

MINUTES
MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARM WORKERS BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2004

The Migrant and Seasonal Farm workers Board Meeting was held at 9:00 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel in Charlottesville, Virginia.

The following Board members were present: Kenneth Annis, Chairman; G. Mario Moreno, Vice Chair; Richard Cagan, Hart Hudson, Sharon Saldarriaga, J. Kelly Robinson, J. M. Scott, Tupper H. Dorsey, Richard F. Hall, III, Elisia Almendarez-Moore, and Veronica L. Donahue.

The following Board members were absent: Thomas E. Kellum, Adrian David Reddington, Christian P. Schweiger, and Mary Bell Boltwood.

CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. He requested that any participant who wished to address the Board give his/her name and organization.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Moreno moved that the agenda be approved. Mr. Hall seconded the motion and the agenda was approved by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Cagan moved that the minutes of the July 28, 2004 meeting be approved. Mr. Hart seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Copies of reports received were provided to the Board. Alisha Herrick, representing the Migrant Health Network, handed out a report from the Network.

PRESENTATIONS

Deputy Commissioner Philip Vasquez from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) discussed Legal Presence for Migrant Workers as it relates to obtaining a driver's license. Handouts were provided to the Board members. He introduced Marta Morales, Immigration Specialist, and Susan Williams, Attorney, from DMV. He stated that anyone here legally is entitled to get a driver's license. Two forms of identification are required.

The Department of Motor Vehicles has a committee that meets to address any problem cases. This committee meets the first and third Thursday of each month. Anyone may attend.

Deputy Commissioner Vasquez encouraged those who have questions to contact Marta Morales at DMV. Her business card was provided to all Board members.

MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARM WORKER ISSUES

No one was present to speak.

UPDATE FROM THE GOVERNOR'S LATINO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ms. Donahue, who was appointed to this committee, gave an update. She reported that the Committee has a draft report to present to the Governor. This report should be available on the Governor's Web site shortly. Those who wish to remain on the Advisory Committee have been re-appointed by the Governor.

Twelve recommendations have been made in the report. This Board should follow the recommendations closely and remind the Governor and legislators of its support of these recommendations. The Chairman was asked to relay the Board's support of these recommendations to the Governor by letter.

Mr. Moreno thanked Ms. Donahue for her work on the Committee. After the document is made public, he asked her to identify and express other things that the Board could do to support the work of this Committee.

The Committee came up with six areas that affect Latinos. They are: business, education, health, identification, language access, and law enforcement.

She will keep the Board updated.

STATUS REPORT: DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

A copy of a letter that was previously sent and the response was provided to the Board. Mr. Cagan will follow up on this matter and report back to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Esser, Virginia Employment Commission, informed the Board that there is required training from the Attorney General's Office for filing of Conflict of Interest forms. This training must be completed by December 31. If the Board is willing to change the next meeting date to December instead of January, the training can be done at that time.

The Board agreed to meet on December 1. Ms. Almendarez-Moore invited the Board to meet at Virginia State University. The Board agreed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. The Board then toured the Chile's Orchard. The Board toured the Kluge Vineyards on the day prior to the Board meeting.