

CENTRAL BLOOD LABORATORIES AUTHORITY

Minutes of the sixth meeting of the Central Blood Laboratories Authority held on 22 June 1983 in the Board Room, The Crest.

PRESENT: Mr R D Smart (Chairman)
Professor A L Bloom
Dame Phyllis Friend
Dr H H Gunson
Mr A S Jerwood
Mr M G Storey

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr W P N Armour (Secretary)
Dr A M Holburn (Director, BGRL)
Dr R S Lane (Director, BPL & PFL)
Dr D Walford (DHSS)
Mr P Winstanley (DHSS)

PART 1

57/83 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Dr E L Harris, Dr G A Stewart and Dr D P Thomas.

58/83 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 1983 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

59/83 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

59.1 Cooperation with Wellcome

The Chairman reported that he had received a draft formal agreement from Wellcome, but this did not adequately cover the Heads of Agreement. He had discussed the matter with the Chairman of Wellcome Diagnostics, and it had been agreed that the draft should be drawn up by the CBLA instead.

59.2 BGRL rent

The Secretary explained that the rent for BGRL was included in the overall figure shown in the accounts. It would only have appeared as a separate item if it had been budgeted but not paid.

59.3 Reagent tests

Dr Holburn reported that he and Dr Stewart had discussed the matter briefly. Dr Stewart had kindly agreed to spend a day at BGRL so that they could consider the design of the tests in more detail.

59.4 AIDS

Mr Winstanley reported that he had rung the telephone number given at the end of the TV programme on AIDS. They were unable to say exactly how many calls they had received, but it had been "quite a lot."

professor Bloom pointed out that since the last Authority meeting apprehension among haemophiliacs about AIDS had increased.

59.5 Future of PFL

A copy of the report on PFL from Dr Holburn (CBLA 83/24) was received and noted.

The Chairman asked whether it would be possible to move BGRL's packing and cold storage to the Elstree site rather than using PFL. It was agreed that Dr Lane and Dr Holburn should look into this possibility and report back to the Secretary, who would then submit to the Authority plans for the phased run-down of PFL.

60/83 FINANCE

60.1 Budget statement

A copy of the budget statement and Secretary's report (CBLA 83/25) was received and noted. It was agreed that the Secretary should bring to the notice of the Authority Members items of capital expenditure which he felt would be of interest to them.

The Secretary gave further details of the meeting with officials mentioned in item 4 of his report. The next step would be to arrange a meeting with the Minister.

60.2 Report on BPL products

A copy of the report on the production and issue of BPL products (CBLA 83/26) was received and noted. Dr Lane explained that for a variety of reasons it was not possible to show a comparison with figures for the previous year. A paper from Dr Holburn on BGRL production was also received and noted.

60.3 Standing Financial Instructions

A copy of the Standing Financial Instructions (CBLA 83/27) was received and noted. These had been approved by the DHSS and the statutory auditor, and were accepted by the Authority.

61.83 BUILDING

A copy of the report on the Redevelopment Project Control Committee (CBLA 83/28) was received and noted.

62/83 PROJECT CONTROL COMMITTEE

The inclusion of Dr Lane in the membership of the Project Control Committee was approved by the Authority.

63/83 AIDS

A copy of Dr Gunson's report (CBLA 83/29) was received and noted.

Dr Walford circulated a report from the DHSS on the possible implications of AIDS for plasma supply and manufacture at BPL. She drew the attention of Members to the paragraph referring to heat-treated Factor VIII, and asked for the views of the Authority on the matter. It was agreed that a short report should be prepared by the Secretary and Dr Lane.

64/83 POSSIBLE COLLABORATION WITH AMERSHAM INTERNATIONAL

Dr Lane reported that he had been approached by Amersham International to see whether they could collaborate on any research. He had suggested one area which might be suitable, and they were considering it.

65/83 ORGANISATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AUTHORITY

A copy of the report from the Secretary (CBLA 83/30) was received and noted.

Approval was given to the appointment of Dr Lane as the 'person responsible' under the Medicines Act 1968 for BPL/PFL.

The Authority also approved the job descriptions for the Secretary/Chief Finance Officer, Director of BPL/PFL and Director of BGRL.

66/83 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

66.1 Dr Gunson reported on the first meeting of the Central Committee for Research and Development in Blood Transfusion. A small ad hoc group had been formed to consider AIDS. The Committee had also discussed genetic engineering and wished to recommend to the Authority that an active interest be maintained in genetic engineering and that researchers be put in touch with the manufacturers. They had also suggested that the DHSS establishment at Porton Down and the Government Chemist's biotechnology group be contacted. A formal recommendation would be put to the Authority at the next meeting.

66.2 Sealing

The Authority noted that the Common Seal had been affixed to the contract with Exclusive Health Care Servicing Ltd and approved the action of the Chairman.

67/83 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be on 27 July 1983 at 2pm.

The Directors, having completed their contributions, received the thanks of the Members for their attendance and withdrew.