



Midwifery Public Meeting: July 15, 2022 at 1:00PM
Public Meeting Minutes
New Hampshire Midwifery Council
Jul 15, 2022 at 1:00 PM EDT
7 Eagle Square Concord NH 03301

Attendance

Members Present:

Mark Carney, Kathryn Hartwell, Heidi Rinehart, Sherry Stevens

Members Absent:

Elizabeth Gaby

Guests Present:

Lauren Warner, Jessica Whelehan, Jenna Wilson

I. **Call To Order:** Sherry Stevens called the meeting to order at 1:14PM.

II. **Review of Public Minutes** from the June 10, 2022 meeting.

Motion: Approve the public minutes as written.

Motion moved by Heidi Rinehart and motion seconded by Kate Hartwell. Passed

III. **Public Appearances** (None)

IV. **OPLC and/or Board Administration Updates**

A. OnBoard Implementation

Jenna Wilson reviewed some of the features of OnBoard with the Council and ensured that everyone received an initiation link to log in. Dr. Heidi Rinehart was pleased with the new tool to help facilitate document sharing and make meetings more efficient.

B. Jurisprudence Exam - Preparation for Prometric transition

The Council discussed the need to ensure that it is able to make changes to the exam with Prometric after the initial set up; the Council would also like to address and restrictions Prometric has that will affect it's exam process before the electronic exam goes live for applicants.

Further discussion of the jurisprudence exam was tabled to non-public session by Sherry Stevens due to the confidential nature of the information and to maintain the integrity of the examination.

V. Old Business

The Council inquired whether applicant Julianna Taylor followed through with submitting the missing documents after her application was reviewed at the last meeting in which the Council authorized conditional approval. Jenna Wilson confirmed the documentation was received.

VI. New Business (None)

VII. Licensure (None)

VIII. Administrative Rules & Legislative Topics

A. Mid 401.01 & Mid 407.01 – Review Final Proposal

The Council continued discussion of the proposed definition of "significant morbidity and mortality" in Mid 401.01(l). The Council weighed the potential increased reporting requirements of the midwifery community with the increased professional accountability, public safety, and Council transparency the reporting would provide. The Council noted that they is particularly important for midwives who practice outside of an institutional setting.

The Council drafted the following language for OLS and JLCAR approval: "Mid 401.01(l) Significant morbidity means any event related to pregnancy or birth, postpartum up to 6 weeks, and the newborn up to 6 weeks of age requiring hospitalization longer than 48 hour; and any illness, injury, or morbidity not captured by hospitalization."

The Council drafted changes to the M&M Reporting form to make it clear which sections are required regardless of hospital transfer. Changes were also made to reflect the amended definition of "significant morbidity and mortality."

The text at the top of the old M&M reporting form was removed per OLS attorney guidance. Dr. Heidi Rinehart noted that it will be important to draft a cover letter which elaborates on examples of when reporting may be required; she would also like to see examples so that they Council can provide input and subject matter expertise.

Motion: Approve and accept the changes to the draft FP and related M&M Reporting Form as amended during the meeting for submittal to JLCAR.

Motion moved by Sherry Stevens and motion seconded by Heidi Rinehart. Passed unanimously.

1. Review related changes to M&M Form

See combined item and vote above in "A".

- B. Chapter Mid 500 – Review public comment and work on Initial Proposal

The Council briefly discussed making changes to the chapter which would directly address whether a certified nurse midwife must have hospital privileges or not if they are used as a required consultant by a licensee. The focus is on ensuring the CNM has appropriate oversight and accountability, but the Council also recognized that it does not have jurisdiction over nurse midwives, but rather the NH Board of Nursing does.

Sherry Stevens tabled further discussion of Chapter Mid 500 draft IP due to Council member time constraints. It was noted that the rules are not expiring in the near future (most were effective in 2016) so there will be more time to work on them at another meeting.

- C. HB1061 interim work session

Sherry Stevens attended the HB1061 interim work session and relayed that she spoke with the members of the House ED&A committee during the meeting and they requested that the Council work with OPLC to draft legislation which would provide more oversight of the Council while still maintaining its autonomy as subject matter experts. The goal is for the draft legislation to allow the Council to continue functioning somewhere that is in between the restrictions of becoming an Advisory Council but not a lack of oversight that created a completely independent board. Her testimony to the committee, in brief, was that the Council's preference is to do the bulk of the rulemaking and other duties and then present the changes to OPLC for the agency's consent.

Sherry Stevens stated that OPLC Executive Director Lindsey Courtney was also present and spoke during the meeting.

1. Draft legislation ideas

Sherry Stevens indicated she will work on draft language for a new bill and will follow up with OPLC Attorney Lauren Warner for assistance.

IX. Non-Public Session

Non-Public session is 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.

Motion: To enter non-public session at 2:28 PM

Motion moved by Sherry Stevens and motion seconded by Heidi Rinehart. Passed unanimously by roll call vote.

X. Resume Public Session: Sherry Steven announced the Council was back in public session at 3:13PM

XI. 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 of the non-public session.

Motion moved by Sherry Stevens and motion seconded by Heidi Rinehart. Passed unanimously by rollcall vote.

XII. Adjournment: Sherry Stevens adjourned the meeting at 3:13PM.