

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE
COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The meeting was called to order by Chairpersons James Barnett and Brenda Landwehr at 1:30 P.M. on February 14, 2008 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

Committee Members Attending:

Senator Barnett	Representative Landwehr	Representative Kigerl (excused)
Senator V. Schmidt	Representative Mast	Representative Flaharty
Senator Haley	Representative Storm	Representative Rhoades
Senator Brundgardt	Representative Trimmer	Representative Schultz (absent)
Senator Wagle	Representative Neighbor	Representative Otto (absent)
Senator Palmer	Representative Quigley	Representative Hill (absent)
Senator Journey	Representative Colyer	Representative Morrison (excused)
Senator Gilstrap	Representative Crum	Representative Ward (excused)
Senator Jordan (excused)	Representative Garcia	Representative Patton (excused)
	Representative Schroeder	Representative Holland (excused)

Committee staff present:

Terri Weber, Legislative Research Dept.	Dianne Rossell, Revisor of Statutes
Sara Zafar, Legislative Research Depart.	Melissa Calderwood, Legislative Research Dept.
Nobuko Folmsbee, Revisor of Statutes	Cindy Lash, Legislative Research Dept.
Jan Lunn, Committee Assistant	Shelly Barnhil, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dr. Don Brada, Designated Institutional Official, WCGME/Penny Vogelsang, Chief Operating Officer, WCGME
 Dr. Joe Davison, West Wichita Family Physicians
 Ms. Rita Buurman, CEO, Sabetha Community Hospital
 Dr. Rob Gibbs, WCGME Graduate, Radiologist, Parsons, Kansas
 Dr. Justin Mills, Second Year WCGMC Pediatric Resident
 Mr. Bernie Koch, VP Government Relations, Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce

Others attending: See the attached list and in addition there were approximately 20 other attendees.

Senator Barnett welcomed a group of senior nursing students from Emporia State University. Ms. Lana O'Leen, President of Lana Oleen Consulting Services, LLC, was introduced. Ms. O'Leen represents the Wichita Center for Graduate Medical Education (WCGME) and coordinated the presentation for the Joint Meeting. Ms. O'Leen referred to a brochure entitled, "Kansas Physician Residencies, Fields of Need, The Upcoming crisis in healthcare for the state of Kansas," and an article from the Wichita Eagle, "Will the doctor be in?" as she introduced Dr. Don Brada from the Wichita Center for Graduate Medical Education.

Dr. Brada delivered a Powerpoint presentation ([Attachment 1](#)) showing the importance of the program in the education of primary care physicians and core specialists, its impact on underserved primary care locations, the importance of residency training in Kansas, and expenses/revenue sources in the WCGME program were discussed. Dr. Brada provided information related to recent accreditation challenges involving two funding issues from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education that resulted in requirements to: (a) include clinical or patient care research and, (b) include faculty and infrastructure research and funding to cover reduced Medicare GME reimbursement. ([Attachment 2](#)) The impact of the accreditation agency's requirements for 2008 is funding for \$9,626,666 and for 2009, the funding request will increase to \$12,458,003. Dr. Brada provided information related to doctors in Kansas from WCGME administered programs. ([Attachment 3](#)) Discussion was also heard related to primary care full-time equivalent physicians by county([Attachment 4](#)), and a map depicting these primary care physician full-time equivalents by county was provided identifying the county's population density peer group (i.e., urban, semi-urban, densely-settled rural, rural, and frontier). ([Attachment 5](#)).

Joe D. Davison, MD, from West Wichita Family Physicians spoke regarding the healthcare workforce crisis in Kansas, and should funding be granted, the ability to keep Kansas physicians at home to meet healthcare needs of Kansans. ([Attachment 6](#))

Rita Buurman, CEO, Sabetha Hospital, discussed physician recruitment in her twenty-nine years at the

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hospital. She delivered supportive testimony for funding WCGME to ensure a critical healthcare access crisis will not materialize in rural healthcare in Kansas. ([Attachment 7](#))

Dr. Justin Mills, second year pediatric resident, delivered testimony supporting WCGME and its programs. He emphasized the importance of residents in the healthcare system as often being the “first responders” to a patient’s medical crisis, and without the WCGMC program, the quality of healthcare could decline. ([Attachment 8](#))

Dr. Robert Gibbs, a graduate of the WCGMC program spoke regarding the importance of “core specialist” training, particularly in rural or “frontier” areas. He encouraged legislative support of funding requests. ([Attachment 9](#))

Bernie Koch, Vice President of the Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce, delivered testimony relative to the economic benefits of healthcare within the community. Statistics were heard regarding numbers of jobs in the healthcare industry and the impact in the community of that payroll. ([Attachment 10](#))

Chairperson Landwehr commented that the issues discussed today are not only Wichita issues, but statewide issues.

Questions were asked by Senator V. Schmidt, Senator Haley, Representative Quigley, and Representative Garcia relating to recruitment of additional people to comply with accreditation agency requirements for clinical/patient outcome research, whether tuition forgiveness or loan programs are being utilized and whether they are effective, whether the same accreditation standards exist in rural/underserved areas as in urban areas, and whether physicians actually stay in Kansas once tuition forgiveness/loan programs are used. Comments were heard from Representative Mast and Chairperson Landwehr regarding residents in “first responder” roles.

Written testimony was submitted by the following:

Dr. Rob Freelove, Program Director, Smoky Hill Family Medicine ([Attachment 11](#))

Carolyn Gaughan, Executive Director, Kansas Academy of Family Physicians ([Attachment 12](#))

Jerry Slaughter, Executive Director, Kansas Medical Society ([Attachment 13](#))

Dr. Steen Mortensen and Dr. Dennis Ross, Medical Society of Sedgwick County ([Attachment 14](#))

Dr. Bob Moser, WCGMC Graduate, Chair Primary Care Collaborative Coordinating Committee, Greeley County Health Services ([Attachment 15](#))

Dr. Gene Klingler, Manhattan Surgical Center ([Attachment 16](#))

Dr. Jennifer Scott Koontz ([Attachment 17](#))

Dr. Richard Moberly ([Attachment 18](#))

John Waltner, Mayor of Hesston ([Attachment 19](#))

Steven G. Kelly, DHA, FACHE, CEO Newton Medical Center ([Attachment 20](#))

John T. Woodrich, President/CEO Mercy Health System ([Attachment 21](#))

Robert Ohlen, CEO and Mike Brewer, President, Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital ([Attachment 22](#))

W. Charles Waters, President and CEO, Clara Barton Hospital ([Attachment 23](#))

Susan Page, President & CEO, Pratt Regional Medical Center ([Attachment 24](#))

William K. Mahoney, CEO, Labette Health ([Attachment 25](#))

Kevin A. White, Administrator, Medicine Lodge Memorial Hospital ([Attachment 26](#))

Doyle L. McKinney, FACHE, Jewell County Hospital ([Attachment 27](#))

Chad Austin, VP Government Relations, Kansas Hospital Association ([Attachment 28](#))

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40pm

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