The Mississippi Board of Pharmacy met on May 18th to conduct business and hold disciplinary hearings. The following is a synopsis of the items presented or considered by the Board during their meeting:

- Dr. Mac Huddleston, Vice-Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, spoke to the Board about “change”. He advised the Board that the Legislature had created a new Committee, consisting of the Governor, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of State (or their designees) that will review all regulation changes proposed by regulatory boards beginning July 1, 2017. He also emphasized the importance of regulatory boards to protect the public safety of the citizens of Mississippi. The Board adopted and presented a Board Resolution to Dr. Huddleston honoring his service to the State of Mississippi.

- It was announced that Larry Calvert was reappointed to the Board by Governor Phil Bryant and the appointment was confirmed by the Mississippi Senate.

- Several staff members attended an Opioid Crisis Summit in Atlanta and a State Summit on the Opioid Problem is scheduled for July. Additionally, the Board is working with the Department of Mental Health and the Bureau of Narcotics to host several “Town Hall” meetings throughout the state. The first one is schedule for May 21st at the Brandon Civic Center.

- The PMP Division reported statistical data comparing year over year numbers.

- Robert Dozier, Executive Director of Mississippi Independent Pharmacy Association, provided information to the Board concerning the Association’s recent convention in Biloxi and the planned upcoming district meetings around the state. “DIR fees” is an issue that is generating discussion among MIPA members.

- The Board approved regulation revisions to: **Article X** – Drug Product Selection; **Article XXVII** – Nuclear/Radiologic Pharmacy; **Article XXXII** – Pharmaceutical Drug Facility Permits; **Article XXXV** - Institutional Emergency Medication Kit Permits; **Part 3002: Chapter 2: Disciplinary Actions** – **Rule 2.1** Grounds for Disciplinary Actions and **Part 3002: Chapter 3: Disciplinary Proceedings** – **Rule 3.11** Violations Subject to Administrative Citations and Fines. These proposed changes will be submitted to the Secretary of State’s Office pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act.

- The Board asked staff to review the regulations concerning Charity Pharmacy Permits to see if there was a way to allow programs like the Dispensary of Hope (which made a presentation to the Board in March) to operate in the State.
• The Board asked the staff to continue to look at the possibility of issuing a compounding certificate and requiring pharmacies that provide compounding service to apply for a compounding certificate.

• The Board approved a training program presented by Walgreen’s for the dispensing of Naloxone by a pharmacist under a standing order. The Board also gave staff authority to develop a Board sponsored program that would be required for all pharmacists in the state dispensing Naloxone under a standing order.

• The Board authorized staff to grant Consultant waivers subject to ratification by the Board at the next meeting.

• An emergency waiver of the regulation requiring running hot and cold water in a pharmacy was granted to all pharmacies effected by the water shut down in Vicksburg until water can be restored to the City.

• The Board held election of officers to be effective July 1, 2017. Members elected were: President – Todd Barrett; Vice-President – Phil Ayers; Secretary – Guy Phillips.