

**FINAL MINUTES**

**MEETING OF:**

**PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY**

ONE HAAC DRIVE  
WILDWOOD CONFERENCE CENTER  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

TIME: 10:41 A.M.

DATE: JUNE 6, 2005

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Board of Directors

June 6, 2005

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of May 2, 2005, Meeting Minutes
- III. Report of the Board Vice-Chair
- IV. Report of the Board Administrator
- V. PA-PSRS Update
  - Status of Interface Project
- VI. Committee Reports
  - Recommendation of By-Laws Work Group: Gary Merica, Chair
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
  - Upcoming Board Meetings
- IX. Public Comments
- X. Adjournment

1 **PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY**  
2 **June 6, 2005**  
3

4 **Board Members**

5 Anita Fuhrman, RN, BS  
6 Joan M. Garzarelli, RN, MSN (via teleconference)  
7 Roosevelt H. Hairston, Esquire  
8 Lorina L. Marshall-Blake  
9 Gary A. Merica, R.Ph.  
10 Cliff Rieders, Esquire  
11 Stanton N. Smullens, MD  
12 Marshall W. Webster, MD  
13 Nathan J. Zuckerman, MD (via teleconference)  
14

15 **Authority Personnel**

16 Alan B.K. Rabinowitz, Board Administrator  
17 Sharon L. Hutton, Administrative Assistant  
18 Laurene Baker, Communications Director  
19 Joan Plump, Esquire  
20

21 **Also Present**

22 John Clarke, MD, PA-PSRS Clinical Director  
23 Mike Doering, Project Manager, ISG

## 1 PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY

2 June 6, 2005

3 The regularly scheduled meeting of the Patient  
4 Safety Authority was held on Monday, June 6, 2005.  
5 The meeting was called to order at 10:41 a.m. by  
6 Lorina Marshall-Blake, Vice-Chair/Acting Chairperson.

7 \*\*\*

8 A motion was made by Dr. Stanton Smullens to  
9 approve the Minutes as presented. The motion carried  
10 unanimously.

11 \*\*\*

12 Lorina Marshall-Blake reported that there was no  
13 information from the Governor's office related to anew  
14 appointee for Chair or Physician General. She thanked  
15 everyone for their hard work and their efforts on  
16 behalf of the Authority.

17 Alan Rabinowitz reported that the Annual Report  
18 had been distributed but that they received very  
19 little feedback other than the lead article in  
20 Physician's News Digest. He noted that he appreciated  
21 the comments in that article by various facility  
22 administrators about how they were using the PA-PSRS  
23 system and the built-in tools for their internal  
24 patient safety efforts. Mr. Rabinowitz also cited the

1 recent patient safety awards given to 10 Pennsylvania  
2 hospitals, out of 135 nationally, by HealthGrades. He  
3 noted that, as a result of a recent newspaper article  
4 about those awards, he spoke with  
5 Dr. Mark Jacobson, Vice President for Medical Affairs  
6 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Lebanon. Dr. Jacobson  
7 discussed how Act 13 really precipitated Good  
8 Samaritan's awareness of patient safety and steps they  
9 are taking to integrate patient safety into various  
10 facets of the hospital. Dr. Clarke and Joan Plump also  
11 participated in the conversation.

12 Mr. Rabinowitz noted that, as the Board was aware  
13 from previous discussions, he and Dr. Clarke conducted  
14 a session on PA-PSRS at the National Patient Safety  
15 Foundation's seventh annual Congress in Orlando. He  
16 also noted that he participated in a meeting convened  
17 by the National Academy for State Health Policy in  
18 Chicago. Both Dr. Clarke, as a national expert on  
19 patient safety and data standards, and Dr. Smullens,  
20 as a representative of a health system, were also  
21 invited to participate and they briefly described  
22 their observations. Dr. Clarke noted that 11 states  
23 were invited to participate and that there was a lot

1 of interest in "coalescing" state efforts into a  
2 national system. The theme of the meeting was how to  
3 utilize data collected by state patient safety  
4 centers, and Mr. Rabinowitz noted that the Patient  
5 Safety Advisories were specifically singled out by  
6 other attendees as a very useful product.

7 There was discussion about how to keep the Board  
8 and members of the public aware of upcoming events  
9 related to patient safety, and Mr. Hairston suggested  
10 including that information on the website.

11 Mr. Rabinowitz then advised the Board that, at  
12 the next meeting on July 11, Karen Feinstein from the  
13 Jewish Healthcare Foundation in Pittsburgh is  
14 scheduled to talk about her proposal for regional  
15 improvement networks. In addition, staff from the  
16 Department of State will do a presentation on our  
17 anticipated budget needs for the next fiscal year so  
18 the Board could assess its recommendation for the new  
19 facility assessment.

20 Mr. Rabinowitz mentioned that House Bill 1591 had  
21 recently been introduced, which makes abortion  
22 facilities subject to Act 13 reporting requirements.  
23 There was lengthy discussion and, overall, the Board

1 supports the concept of the bill although members  
2 would prefer that these facilities would not be  
3 singled out for inclusion, given the many other types  
4 of healthcare facilities not subject to Act 13, or for  
5 sanctions. There was also discussion about other  
6 legislation, including House Bills 672 and 1087. Mr.  
7 Hairston, chair of the Legislative Committee, asked to  
8 arrange a telephone committee meeting.

9 Mr. Rabinowitz distributed a flyer and  
10 registration material for the Pennsylvania e-Health  
11 Technology Summit in Harrisburg on July 26. This  
12 event is sponsored by the PA e-Health Consortium, of  
13 which the Authority is a member, and which is  
14 facilitated by Quality Insights of PA and the  
15 Pennsylvania Medical Society. Mr. Rabinowitz noted  
16 several distinguished speakers at the summit,  
17 including Dr. David Brailer and Carolyn Clancy.

18 Mr. Rabinowitz then asked Mike Doering, PA-PSRS  
19 project manager, to provide an update on the interface  
20 project. He noted that we are moving forward with  
21 seven volunteer facilities and systems to test the  
22 technical feasibility of developing an interface  
23 between PA-PSRS and a facility's internal reporting

1 system. Mr. Doering explained that we had published  
2 detailed data specifications and that it was up to  
3 each participating facility to develop the software  
4 infrastructure. Mr. Rabinowitz noted that the  
5 Authority retained ownership of the PA-PSRS system and  
6 is restricting use of the technical data sets by a  
7 facility (including a facility's IT contractors or  
8 software licensees). That means that the information  
9 can only be used by facilities subject to Act 13 and  
10 cannot be marketed to or used by other institutions  
11 inside or outside of Pennsylvania.

12 Gary Merica, chair of the By-Laws Work Group,  
13 gave a report . There was lengthy discussion on the  
14 recommendations to amend the By-Laws with a chapter  
15 related to communication protocols for Board members.  
16 At his request, Cliff Rieders will revise the draft  
17 communications amendment and distribute it to Gary.

18 Anita Fuhrman, chair of the education committee,  
19 noted that there will be a  
20 Telephone conference call on Monday, June 27, at 10:00  
21 a.m.

22 There was a discussion of upcoming Board  
23 meetings. It was determined to cancel the August

1 meeting. The September meeting is scheduled for  
2 Monday, September 12. At the Board's request, Mr.  
3 Rabinowitz will invite Dick Lee, Deputy Secretary for  
4 Quality Assurance in the Department of Health, to meet  
5 with the Board on September 12 to discuss "how they've  
6 been using the [PA-PSRS] system." Mr. Rabinowitz then  
7 suggested moving the date of the October meeting to  
8 Tuesday, October 11, 2005. The Board consented, and  
9 the October 11 meeting will be held at the ECRI  
10 corporate offices in Plymouth Meeting (Montgomery  
11 County), near Valley Forge/King of Prussia. Following  
12 the public meeting, the Board will tour the ECRI  
13 facility and meet informally with principals of both  
14 ECRI and ISMP.

15 \*\*\*

16 Adjournment

17 MS. MARSHALL-BLAKE:

18 And, okay. Then I -- do I hear a motion for  
19 an adjournment?

20 MS. FUHRMAN:

21 So moved.

22 MS. MARSHALL-BLAKE:

23 Second?

1 MR. HAIRSTON:

2 Second.

3 MS. MARSHALL-BLAKE:

4 Okay. All those in favor, aye. 12:30.

5 [The motion carried unanimously.]

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7 [The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.]

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Brad Weirich,  
Minute Clerk,  
York Stenographic Services

		COUNTER	
	TIME	NUMBER	AGENDA
1			PATIENT SAFETY AUTHORITY
2			BOARD OF DIRECTORS
3			REFERENCE INDEX
4			JUNE 6, 2005
5			
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8			
9	10:41	0164	Call to Order, Lorina Marshall-
10			Blake, Vice-Chair
11			
12	10:41	0170	Approval of Minutes of the May 2,
13			2005, meeting
14			
15	10:43	0191	Report of Board Vice-Chair Lorina
16			Marshall-Blake
17			
18	10:45	0312	Report of Board Administrator Alan
19			Rabinowitz
20			
21	11:40	4097	PA-PSRS Update
22			
23	12:05	6592	Report of Committees
24			
25		TAPE 2	
26			
27	12:22	0714	Old and New Business
28			
29	12:30		Adjournment