

**PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY CAREER SCHOOLS
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

Friday, October 29, 2010

9:00 a.m.

Nebraska State Office Building

Conference Room "A"

301 Centennial Mall South

Lincoln, NE 68509

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Geschwender, Sharon Brodhagen, Steve Kollar, Roberta Worm, Kim Guyer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sue Kozisek

NDE STAFF PRESENT: Brad Dirksen, Carol Grell, Sharon Katt, Harlan Feather, Yvette Martin

Carol Grell called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Carol Grell opened with announcements and introductions of new members followed by the introduction of all present.

Approval of agenda for today's meeting.

Carol Grell announced the requirement of the Open Meetings Act.

Carol Grell asked for a motion to approve minutes from the November 10, 2009 meeting. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes with a verbal vote of aye or nay.

10% Fee Increase for 2011-2012 Fiscal year:

1. Carol Grell gave an explanation of the Statue and Rules permitting the 10% fee increase for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. Carol also reviewed years when the last increases occurred, in 2003, 2007, and 2009 fiscal years. Carol asked the Advisory Committee to review the fee table with the 10% increase and where we will be by 2015 if the fees are only increased by 10% each year.
2. Carol gave a brief review of our agency's procedures and shared information regarding a state that had no rule for two years and the repercussions that they experienced. Sharon Katt and Roberta Worm stated their support of our agency and what we oversee.
3. Carol Grell called for a motion to approve the 10% fee increase. Motion to approve 10% fee increase was made by Susan Geschwender and seconded by Steve Kollar. All Advisory Council members approved increase with a verbal vote of aye.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

1. Carol Grell opened discussion to consider a new fee schedule and distributed a handout of options to Advisory Council members.
2. After members reviewed handouts, Harlan Feather gave a brief overview of the scale and where Private Postsecondary Career Schools will need to be in the future to meet our financial obligations. Harlan also emphasized that it should be kept simple and fair.
3. Kim Guyer brought up the upcoming changes in statue at the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education and what impact that will have on our income if we lose the schools that will move over to CCPE.
4. Kim Guyer initiated discussion on charging fees to schools that are licensed by other state agency.
5. Susan Geschwender initiated a discussion on changing the wording in the statute so that it will have a ceiling on the fees and we would not need to have the statute changed as often to initiate a fee increase.

6. Discussion was held on program fees. The more programs a school has the more they pay because the workload for our agency increases by number of programs.
7. Carol Grell distributed a handout with the fees that other states charge and asked Advisory Council to consider different options to increase fees and come up with a scale that will be reasonable for all schools.
8. Advisory Council asked that PPCS present a more detailed analysis of our fees. Harlan will do a forecast for future years and list income received specifically for licenses, programs, agents, accreditations, out-of-state schools, etc. This will be prepared and distributed to Advisory Council within the next two weeks.
9. Discussion about talking to the schools licensed by other state agencies regarding a processing fee was suggested. Sharon Katt suggested that we must defend our position (consumer protection) and insure that schools offer a quality program.

Approval to rearrange the fee schedule:

Carol Grell asked for a motion that we go forward with rearranging the fees. Motion to go forward with rearranging the fee structure was made by Steve Kollar and seconded by Susan Geschwender.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The date for the next Advisory Council meeting has been set for Monday, December 6, 2010 at 1:30 to be held at the Nebraska State Office Building.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Kim Guyer and Roberta Worm to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 and seconded by Susan Geshwender.

MEETING HANDOUTS: Example of sliding scale, information about fees in other states.