March 2, 2006 3:00 PM Eastern

Present – Representatives from the following registries and organizations:

2 Canada: Manitoba Cancer Registry, Statistics Canada

32 U.S.: American College of Surgeons, Arizona Cancer Registry, California Cancer Registry, Susan Capron, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Florida Cancer Data System, Cancer Data Registry of Idaho, Illinois State Cancer Registry, IMPAC Medical Systems, Information Management Services, Kentucky Cancer Registry, Louisiana Tumor Registry, Maryland Cancer Registry, Michigan Cancer Surveillance Program, Minnesota Cancer Surveillance System, Missouri Cancer Registry, National Cancer Institute, Nebraska Cancer Registry, New Hampshire State Cancer Registry, New Jersey State Cancer Registry, New York State Cancer Registry, North Carolina Central Cancer Registry, North Dakota Cancer Registry, Pennsylvania Cancer Registry, Rapid Case Identification Unit, Rocky Mountain Cancer Data System, Jennifer Seiffert, Tennessee Cancer Registry, Texas Cancer Registry, Westat

8 NAACCR Staff: Dr. Holly Howe, Moderator – Executive Director, Joellyn Ellison – Program Manager of Data Evaluation and Publication, Royale Anne Hinds – Assistant to the Executive Director, Charlie Blackburn – Director of Administration, Jan Conway – Office Manager, Shannon Vann - Program Manager of Education & Training, Adele Hileman – Comptroller, Lori Havener – Program Manager of Standards

Welcome Holly Howe

The NAACCR Town Meeting's focus is on NAACCR's financial situation and plan for the next year. NAACCR Board members want the membership to know about the issues they are addressing to help everyone understand NAACCR's financial situation.

Report to the Membership

Betsy Kohler, President of NAACCR

The NAACCR Town Meeting format will be used to explain activities of the Board and the organization as a whole, in addition to discussing data use topics. NAACCR is planning for a 25% budget reduction in the upcoming year. This is mostly due to non-renewal of the education contract that has been sponsored by CDC for many years. Phyllis Wingo of CDC recently sent a letter to registries explaining that CDC is tightening their budget and that cutbacks would affect the education contract. Other organizations may have cutbacks in the near future, which may affect NAACCR also. The NAACCR board has been working since November 2005 to maintain the financial health of the organization. One goal is to retain the NAACCR staff in order to continue services to the membership. Changes that will take place are:

- 1. Increase revenue by:
 - a. Maintaining and expanding educational opportunities. NAACCR will charge for educational activities because they are not underwritten by a CDC contract. NAACCR plans to introduce a webcast program where registry staff can phone in, have access to a slide presentation on the computer, and access a voice line to listen to presentations and ask questions. The training opportunities are available to hospital

- registry staff also. The NAACCR Board and Education Committee continue to solicit topics of interest from the NAACCR membership. Please contact NAACCR Board members or Education Committee members if you have suggestions.
- b. Approaching the Sponsoring Members for increased support. We hope to increase the number of sponsoring memberships and plan to increase sponsoring member dues.

We considered raising the registry membership dues and annual meeting registration fees, but have decided not to do so at this time.

- 2. Decrease costs by:
 - a. Cutting office operation costs, such as telecommunications, postage, shipping, publications.
 - b. Curtailing the website redesign.
 - c. Cutting The Washington Report as of March 2007.
 - d. Cutting committee budgets.
 - e. Removing the Board/SMO and Board/Chairs in-person meetings from the budget, with plans to meet by teleconferences or in other ways.
 - f. Reducing support on the EDITS metafile. We hope to retain the basic activities of development and testing of the two EDITS meta files, the full NAACCR file and the NAACCR Call for Data. It is a priority of the Board to continue to offer these services, but these services will be reduced to some extent.

NAACCR and the Board will continue to serve the NAACCR membership. Making these decisions has been difficult. Betsy commended the Board and NAACCR staff for helping to make these decisions. Betsy opened the floor for comments and questions.

Questions & Comments

- 1) Will Toolkit be offered in 2006? Yes, with a registration fee of \$200 per day.
- 2) Will room and board be included with the registration fee? No, there is a \$200 per day registration fee in addition to the room and board. NAACCR will not be using conference centers like we have in the past because there is a greater liability if the minimum attendance is not met.
- 3) Some states may find it easier to have registration, room, and board together as one fee. Will this be possible to work out? Talk to Charlie Blackburn at the NAACCR office. NAACCR staff will consider this request.
- 4) What does reduced support for the EDITS metafile mean? There isn't a definite answer yet. Susan Capron and Holly Howe are discussing this issue and prioritizing activities. The existing relationship will be sustained through July of 2006. Members will receive notification once decisions are made.
- 5) Will these cutbacks affect certification? No
- 6) A request was made that NAACCR not lose sight of the importance of education.
- 7) Registry participants commended the Board for handling these issues and presenting them so clearly at this meeting.

Closing Remarks Betsy Kohler

Betsy will be at the meeting in Atlanta next week. Feel free to continue this conversation with her or any Board member.

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