

Oklahoma Senate Committee on Appropriations

2013-14 Performance Report

Oklahoma State Board of Osteopathic Examiners

AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of this agency is to protect the public by regulating the practice of osteopathic medicine in the State of Oklahoma through education and licensing requirements and to ensure that each licensee practices osteopathic medicine within the provisions of the Osteopathic Medicine Act. This mission was adopted by the first Osteopathic Board of Examiners shortly after the legislature established the agency in 1921.

LEAD ADMINISTRATOR:

*Deborah J. Bruce, Executive Director
Oklahoma Osteopathic Board of Examiners
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GOVERNANCE:

The agency's governance structure is statutory. The Board consists of eight (8) examiners appointed by the Governor. Two are public members. The current Board Members are:

*Catherine C. Taylor, J.D., President (Public Member)
Carl B. Pettigrew, D.O., Vice-President
Jay D. Cunningham, D.O., Secretary/Treasurer
Gordon P. Laird, D.O.
Thomas R. Pickard, D.O.
Cheryl A. Vaught, J.D. (Public member)
LeRoy E. Young, D.O.
C. Michael ogle, D.O.*

GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY:

The statute does not provide for an attendance policy. Attendance by Board members has never been a problem.

MODERNIZATION EFFORTS:

Please provide a listing of all government modernization efforts undertaken by the agency since July 1, 2010. Additionally, please provide any authorizing statutory changes that prompted the modernization efforts and whether those efforts have led to cost savings or additional cost burden.

What steps has the agency taken to cut costs and/or eliminate waste? Are there efforts that have been successful which you believe could serve as a model for other state agencies seeking to keep costs minimal?

In an effort to modernize, the agency voluntarily adopted on-line licensure renewal through ok.gov in 2009. It continues today. In addition the agency, in 2010, began to fully utilize the Uniform Application for licensure available through the national Federation of State Medical Boards. Notably, the agency staff size has not changed even though the number of licensees has doubled in the last fifteen (15) years.

CORE MISSION:

What services are you required to provide which are outside of your core mission? Are any services you provide duplicated or replicated by another agency? Are there services which are core to your mission which you are unable to perform because of requirements to perform non-core services elsewhere?

All services we provide are central to our mission. No other agency or entity performs the functions we perform. The Board has been steadfastly and efficiently providing these services for the past ninety-one (91) years.

PRIVATE ALTERNATIVES:

Are any of the services which are performed by the agency also performed in the private sector in Oklahoma? In other states? Has the agency been approached by any foundation, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation with efforts to privatize some of the functions of the agency?

The Osteopathic Board is the only entity in the nation that licenses osteopathic physicians to practice osteopathic medicine in the state of Oklahoma. The Board is also the only entity that disciplines osteopathic physicians for violations of the Osteopathic Medicine Act. Licensing physicians has never been subject to privatization. Private industry is not suited to handle either licensure or discipline of physicians.