

Orthopedic Coalition Meeting
ACCO Conference
Sheraton Hotel, Carlsbad, CA.
April, 10 2008

Attending were: Drs. Jesse Rothenberger, James Brandt, Ron Evans, Larry Swank, Gary Carver, Harold Tondera, Wm. Fischer, Dale Huntington, Vern Saboe, David Swensen, Tom Mack and Stephen Capps.

Dr. Rothenberger opened the meeting welcoming all doctor's in attendance from the Academy, ACCO and CCO.

Dr. Rothenberger asked for discussion regarding implications of chiropractic orthopedists who are qualified medical examiners being excluded by virtue of their specialty from performing medical examinations within the state workers compensation system in California. Dr. Steve Becker a Chiropractic Neurologist has apparently been fighting this issue for the past several months and has recently asked for financial assistance from the orthopedic coalition due to an impending ruling within the next few weeks. This issue will likely expand across the nation which already is apparent in Texas and soon to be in New York State. The discussion continued among the participants about the short notice given and lack of information pertaining to this important issue. The consensus was that that Dr. Becker who lives near by should have petitioned to appear before the coalition stating the intricacies of this issue before the coalition steps forward with any financial assistance until further information can be obtained.

Dr. Toderer suggested a teleconference via a WebEx platform be considered for those department heads of the 2010 project to allow for a 10 minute brief of their progress or any problems they may be having with their individual assignments. Dr. Brandt advised that all but two departments were on schedule, with one up and going and the other requiring assistance. At this time the WebEx would not be required. Dr. Evans will review the materials submitted then move into the template of 2010 by November of 2008. The entire project is on schedule. Dr. Evans suggested it may be necessary for the orthopedic specialty to have its own accrediting /credentialing agency with the support of the orthopedic coalition. There will need to be research into this undertaking to insure that the agency will meet all requirements to stand on its own and meet the test of time. The participants from the coalition will consist of one member plus an alternate from each group to form a task force group for investigation into this project. A motion was made by Dr. Brandt seconded by Dr. Carver to move forward with this process. Motion passed. Those members will be, Jim Brandt, Steve Capps Academy, Bill Fischer, Tom Mack ACCO and Dale Huntington, Gary Carver CCO. Dr. Ron Evans will be our counselor. Dr. Evans suggested it is imperative that the orthopedic specialty groups must unify in order to move forward. Drs. Bill Fischer and Tom Mack will formulate a letter with the approval of the coalition to send to the ABCO executive director inviting them to come to the table for negotiations.

Dr. Tondera presented a letter from the Texas Council of Chiropractic Orthopedists written by Dr. Bill Kowalski regarding becoming a full partner of the orthopedic coalition accepting all rights and responsibilities their participation would allow. A brief discussion followed with a motion by Dr. Tondera to accept the Texas Council into the coalition as a full partner and was seconded by Dr. Brandt. Motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted

Dale G. Huntington, D.C. , FACO