

**Virginia Birth Injury Program
Board of Director's Meeting
January 11, 2005**

Attendees:

Melina Dee Perdue, Chair
McLain O'Ferrall
Willette LaHew, MD
Jennifer Ogburn

Also Present:

George Deebo, Executive Director
Jessica Stuart, Claims Manager
Candace Thomas, Deputy Director
Bill McKelway, Richmond Times Dispatch
Ann Jones, Jones & Rostant
Donna Rostant, Jones & Rostant

Call to Order:

Melina Perdue called the meeting to order at 1:00 p. m.

Minutes:

The minutes of the December meeting were reviewed and accepted as presented with the changes. The November minutes were reviewed and accepted as presented.

Finance:

Candace Thomas presented the Profit and Loss Sheet as well as the Balance Sheet. George Deebo noted that home nursing costs continue to increase and that the Program is reviewing all contracts and spot checking billings to assure all billed hours are accurate.

It was moved and seconded that the financials be accepted. Motion unanimous.

Investment Committee Report:

Mr. O'Ferrall reported that progress was being made with the newly hired investment consultants. He expects all changes to be in place in four to six weeks.

Legislative Report

George Deebo reported that Del. Tata would carry two bills for the Program. The first, HJ646, is a resolution directing the Program to work with the State Corporation Commission and other parties to develop recommendations regarding future funding

The second, HB 1505 was reviewed during the December 2004 meeting. However, it was noted the required changes to the bill requiring " rebuttable presumption that injury was

caused by prematurity when an infant is less than 1,800 grams or 32 weeks gestation will be introduced in committee since the deadline for filing changes has passed.

Public Comments:

Bill McKelway asked Dr. LeHew if he stood by comments made several years ago regarding the number of children eligible for the Fund. Discussion followed.

Ann Jones expressed interest in the legislative changes, primarily with the introduction of HB 425. Discussion ensued regarding the merits of the bill.

Claimant Issues:

There were no claimant issues for discussion.

Director's Report:

George Deebo noted that per the Board's request several months ago, all Program employees now have access to a benefits program that includes group health insurance, life insurance, 401K retirement, long and short term disability and other options. This should help reduce employee turnover.

Adjournment:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p. m.