

## April, 2011 Maine Board of Pharmacy (MEBOP) Meeting

The Maine Board of Pharmacy held its regular monthly meeting today at their office complex in Gardiner.

Three new board members have recently been appointed by the Governor and two were in attendance...Joe Bruno R.Ph. (Chain) and Shane Savage (Independent). Paul Chace, RPh. (Chain), a former board member, has been appointed but could not make the meeting today. It is our understanding that Don Watson, R.Ph. (Hospital) has also been appointed and will join the MEBOP sometime this summer.

The meeting was called to order at 9am by MEBOP Vice President, Dana Hunter.

As MEBOP meetings go, this one was short (9am-Noon) and mostly administrative, perhaps to break-in the new members.

There no "Rule Making" discussion during the meeting. We hoped that there would be some news regarding Pharmacy Student-Intern-Technician licenses.

Minutes of the March 3rd meeting were approved.

Complaint Committee Report: There were only two complaints...both against technicians (in different practices) for drug diversion and theft. The technicians have been terminated and the MEBOP issued emergency suspension of their licenses.

A Pharmacist In Charge (PIC) application for a Maine drug outlet was reviewed and granted.

License Renewals: There were 11 license renewal requests...1 pharmacist (PR) - 3 mail orders (MO) - 7 wholesalers (WH). All were granted except one of the wholesales who had multiple disciplines from a number of states. The board has requested that licenses without problems be granted by the administrators and only the problematic applications be brought to the board to improve efficiency.

Initial License Requests: Twenty-eight applications for original licensure were reviewed. Once again, most of the requests were from wholesalers, mail order companies and manufacturers. Only two were from pharmacists (reciprocity) and one was from a technician. Twenty five licenses were granted, some with fines for not reporting discipline in other states and unlicensed practice in Maine, 2 for the same company were tabled and 1 was denied...to the same company that was also denied renewal of another facility (above).

Correspondence: Three pharmacists, representing various practices in Maine, corresponded with the board regarding general pharmacy practice, vaccination and delivery questions. The board will respond, by mail, to each question.

Board Administrator's Report: Jeri Betts gave her report to the MEBOP. She reported on three pieces of legislation that she was monitoring...LD1429, an act that would amend the PMP laws in Maine to share information with other states, LD1435, an act that would allow states to enter into a "compact" and

readily share PMP information and LD612, our Medication Therapy Management (MTM) legislation which has not yet been scheduled for a public hearing (PH). She stated that the department would testify "neither for nor against" the MTM bill but would offer "information" to the committee of jurisdiction and hinted that they may suggest a "summer study" be put in place to review the legislation.

The meeting adjourned just before noontime.