

NH BOARD OF NURSING
PUBLIC MINUTES
April 28, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order and convened at 8:02 a.m. by Samantha O'Neill, Chair, with quorum present.

The following board members were present for all or part of the meeting: Chair, Samantha O'Neill (SO), Vice-Chair, Joni Menard (JM), Maureen Murtagh (MM), Melissa Tuttle (MT), Matthew Kitsis (MK), Wendy Stanley Jones (WSJ), Gene Harkless (GH), and Michele Melanson-Schmitt (MMS)

The following board members were absent: Melissa Underhill (MU)

The following board staff present for the meeting: Ashley Czechowicz, (AC), Board Administrator, Jeanne Webber, (JW), Board Administrator, and Nikolas Frye, (NF), Hearings Examiner

The following applies to all Non-Public Sessions.

All Non-Public Sessions are recorded as follows for the purpose of board business and noting that such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c), RSA 91-A:3, II (e), RSA 91-A:5, IV, RSA 326-B: 38 Lodge v. Knowlton, 119 N.H. 574 (1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by the unanimous poll vote of all members present and included all members listed above.

And

Motion to keep minutes of the non-public session confidential from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, III on the grounds that public disclosure would be likely to affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a board member and/or to render the proposed action ineffective and/or is not subject to public disclosure pursuant to RSA 236-B: 38. However, forty-eight hours after the mailing of any order, its respective vote shall automatically become public in accordance with RSA 326-B: 38.

Upon motion of GH seconded by WSJ, the Board voted to commence the **1st non-public session** at 8:03 a.m. and ended at 8:52 a.m.

Motion to come out of non-public was made by WSJ, and seconded by GH, by unanimous roll call vote.

Upon the motion of WSJ and the second of GH, the Board voted to keep minutes of the non-public session confidential from public disclosure. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

Upon motion of WSJ, seconded by MM, the Board voted to commence the **2nd non-public session** at 9:25 a.m. and ended at 10:57 a.m.

Motion to come out of non-public was made by GH and seconded by MT, by unanimous vote.

Upon the motion of GH and the second of MT, the Board voted to keep minutes of the non-public session confidential from public disclosure. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

Upon motion of GH, seconded by MT, the Board voted to commence the **3rd non-public session** at 12:40 p.m. and ended at 1:04 p.m.

Motion to come out of non-public was made by JM and seconded by MT, by unanimous vote.

Upon the motion of MT and the second of MM, the Board voted to keep minutes of the non-public session confidential from public disclosure. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

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62 Upon motion of GH, seconded by MM, the Board voted to commence the **4th non-public session** at 2:14 p.m. and ended at
63 4:16 p.m.

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65 Motion to come out of non-public was made by GH and seconded by MMS, by unanimous vote.

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67 Upon the motion of GH and the second of MK, the Board voted to keep minutes of the non-public session confidential from
68 public disclosure. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

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72 **All vote motions were passed by roll call vote.**

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74 **2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

75 2.1 Public Minutes

76 Upon a motion made by WSJ, with a second by GH, the Board voted to approve 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 as stated;
77 motion passed.

78 2.1.1 March 24, 2022

79 2.1.2 April 5, 2022

80 **4.0 REPORT OF BOARD ADMINISTRATOR/STAFF**

81 4.3 Articles of Interest

82 4.3.1 Rulemaking discussion, follow up items –

83 4.3.1.1 Nurse Externship – The Board reviewed draft rule language drafted. JM to review the
84 application and provide an updated version to the Board at the next meeting. Upon a
85 motion by GH, with a second by JM, the Board voted to accept the draft rule language,
86 and to begin the rule making process; motion passed.

87 4.3.1.2 Continuing Education requirement – The Board reviewed other state requirements as
88 provided by GH. Upon a motion by GH, with a second by WSJ, the Board voted to
89 remove the active in practice requirement but maintain the continuing education
90 requirement for all levels of licensure; motion passed. GH and SO to draft the proposed
91 rule changes.

92 4.3.1.3 Foreign nurse requirements – SO provided an update regarding the New Hampshire
93 occupational licensing laws that require a Social Security Number, which cannot be
94 waived.

95 4.3.1.4 Online Paramedic-RN program – SO provided an update regarding a voluntary survey
96 that was sent to approximately 1200 licensed Paramedics, and the large number of
97 responses received thus far. The subcommittee will review the responses and develop
98 next steps at their next meeting.

99 4.3.1.5 Nurse Educators – GH discussed with the Board the possibility of removing the prior
100 approval requirement for nurse educators. GH will draft the proposed rule change
101 language for the Board to review at the next meeting.

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- 102 4.3.2 NCSBN Annual Report – FY21 – Informational, no Board action required
- 103 4.3.3 NCSBN 2021 Board Structure Survey report – Informational, no Board action required
- 104 4.3.4 2022 Standards for Quality Nurse Practitioner Education – A Report of the National Task Force
- 105 on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education – Informational, no Board action required
- 106 **5.0 EDUCATION**
- 107 5.1 LPN/RN
- 108 5.1.1 River Valley Community College LPN Program Annual Report 2021 – Upon a motion GH, with a
- 109 second by MT, the Board voted to accept the recommendations as listed, and accept the annual
- 110 report; motion passed.
- 111 5.1.2 Lakes Region Community College Renewal of Board Approval – Upon a motion by GH, with a
- 112 second by WSJ, the Board voted to accept the recommendations as listed, and accept the annual
- 113 report; motion passed.
- 114 5.1.3 Keene State College Annual Report 2021 – Tabled from March 24, 2022 meeting – Upon a
- 115 motion by JM, with a second by WSJ, the Board voted to accept the recommendations as listed,
- 116 and accept the annual report; motion passed.
- 117 5.2 LNA
- 118 5.2.1 Program Modification at Dover High School LNA Program – Upon a motion by GH, with a
- 119 second by MT, the Board voted to approve the recommendation listed; motion passed.
- 120 5.2.2 Textbook Change at Cottage Hospital - Upon a motion by GH, with a second by WSJ, the Board
- 121 voted to approve the recommendation listed; motion passed.
- 122 5.2.3 Textbook Change at Lakes Region Community College - Upon a motion by GH, with a second by
- 123 WSJ, the Board voted to approve the recommendation listed; motion passed.
- 124 5.2.4 Textbook Change at the RiverMead LNA Program - Upon a motion by GH, with a second by
- 125 WSJ, the Board voted to approve the recommendation listed; motion passed.
- 126 5.2.5 Textbook Change at the Lakes Region Technology Center - Upon a motion by GH, with a second
- 127 by WSJ, the Board voted to approve the recommendation listed; motion passed.
- 128 5.2.6 New Instructors, Coordinators, and Reviewers – Informational, no Board action required
- 129 5.2.7 Excel Testing Quarter 1 Results – Informational, no Board action required
- 130 **7.0 ADJUDICATIVE (INVESTIGATOR/PROSECUTOR)**
- 131 7.1 Hearings
- 132 7.1.1 Mary Rose Thornton, LPN – Disciplinary Hearing proceeded at 9:00 a.m. Upon a motion by WSJ,
- 133 with a second by GH, the Board voted to proceed with the disciplinary proceedings *in absentia*, as
- 134 the licensee did not appear in person or by zoom after numerous attempts were made to provide
- 135 notice of the hearing date and time. Upon a motion by GH, with a second by MK, the Board voted
- 136 a finding of misconduct due to Ms. Thornton’s license being inactive; motion passed. If the license

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137 were currently active, the Board would have indefinitely suspended or revoked the license due to
138 the misconduct. Hearing concluded at 9:14 a.m.

139 7.1.2 Ari Williams, LNA – Emergency Hearing proceeded at 11:00 a.m. and concluded at 12:39 p.m.
140 Upon a motion by JM, with a second by MT, the Board voted to uphold the emergency suspension
141 pending a full adjudicatory disciplinary hearing.

142 7.1.3 Beth Ann Ryan, LNA – In lieu of the adjudicative hearing, the Board reviewed a Petition to
143 Accept Settlement Agreement. Upon a motion by JM, with a second by MM, the Board voted to
144 approve and accept the Settlement Agreement as presented; motion passed.

145 **10.0 CLINICAL PRACTICE**

146 10.1 Clinical

147 10.2.1 Clinical Practice Inquiry regarding intravitreal injection – Upon a motion by GH, with a second by
148 JM, the Board voted to send the inquiry to the Practice and Education Committee for review;
149 motion passed.

150 **12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

151 At 4:17 p.m., upon motion by JM, with a second by MM, the Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to adjourn the
152 public meeting.

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