

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
NEBRASKA BOARD OF
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES
JULY 29, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Nebraska Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses was called to order by Barbara Foss, Board President, at 1:02 p.m., July 29, 2016, at Staybridge Inn & Suites, 2701 Fletcher Avenue, Lincoln, Nebraska. 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. Foss announced the location of a current copy of the Open Meetings Act within the room.

ROLL CALL

The following board members were present to answer roll call:

- Sheila Ellis, MD
- Barbara Foss, APRN-NP, *President*
- Timothy Glidden, APRN-CRNA, *Secretary*
- Stephen Jackson, Public Member
- Alice Kindschuh, APRN-CNS
- Michelle Knolla, MD
- Marilyn Lowe, APRN-CNM, *Vice-President*

The following board members were absent:

- Jenna Fiala, MD
- Diane Hansmeyer, Public Member

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

- Ann Oertwich, *Program Manager*
- Sherri Joyner, *Health Licensing Coordinator*
- Anna Harrison, RN, *Compliance Monitor*
- Christopher "C. J." Roberts, *Attorney*
- Lisa Anderson, *Assistant Attorney General*
- Mendy Mahar-Clark, RN, *Investigator*

A quorum was present and the meeting convened.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Knolla made the motion, seconded by Jackson, for the Board to adopt the agenda.

Voting Yes: Ellis, Foss, Glidden, Jackson, Kindschuh, Knolla, and Lowe.

Voting No: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Fiala and Hansmeyer. **Motion carried.**

These minutes were approved the
APRN Board on October 28, 2016.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: Knolla made the motion, seconded by Kindschuh, for the Board to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2016, APRN Board meetings.

Voting Yes: Ellis, Foss, Glidden, Jackson, Kindschuh, Knolla, and Lowe.

Voting No: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Fiala and Hansmeyer. **Motion carried.**

CLOSED SESSION

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

Voting Yes: Ellis, Foss, Glidden, Jackson, Kindschuh, Knolla, and Lowe.

Voting No: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Fiala and Hansmeyer. **Motion carried.**

1:09 p.m. *The Board went into closed session. Roberts left the meeting.*

1:55 p.m. *The Board returned to open session. Roberts returned to the meeting.
Mahar-Clark and Harrison left the meeting.*

LICENSURE RECOMMENDATIONS**MEGAN M. WEDDINGFELD, APRN-NP**

MOTION: Kindschuh made the motion, seconded by Knolla, to recommend denying Megan Weddingfeld's application for an APRN-Nurse Practitioner license based on a diagnosis of Cannabis Use Disorder, Moderate, evidence of active addiction, a criminal conviction related to the ingestion of cannabis, and a criminal conviction rationally related to the profession.

Voting Yes: Ellis, Foss, Glidden, Jackson, Kindschuh, Knolla, and Lowe.

Voting No: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Fiala and Hansmeyer. **Motion carried.**

ASHLEY E. CALTA, APRN-NP

MOTION: Knolla made the motion, seconded by Lowe, to table the matter regarding Ashley Calta's application pending receipt of additional information.

Voting Yes: Ellis, Foss, Glidden, Jackson, Kindschuh, Knolla, and Lowe.

Voting No: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Fiala and Hansmeyer. **Motion carried.**

RE-ENTRY PLANS**VICTORIA BRITSON, APRN-NP**

MOTION: Glidden made the motion, seconded by Lowe, to approve the re-entry plan submitted by Victoria Britson and to recommend issuing her an unrestricted license.

Voting Yes: Ellis, Foss, Glidden, Jackson, Kindschuh, Knolla, and Lowe.

Voting No: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Fiala and Hansmeyer. **Motion carried**



CNS CERTIFICATION

Board members reviewed an email from a prospective APRN-Clinical Nurse Specialist applicant, who was inquiring if the National Certification Corporation's Inpatient Obstetric Nursing Certification and Electronic Fetal Monitoring Certification were approved certifications for the purpose of APRN-CNS licensure. Lowe said she has taken both exams and thinks they fit the criteria. Wisell said that the Board has the authority to approve certifications.

MOTION: Lowe made the motion, seconded by Knolla, that the National Certification Corporation's Inpatient Obstetric Nursing Certification and Electronic Fetal Monitoring Certification are sufficient to meet the requirements of APRN-CNS licensure.

Voting Yes: Ellis, Foss, Glidden, Jackson, Kindschuh, Knolla, and Lowe.

Voting No: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Fiala and Hansmeyer. **Motion carried**

NCSBN ANNUAL MEETING

Oertwich and Kindschuh plan to attend the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's Annual Meeting on August 17th through the 19th.

MOTION: Ellis made the motion, seconded by Glidden, to approve Oertwich and Kindschuh as the representatives of the Nebraska APRN Board at the NCSBN Annual Meeting and to serve as the Board's voting delegates.

Voting Yes: Ellis, Foss, Glidden, Jackson, Kindschuh, Knolla, and Lowe.

Voting No: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Fiala and Hansmeyer. **Motion carried**

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES & PROPOSALS

Wisell explained that every June various sections within DHHS can submit proposed legislation for potential Department sponsorship. If the Department decides not to sponsor the proposal, interested parties can seek out other groups to sponsor the legislation.

The Licensure Unit submitted a legislative proposal to amend the Nurse Practitioner Practice Act in order to 1) make liability insurance a requirement for practice rather than a requirement for licensure, 2) to "grandfather in" APRN-NPs licensed prior to the effective date of LB 107 so that they can continue to practice without an integrated practice agreement, a transition to practice agreement, or being required to complete additional coursework, and 3) to clarify that re-entry plans do not necessarily require a minimum of 2080 hours of supervised practice.

Oertwich noted that the requirement to have liability insurance prior to licensure created a big barrier and was unnecessarily prohibitive, but she also thought that it was advisable for Nurse Practitioners to carry their own liability insurance separate from their employer's coverage. Lowe noted that given the high cost of malpractice insurance in her field, it is not possible for nurse midwives to pay for their own insurance. Foss said it was her understanding that no other profession currently has insurance requirements in their statutes. She asked Wisell if her understanding was correct, and Wisell agreed that it was.

Oertwich reported that the Licensure Unit also submitted requests that the Department sponsor legislation to adopt the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact and legislation to retire the LPN-C statutes and place intravenous therapy in the LPN scope of practice. Oertwich said she was concerned that if Nebraska did not adopt the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact, employers in Nebraska would face shortages in nursing staff.

Wisell reported that the Licensure Unit is currently revising its applications to accommodate the passage LB 947, which made people with DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) eligible for licensure.



COMMUNICATION**Staff Updates**

Oertwich noted that the RN and APRN renewal period will open soon. RNs and APRNs will no longer receive a new wallet license card after they renew. Wisell said that the Licensure Unit surveyed over 200 nurses and employers on the issue of printing wallet cards. The overwhelming response, according to Wisell, was that verification of licensure is now done online and that it would not create a hardship if nurses did not receive a wallet card after renewing.

Process Improvement Plan

Oertwich noted that several press releases had recently been issued mentioning the improvements achieved in the processing on nurse license application. Oertwich said that the time it takes for new graduates to be authorized to take NCLEX has been reduced from 160 days after graduation date to 15 days.

REVIEW OF DRAFT APRN REGULATIONS

Joyner explained that in October the Board approved submitting draft regulations to the Department, but that soon thereafter the Licensure Unit adopted a template to be used for professional regulations. Joyner reformatted the regulations previously reviewed by the Board into the new template.

Foss asked that generic language be used in the examination section in each of the four regulations. Wisell said that specific board-approved exams could be identified the Guidance Documents.

Wisell asked if there should be uniformity in the continuing competency requirements for the four types of APRN licenses. Lowe noted that nurse midwives have one recognized entity for certification while nurse practitioners have five. Wisell acknowledged that this poses challenges to uniformity.

Joyner noted that she did not include Transition to Practice Agreements in the draft regulations because these agreements are a requirement for practice, not licensure, and the scope for the regulations is requirements for licensure. Members expressed a preference for including Transition to Practice Agreements in the regulations. Members also wanted to include requirements for re-entry plans.

Oertwich reported that she received feedback from a representative of NNP (Nebraska Nurse Practitioners), and she will incorporate the NNP's suggestions into the draft regulations.

Members asked that they be provided with electronic copies of the draft regulations, including information on Transition to Practice Agreements and Re-Entry Plans. Foss asked that members review the regulations pertinent to their specialties and submit feedback to staff electronically.

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

Oertwich asked members to review the Board of Nursing's draft strategic plan and to think about whether or not the APRN Board should draft its own strategic plan.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri Joyner
Health Licensing Coordinator

