact Capt Walsh if you are interested in the position.

**New Business:**

None

**Meeting adjourned at 21:00 hours EST.**

**Next teleconference: May 31, 2012 at 20:00 hrs EST.**

**Call –in number: 1-218-548-3569 Pass code: 778730#**

**Minutes prepared by: LCDR Janet Valdez, Secretary**

**Reviewed and approved by: Capt Christopher Walsh, Chair**