

# NEBRASKA BOARD OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES

## MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE MEETING HELD

July 20, 2023

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Nebraska Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses was called to order by Jenda Stauffer, Board Vice-President, at 9:03 a.m. on July 20, 2023. The central meeting location was at the Nebraska State Office Building, Room 3W, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE 68508. Copies of the agenda were emailed to the Board members on July 10, 2023, emailed to interested parties on July 10, 2023, posted outside the Licensure Unit within the Nebraska State Office Building on July 10, 2023, and posted on the Department of Health & Human Services website on July 10, 2023. Joyner announced that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act was in the room.

Board members, staff, and the public were able to attend the meeting virtually via video conference or phone as authorized by Neb. Rev. Statute 84-1411(7).

### **ROLL CALL**

The following Board members answered roll call via videoconference:

- Kent Dunovan, *Public Member*
- Timothy Glidden, APRN-CRNA, *Board Secretary*
- Sean Kenney, MD
- Alice Kindschuh, APRN-CNS, *Board Vice-President*
- Andrew Russell, MD
- Jenda Stauffer, APRN-CNM, *Board President*

The following Board members were absent: Barbara Foss, APRN-NP, Andrew Ingemansen, MD, and Jackie Sandersfeld, *Public Member*.

The following staff members from the Department and Attorney General's Office were present:

- Ann Oertwich, RN, *Executive Director*
- Sherri Joyner, *Health Licensing Coordinator*
- Danielle Sund, *DHHS Legal*
- Mindy Lester, *Assistant Attorney General*
- Patricia Lemke, *Investigator*
- Mendy Mahar-Clark, *Investigator*

The following staff members from the Department attended the meeting via teleconference:

- Ginger Rogers, *Nursing Practice Consultant*
- Jacci Reznicek, *Nursing Education Consultant*
- Anna Harrison, *DHHS Compliance Monitor*
- Andrea Cramer-Price, *Investigator*

These minutes were approved by the  
APRN Board on November 2, 2023.

## **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Stauffer made the motion, seconded by Kindschuh, to adopt the agenda for the July 20, 2023, APRN Board meeting.

Voting Yes: Dunovan, Glidden, Kenney, Kindschuh, Russell and Stauffer. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Foss, Ingemansen, and Sandersfeld. Motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Kindschuh made the motion, seconded by Stauffer, to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2023, APRN Board meeting.

Voting Yes: Dunovan, Glidden, Kenney, Kindschuh, Russell and Stauffer. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Foss, Ingemansen, and Sandersfeld. Motion carried.

## **NURSE PRACTITIONER RE-ENTRY PROGRAM**

Board members reviewed a proposed re-entry program for former Nurse Practitioners (NPs) who wish to return to the profession but who do not have at least 2,080 practice hours in the previous five years. Reznicek said that she and Rogers researched what other states require for Nurse Practitioners who wish to return to practice, and they developed a plan based heavily on North Carolina's requirements. Since North Carolina introduced their program several years ago, they have reinstated hundreds of licenses to NPs. As with the North Carolina program, the proposed Nebraska plan would require applicants to complete pharmacology coursework, continuing education, and precepted clinical experience, with the required hours in each category varying based on how many years the applicant has been inactive from practice. An NP who has been inactive for less than three years, for example, would need to complete 24 pharmacology contact hours, 40 additional contact hours of continuing education related to their area of education and population foci, and 160 hours of precepted clinical experience. An NP who has been inactive for more than five years would need to complete a pharmacology course, 100 contact hours of additional continuing education, and 400 hours of precepted clinical experience. The preceptor must be an MD or NP.

Kindschuh asked if finding a preceptor would be a barrier for individuals who wish to use the reentry plan. Reznicek acknowledged that applicants might find the process challenging. Stauffer said that she appreciated that the preceptorship requires direct supervision. She also asked if there would be merit in developing similar reentry plans for the three other APRN roles. Reznicek said that she and Rogers focused on developing a re-entry plan for Nurse Practitioners at this time because of the increasing number of calls they receive from NPs who wish to return to the profession. They have not received many inquiries for other APRN roles.

**MOTION:** Stauffer made the motion, seconded by Russell, to approve the nurse practitioner reentry program as presented.

Voting Yes: Dunovan, Glidden, Kenney, Kindschuh, Russell and Stauffer. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Foss, Ingemansen, and Sandersfeld. Motion carried.

## **NCSBN ANNUAL MEETING**

Oertwich reported that she and Lisa Kollasch, an APRN-NP on the Board of Nursing, will represent the Nebraska APRN Board at the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's Annual Meeting in August. Theresa Delahoyde and Brenda Smidt will represent the Nebraska Board of Nursing.

## **2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Oertwich reported that the omnibus bill LB227 included funding for the Center for Nursing to expand clinical sites for nursing students in Nebraska. The Center will receive \$3 million for Fiscal Year 23-24 and \$3 million for Fiscal Year 24-25.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Nursing News – Oertwich reported that the next issue of *Nursing News* will include an article by Reznicek on Next Generation NCLEX. This new version of NCLEX is meant to better assess clinical judgement, and it is the first significant change in the exam since 1994. Nebraska's pass rates have increased significantly since the implementation of Next General NCLEX. Many RN programs in Nebraska have 100% pass rates, and all LPN programs except one has a 100% pass rate.

Staff Updates – Oertwich reported that the Licensure Unit's Nursing Section is finally fully staffed for the first time in over a year. Oertwich also reported that LPN renewals will begin in late August or early September. .

## **CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION:** Kindschuh made the motion, seconded by Glidden, for the Board to go into closed session for the purpose of reviewing and discussing investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals.

Voting Yes: Dunovan, Glidden, Kenney, Kindschuh, Russell and Stauffer. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Foss, Ingemansen, and Sandersfeld. Motion carried.

Stauffer announced that the Board was in closed session for the purpose of reviewing and discussing investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals.

9:20 a.m. Meeting went into closed session.  
 10:02 a.m. Kindschuh left the meeting.  
 10:08 a.m. Kindschuh returned to the meeting.  
 10:23 a.m. Glidden left the meeting.  
 10:29 a.m. Glidden returned to the meeting.  
 10:30 a.m. Meeting returned to open session.

## **LICENSE APPLICATIONS**

**MOTION:** Glidden made the motion, seconded by Russell, to table Jeremy R. Young's application for reinstatement of his APRN-CRNA license in order to obtain additional information.

Voting Yes: Dunovan, Glidden, Kenney, Kindschuh, Russell and Stauffer. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Foss, Ingemansen, and Sandersfeld. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Kindschuh made the motion, seconded by Stauffer, to table Joshua M. Steinauer's application for an initial APRN-CRNA license in order to obtain additional information.

Voting Yes: Dunovan, Kenney, Kindschuh, Russell and Stauffer. Voting No: None. Abstain: Glidden. Absent: Foss, Ingemansen, and Sandersfeld. Motion carried.

### **CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri Joyner  
Health Licensing Coordinator