

**DELAWARE AUTHORITY ON RADIATION PROTECTION**

**SUMMARY OF MEETING**

April 4, 2011

Delaware State University  
Martin Luther King Student Center  
Dover, Delaware

Members Present: (those with checks only)

R. Arm	√	F. Fisher-Tyler	√	K. Musto	√
F. Esposito	√	W. Holden	√	N. Melikechi	√
L. Fox	√	C. Krikelis		D. Tilton	√
E. De Whitt	√	T. May	√		

Others Present:

R. Brinsfield	√	L. Terry-Graham	√	W. Fendt	√
N. Henry	√	E. Tross	√		

Authority Chairman Dr. Melikechi called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm and started the meeting with introductions to welcome visitors attending the meeting.

**I. AGENDA ADOPTED**

E. DeWhitt moved to approve the agenda, Dr. Arm seconded, and all members voted in favor of accepting. The motion was approved.

**II. MINUTES**

K. Musto moved to approve minutes of the February 28, 2011 Authority meeting, Dr. Esposito seconded, and all members voted in favor of accepting. The motion was approved.

**III. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Dr. Melikechi thanked the Authority members and ORC staff for their continued contributions to assuring radiation protection for Delawareans. He reported that during a meeting with staff of the Department of Health & Social Services (DHSS), Dr. Karyl Rattay, Director of the Division of Public Health (DPH), and Senator George Bunting, Chair of the Legislature Joint Sunset Committee, he was assured that the Authority will not be sunsetted. He stated that he would provide more detail on this matter under Old Business. He stated that the focus of the Authority is on the future, and working toward closure for several projects: Bylaws Development, Nominating Committee process and Website content. He thanked the chairpersons for each of the task teams for their leadership, and efforts. He expressed his interest in having draft By-Laws for the full Authority membership and Deputy Attorney General to review by May, with the goal to finalize the Bylaws with a vote at the September 12, 2011 meeting.

#### **IV. OFFICE OF RADIATION CONTROL (ORC)**

F. Fisher-Tyler reviewed milestones, issues and current status/impact for several ORC program activities, including Authority committee work, fee revenue collected in 2010, status of hiring for the vacant ORC Administrative Specialist position, production improvements to the ORC database, radiological emergency preparedness program activities conducted in partnership with the Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA), DHSS press release and health alert network information addressing concerns about radiation from the Japan emergency on March 18, 2011, and launch of the National Alliance for Radiation Readiness by multiple non-governmental organizations with members engaged in the public health system.

R. Brinsfield reviewed ORC monitoring reports for the reporting period January 1 – March 31, 2011: Certificates of Approval issued for new radiation machine facilities, X-ray Inspection Completion Report, X-ray Inspection Violation Report, and a Radiation Technologist/Technician Licensure Report summary. He fielded questions about the reports and indicated that the compliance completion date had been added to the Violation Report, as requested at the February 28, 2011 Authority meeting.

Scheduled Authority meeting dates for 2011 were affirmed: September 12 & November 14, at the usual time and place, 6 pm, Delaware State University, Martin Luther King Student Center.

#### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Melikechi briefed the Authority meeting members present on a meeting held with Senator George Bunting, and representatives of the Department of Health & Social Services (DHSS) the Division of Public Health (DPH) to discuss proposed sunseting of the Authority on Radiation Protection. He distributed a document entitled “Response to DHSS Proposal to Sunset the Authority on Radiation Protection (ARP),” dated March 30, 2011 which was submitted to DHSS and the Joint Sunset Committee. Dr. Melikechi thanked all of the Authority members who wrote letters, requested meetings and otherwise contributed to the presentation of the Authority’s views at the meeting. He thanked Dr. Arm, W. Holden, and C. Krikelis for their contributions toward this effort.

Dr. Melikechi shared his conclusion that the Authority will not be sunsetted, that in light of recent discussions, there is no support for sunseting the Authority by the Joint Sunset Committee, that the enabling legislation will be reviewed to address necessary changes to modernize the Delaware Code, and that in the scheme of things, the estimated cost of supporting Authority operations in the amount of \$ 14,000 is a small price to pay for assuring radiation protection for Delawareans. E. Tross suggested that it would be advisable to get back to Senator Bunting in a timely way, to follow up on Joint Sunset Committee matters, particularly the review of the enabling legislation.

##### **Action Items:**

- **Develop final draft of Bylaws, K. Musto & By-Laws task force members**
- **Review Authority enabling legislation, K. Musto & By-Laws task force members**
- **Distribute final draft of Bylaws, and current enabling legislation to all Authority members for review and comment, F. Fisher-Tyler**
- **Assess legislative options for addressing Authority priorities, N. Melikechi**

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

L. Fox reported that the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) specifications for state limited scope and national credential level certification examinations will be changed in 2012 to include digital x-ray equipment, and will delete film development technology. Due to the prospective impact on radiation technologists & technicians certified by the Authority in Delaware, she suggested adding a link to [www.ARRT.org](http://www.ARRT.org) to the Authority webpage, and the sense of the members present was in support of that action.

Dr. Melikechi briefed the members on his intent to re-instate the practice of the Authority submitting an annual report of its activities and accomplishments to the Governor's Office. The practice was apparently in place prior to 2001, but has not been a practice since that time. Dr. Esposito stated that she partners with ORC to prepare an annual report to the Medical Society each fall that is published in their annual report, and she would be happy to share that as a basis for developing the Authority annual report to the Governor's office.

**Action Items: Forward the ARRT link to students maintaining the Authority webpage, F. Fisher-Tyler**

**Share annual report to the Medical Society with Authority members, Dr. Esposito**

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Guest Bill Fendt of the University of Delaware reminded the Authority membership that a biology professor at the university, Dr. David Smith had been identified as a possible nominee to fill the university position on the Authority vacated by Robin Elliott in the spring of 2010. He indicated that the Governor's Office reached out to the University to identify a nominee for the position. He inquired whether the process for appointing members to the Authority had changed in recent years, and the response was that it was Authority leadership understanding that the formal process had not changed. At least, the Authority had not been notified of any formal change.

Dr. Melikechi responded that the Nominating Committee will move forward with identifying nominees, reviewing each case and making recommendations for new appointees.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Arm moved to adjourn the meeting, K. Musto seconded and all voted to accept. The motion was approved. The next Authority meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 12, 2011 at Delaware State University in Dover, Delaware.

Respectfully submitted,

Frieda Fisher-Tyler, Administrator  
Office of Radiation Control  
Executive Secretary  
Authority on Radiation Protection