Council Meeting Minutes


The meeting was called to order in the Hilton Inn, San Francisco International Airport, by the Chairman, on Saturday, January 28, 1961, at 9:30 a.m.

Roll Call:

Present were President Foster, President-Elect Bostick, Editor Wilbur, Speaker Doyle, Vice-Speaker Heron and Councilors MacLaggan, Wheeler, Todd, Quinn, O'Neill, Kirchner, O'Connor, Shaw, Rogers, Dalton, Murray, Davis, Miller, Sherman, Campbell, Morrison, Anderson and Teall. Absent for illness, Secretary Hosmer.

Quorum present and acting.

Present by invitation were Messrs. Hunton, Thomas, Clancy, Collins, Marvin, Whelan, Klutch, Edwards, Tobitt and Drs. Batchelder and Miller of C.M.A. staff; Messrs. Hassard and Huber, legal counsel; Messrs. Read, Salisbury and Fraser of the Public Health League of California; county executives Scheuber of Alameda-Contra Costa, Blankfort of Marin, Lingerfelt of Fresno, Field of Los Angeles, Grove of Monterey, Somerville of Napa, Bannister of Orange, Brayer of Riverside, Donmyer of San Bernardino, Nute of San Diego, Neick of San Francisco, Thompson and Pearce of San Joaquin, Wood of San Mateo, Donovan of Santa Clara, Funk of Solano, Brown of Sonoma and Bailey of Tulare; Dr. Malcolm Merrill of the State Department of Public Health; Dr. Walter Rapaport of the State Department of Mental Hygiene; Mrs. Eunice Evans of the State Department of Social Welfare; Messrs. Aubrey Gates and Richard Philleo of the American Medical Association; Messrs. Paolini, Nyron, Heller and Lyon of California Physicians' Service; Doctors Werner Hoyt, Donald Harrington, Dan O. Kilroy, Thomas Elmendorf, Rex Whitworth and others.

1. Minutes for Approval:

On motion duly made and seconded, several amendments to the tentative draft of the minutes of the Council meeting held December 10 and 11, 1960, were adopted and the minutes as amended were approved. [Approved version was published in California Medicine, February, 1961.]

2. Membership:

(a) A report of membership as of January 26, 1961, was presented and ordered filed.

(b) On motion duly made and seconded, seven delinquent members who had regained active membership in their county societies were voted reinstatement.

(c) On motion duly made and seconded in each instance, three applicants were voted Associate Membership. These were: Carl J. Lutt, Alameda-Contra Costa County; Thomas Arthur Morrison, San Diego County; Lillian Cottrell, Sonoma County.

(d) On motion duly made and seconded in each instance, 17 members were voted Retired Membership. These were: Douglas Stafford, Alameda-Contra Costa County; Philip Hodgkin, Imperial County; Albert Allen, Lucile R. Anderson, Joseph T. Edward, Frank Edison Long, Seth H. Miles, W. G. Scanlon, Erwin Edward Stephens, Albert Valensi, Los Angeles County; A. N. Crain, Orange County; James F.

PAUL D. FOSTER, M.D. .................................. President
WARREN L. BOSTICK, M.D. .......................... President-Elect
JAMES C. DOYLE, M.D. ............................... Speaker
IVAN C. HERON, M.D. ................................. Vice-Speaker
SAMUEL R. SHERMAN, M.D. ......................... Chairman of the Council
RALPH C. TEALL, M.D. ............................... Vice-Chairman of the Council
MATTHEW N. HOSMER, M.D. ......................... Secretary
DWIGHT L. WILBUR, M.D. ............................ Editor
HOWARD HASSARD .................................. Executive Director
JOHN HUNTON ........................................ Executive Secretary

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On motion duly made and seconded, reductions in dues were voted for 23 members for reasons of illness or postgraduate study.

3. Financial:

(a) Chairman Heron of the Finance Committee submitted balance sheets as of December 31, 1960, for the Association and four allied organizations, Trustees of the C.M.A., Physicians Benevolence Fund, Audio-Digest Foundation and Pacific Magnetic Tape Equipment Co. These were reviewed and ordered filed.

(b) A retirement program for employees of the Association, previously approved by the Council, was submitted in detail. Estimated cost for the balance of the current fiscal year was $17,801, which, on motion duly made and seconded, was appropriated by unanimous vote.

(c) On motion duly made and seconded, and on recommendation of the committee, it was voted to reimburse three medical school deans for their expenses in attending meetings in Chicago and Washington in behalf of the Association's educational programs, expenses to come from currently budgeted and available funds.

(d) The Council accepted with thanks the check for $992.50 from Delta Blood Bank, Stockton, representing final repayment on a loan of $36,500 advanced in 1954.

4. State Department of Public Health:

Dr. Malcolm Merrill, State Director of Public Health, reported that the first human death from rabies in a number of years had occurred in Imperial County, on the Arizona border. Death resulted from a dog bite and following a course of 14 treatments using duck embryo vaccine.

Dr. Merrill also reviewed the budget submitted by his department for the 1962 fiscal year.

5. State Department of Mental Hygiene:

Dr. Walter Rapaport, representing the State Department of Mental Hygiene, reviewed some of the recommendations added to the proposed basic budget of the department. These would call for the establishment of "day hospitals" for daytime care of mental patients, for authority to place patients in private hospitals and rest homes, authority to place patients in private homes and for broadening of the Short-Doyle Act for added care in home areas for mental patients. All are designed, he reported, to eliminate the need for further construction of large state hospitals.

6. State Department of Social Welfare:

Mrs. Eunice Evans of the State Department of Social Welfare reported that plans have been completed for participation in the Kerr-Mills legislation to provide added medical services to the aged. A new drug formulary, listing drugs which may be prescribed without limitation, those which are limited by diagnosis and those limited by wholesale price, has been issued. Health evaluation examinations, she reported, will start April 1 for old age assistance applicants between ages 65 and 70. The department will also bring additional benefits for the blind into the present program.

Mrs. Evans reported on several legislative proposals advanced by the department. These will include legislation for matching funds to implement the second stage of the Kerr-Mills Bill, an increase in the maximum allowable pension to aged and blind recipients to provide additional care, tying in benefits with the cost of living index, liberalizing the relatives' responsibility laws and a proposed measure to provide funds on a matching basis for the establishment of local demonstration projects such as senior centers, delivered meals, etc.

7. Medical Education:

The chairman read a letter from Dr. J. B. deC. M. Saunders, dean of the University of California School of Medicine, in which he expressed concern over the possible production of poorly qualified physicians under several proposals which have been advanced for the establishment of new medical schools in California. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to refer this matter to the Commission on Medical Education for study and suggestions.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to reaffirm a decision of the House of Delegates expressing approval of the establishment of a medical school in the San Diego area.

8. White House Conference on the Aging:

Reports were made by Doctors Foster, Sherman and Batchelder on the White House Conference on the Aging, held early in January. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Committee for Emergency Action, together with the chairmen of the public relations and legislative committees and the delegation to the American Medical Association review the status of the medical profession in the eyes of the public and develop suggestions for bringing about an improvement.

9. Bureau of Research and Planning:

Chairman Werner Hoyt of the Bureau of Research and Planning gave an historical and progress report for the bureau and presented a list of proposed research studies which had been assigned a priority
rating by the bureau. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve the priority listings proposed.

Dr. Hoyt left with the Council the question of the Council's determination as to how far the bureau should proceed in initiating policy for the Association. The chairman suggested that this topic be discussed in detail at the March meeting.

The Council approved a report of the Bureau of Research & Planning, "The Role of Government in Medical Care," with slight amendments and ordered that widespread publicity be given this report.

10. Public Relations:

Councilor Quinn and Mr. Ed Clancy reported on a meeting held with representatives of allied organizations. Mr. Clancy also reported on a meeting held with county society representatives on January 7, at which a number of local projects to enhance public relations had been described and discussed.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Committee on Public Relations be requested to submit to an early meeting of the Council a complete report on the public relations program, finances and objectives.

11. Committee on Legislation:

(a) Chairman Dan O. Kilroy, chairman of the Commission on Public Policy, reported that the commission had reviewed a proposed organization which would bring together several professional groups and had been divided on the question of formation of a similar organization in California. It was agreed that the commission should assemble a list of professional organizations in California and determine all areas of mutual or overlapping interest, so that a future report may be made to the Council for further consideration.

(b) Mr. Ben Read reported that 1,260 legislative bills had been introduced in the first 28 days of the legislative session and that 192 of these have some bearing on the public health or the practice of medicine. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to oppose two measures, one which would establish a state system of compulsory health insurance and one which would require state licensure for x-ray technicians.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the committee, in association with the Committee for Emergency Action, prepare a statement of the Association's position on the compulsory health insurance legislation.

12. Commission on Medical Services:

Dr. Donald Harrington, chairman, reported for the Commission on Medical Services, the report recommending that all county societies activate or establish mediation committees to review fee complaints, including those brought by insurance carriers, and that the Association establish a statewide mediation committee to coordinate and reinforce the county committees. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve these proposals in principle and to refer to the Committee on Committees the integration of such a statewide committee into the organization structure.

The Commission also reported that it was believed impossible at this time to effectuate a system of regional professional fees for services under state medical care programs. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to refer this subject to the Committee for Emergency Action.

13. Committee on Committees:

Chairman Bostick of the Committee on Committees recommended that the present liaison committee between the Commission on Medical Services and California Physicians' Service be expanded by the addition of two members and that the committee henceforth be a direct committee of the Council. He also recommended that a second committee be formed to activate policy decisions reached between the Council and the Trustees of California Physicians' Service. On motion duly made and seconded, these recommendations were approved and Doctors Donald Harrington and Carl Anderson were added to the liaison committee.

14. 1961 Annual Session:

Speaker Doyle of the House of Delegates outlined the plans for the meetings of the 1961 House of Delegates, reporting that meetings would be held Saturday afternoon, Sunday morning, Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning. On motion duly made and seconded, this schedule was approved. Proposed seating arrangements in the House of Delegates, with alternates to be seated with delegates, were also approved.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that for the dinner to honor the Presidents of the Association and the Woman's Auxiliary, a reception for invited guests be held for one hour and a social hour for all those attending the dinner be held at another hour, the cost of the dinner tickets to include the social hour.

15. Rehabilitation Services:

Councilor Anderson presented a resolution calling attention to the establishment of in-patient rehabilitation services for Old Age Assistance recipients and requesting that the State Department of Social Welfare modify its regulations to allow the appointment within each county of qualified medical consultants who should be authorized to rule upon the
removal of such patients to distant facilities for evaluation and treatment. The resolution also asked that the Committee on State Medical Services be requested to review the regulations and make such other recommendations as might be indicated. On motion duly made and seconded, this resolution was approved.

16. Committee on Maternal and Child Care:

Dr. Rex Whitworth requested authority for the Committee on Maternal and Child Care, through its subcommittee on perinatal mortality and morbidity, to undertake studies of hemolytic disease of the newborn in conjunction with the State Department of Public Health. It was brought out that similar studies are being undertaken by other agencies and that duplication should be avoided. On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to refer this proposal to the Committee on Committees for further study and recommendation.

17. California Physicians’ Service:

Dr. John Morrison reported that the ad hoc committee to study the MD-65 program of California Physicians’ Service had recommended that payments to physicians be placed on a factor 4 basis and that further enrollments in this program be discontinued at this time. On motion duly made and seconded, these recommendations were approved.

The Council also approved in principle several proposals of the ad hoc committee which would expand the benefits of the MD-65 program by adding hospitalization and other benefits. These proposals are to be reported to the C.P.S. Board of Trustees and reported later to the Council.

Dr. Morrison also reported that following meetings with the Committee on Fees, two new schedules for C.P.S., schedule “D” and schedule “E,” had been approved, based on factors 5 and 6, respectively, on the 1960 Relative Value Studies. These factors would cover all sections of the studies and be subject to later application of variable factors as between the sections, as determined by the Committee on Fees.

18. Committee on Industrial Health:

Dr. MacLaggan presented the recommendation of the Committee on Industrial Health for renewed attempts to secure more equitable fees for industrial injury services. It was pointed out that adjustments in such fees require considerable time and that policy has been to reopen this matter about each two years.

The committee also requested that its name be changed to “Committee on Occupational Health.” Such a change would require an amendment to the By-Laws.

19. Commission on Professional Welfare:

Chairman Kirchner of the Commission on Professional Welfare called attention to a regional conference on medical-legal matters to be sponsored by the American Medical Association in San Francisco on March 10 and 11. The Commission requested authority to provide a reception for this gathering on March 10 and, on motion duly made and seconded, such authority was voted.

Dr. Kirchner also announced that the underwriters of the Association’s disability insurance contract had agreed that cash dividends would be paid late in the year to members who are currently covered and who have participated in the plan in the past.

Adjournment:

After a brief period of executive session and there being no further business to come before it, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

SAMUEL R. SHERMAN, M.D., Chairman
JOHN HUNTON, Acting Secretary