

**MINUTES OF THE  
NEBRASKA BOARD OF  
NURSING**

**ISSUES FORUM**

**April 11, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Nebraska Board of Nursing was called to order by Dawn Straub, Board President, at 1:05 p.m., April 11, 2018, at the Staybridge Room, Staybridge Suites Lincoln I-80, 2701 Fletcher Ave, Lincoln NE 68504. Copies of the agenda were mailed in advance to the Board members, emailed to interested parties, posted outside the Licensure Unit within the Nebraska State Office Building, and posted on the Department of Health & Human Services website. Straub announced the location of an available copy of the Open Meetings Act within the room.

**ROLL CALL**

The following board members were present to answer roll call:

- Janet Andrew, LPN, *Board Vice-President*
- Maxine Guy, LPN
- Louise LaFramboise, RN
- Patricia Motl, RN
- Kristin Ruiz, RN
- Dawn Straub, RN, *Board President*
- Rita Thalken, *Public Member*
- Karen Weidner, RN, *Secretary*

The following Board members were absent: Anne Dey, RN, Kristene Perrin, RN, LaFonda Tanner, *Public Member*, and Katherine Werth, APRN-NP.

The following staff members from the Department were also present during all or part of the meeting:

- Ann Oertwich, RN, *Executive Director*
- Kathy Hoebelheinrich, RN, *Nursing Practice Consultant*
- Jacci Reznicek, RN, *Nursing Education Consultant*
- Sherri Joyner, *Health Licensing Coordinator*

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Guy made the motion, seconded by Andrew, to adopt the agenda for the April 11, 2018, Board of Nursing meeting.

Voting Yes: Andrew, Guy, LaFramboise, Motl, Ruiz, Straub, Thalken, and Weidner. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Mission Statement

Members reviewed the mission statement developed at the Board's previous strategic planning session: "Protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public related to the provision of nursing care." Members were satisfied that the statement reflected the Board's mission.

These minutes were approved by the  
Board of Nursing on May 10, 2018.

## Vision Statement

Members reviewed the purpose of a vision statement and examples of vision statements from other organizations. Members expressed that their vision for the Board included concepts such as integrity, competent practice, evidence based, data driven, and advocacy. The final version of the vision statement they developed was “Advancing nursing regulatory excellence for Nebraska.”

## Goals

Straub facilitated a group discussion regarding the Board’s goals. Concepts that were important to members and staff included that fact that Nebraska is the only state with a separate board for APRNs, the need to secure LPNs in the workforce, the need to ensure that nurses have a place at the table in making health care decisions, concerns that investigative staff did not fully understand advanced practice, and concerns that public safety was affected by the length of time it takes to conclude disciplinary cases. Out of this discussion, members developed three goals:

1. Promote a unified professional identity for all nursing roles.
2. Enhance public safety.
3. Promote regulatory excellence.

Members and staff noted that the second goal focused on process and the third goal focused on outcomes.

*2:55 p.m. Board went into recess.*

*3:07 p.m. Board reconvened.*

Members and staff worked in small groups to draft tactics for the three goals. After reviewing the work of each group, members developed the following tactics:

1. Promote a unified professional identity for all nursing roles.
  - a. Combine BON with APRN Board;
  - b. Expand board membership (which would require a statutory change);
  - c. Statutory changes (including adopting APRN consensus model);
  - d. Educate nurses regarding role, career, and scope with evidence based practices for regulation;
  - e. Ensure nurses delegate, direct and assign care as members of the healthcare team and provide leadership in management of care;
  - f. Promote nursing practice to the highest level of education and training (continuing competency, reflective practice, service, research, satisfaction, scope of practice).
2. Enhance public safety.
  - a. Have each department (i.e. AGO, POL, and BON) draft a document on how to streamline the discipline process with goal the document be drafted within three months;
  - b. Complete a literature review for current evidence based discipline guidance;
  - c. Benchmark with other umbrella state boards of nursing;
  - d. Develop a case review template to guide board members;
  - e. Collect data regarding case disposition.
3. Promote regulatory excellence.
  - a. Implement alternative to discipline for first offenses;
  - b. Develop processes to ensure safe re-entry into nursing practice;
  - c. Develop targeted communication to nurses to promote knowledge and safe practice;
  - d. Develop minimum standards for new hire orientations;
  - e. Base discipline decisions on state data and evidence in the literature;
  - f. Review/update nursing regulations for effectiveness.

Straub noted that the Board has statutory authority to appoint advisory committees that include non-Board members, which would give the Board an opportunity to tap into experts and would enable the Board to accomplish more. Weidner suggested that the Board continue working on the strategic plan at upcoming Board meetings so that they would not lose momentum prior to the next Issues Forum in October.

**CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sherri Joyner".

Sherri Joyner  
Health Licensing Coordinator