



# Midwifery Council Public Meeting Session

## Minutes

Midwifery Council

Jan 25, 2024 at 1:00 PM EST

### Attendance

#### Present:

Members: Mark Carney, Elizabeth Gaby, Kathryn Hartwell (remote), Heidi Rinehart, Sherry Stevens (remote), Martha Testerman

- I. Call To Order at 1:15 p.m.

#### **Motion for Kate Hartwell to Participate remotely:**

No childcare. Approved

Motion moved by HR and motion seconded by MC. Roll Call Vote 6-0-0

#### **Motion for Sherry Stevens to participate remotely:**

Approved, traveling out of state.

Motion moved by HR and motion seconded by MC. roll call vote 6-0-0

- II. Review of Public Minutes - December 8, 2023

#### **Motion to Approve minutes of 12/8/2023:**

Motion moved by KH and motion seconded by HR. roll call vote 6-0-0

- III. Public Appearances

- IV. OPLC and/or Board Administration Updates

2024 Financial Interest Form.

- V. Old Business

- VI. New Business

- VII. Licensure

- VIII. Administrative Rules & Legislative Topics

HB 1271 - Proposes to make this Council an Advisory Council. Legal and Medical People have misperceptions about the Midwifery Profession Standards and expertise. And it is problematic to write rules and regulations and not to have subject matter expertise. Our Board is multidisciplinary with

consistent membership and participation at regular meetings. Beth Gaby volunteered to attend in person for question, but would like something to read. Hearing is Wednesday January 31, 2024 at 10:45, this Council opposes this bill. Letter submitted to Board Administrator, once on letterhead, will circulate to the Council, whoever may be eligible to attend the hearing.

HB 1408 - Proposes to merge some Boards together, but it appears this Board is not on it.

HB 1010 - Purports to roll back rulemaking for this profession. Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday January 31, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. in LOB. KH has draft testimony to oppose this bill. Motion KH to amend the draft and send to Board Counsel, Motion seconded by MC roll call vote 6-0-0. The Council opposes this bill.

On motion from HR and seconded by MC to approve any Board Member who is available to attend either of these bill hearings and present the opposition of the Board.

HB 1676 - the sunset bill. This bill purports to sunset every commission in the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification. The bill establishes a commission. The commission would look at every Board/Council/Commission, if the commission does not find the Board useful, then they can propose to eliminate the commissions. This Midwifery Council Board opposes this bill.

The 2023 Letter created and presented to the Council last year needs to be paired down in the first 2 paragraphs. Remove #3 and .4. It would be helpful to lean on the strengths, example the representation of the council, meeting regularly, always has a quorum, and the diversity of the Board Council.

Motion for Kate to review and edit last year's testimony letter of opposition to HB 1271 utilizing talking points from the 3/10/23 letter regarding HB 2, Motion seconded from MC, roll call vote 6-0-0.

**Motion to move into Non-Public at 1:53 p.m.:**

Motion moved by HR and motion seconded by MC. roll call vote 6-0-0

IX. Non-Public Session

Non-Public session conducted for the purpose of discussing investigations of alleged licensee misconduct and other confidential Board business. Such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c) & (e), RSA 91-A:5, IV, Lodge v. Knowlton, (1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges.

X. Resume Public Session

XI. Seal The Minutes of the Non-Public Session

Seal The Minutes of the Non-Public Session

Minutes of the non-public session are sealed to maintain the privacy of the items discussed in non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), on the grounds that public disclosure may adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a Board member or render the proposed action ineffective.

**Motion to Seal the Minutes:**

Motion moved by HR and motion seconded by MT. roll call vote 6-0-0

XII. Adjournment

**Motion to Adjourn at 3:07 p.m.:**

Motion moved by HR and motion seconded by MC. roll call vote 6-0-0