

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**NEBRASKA CENTER FOR NURSING BOARD**  
**SEPTEMBER 25, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Nebraska Center for Nursing Board was called to order by Linda Stones, Vice-Chair, at 9:29 a.m. at Bryan Medical Plaza's Women's and Children's Conference Room, 1600 South 48<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska. Copies of the agenda were distributed in advance to the Board members, posted outside the Licensure Unit within the Nebraska State Office Building, and posted on the Department of Health and Human Services website. Stones announced the location of a current copy of the Open Meetings Act within the room.

ROLL CALL

The following Board members answered roll call:

Kathy Bowman, RN	Aubray Orduña, RN
Cheryl Echtenkamp, RN	Linda Stones, <i>Vice-Chair</i>
Cindy Hadenfeldt, RN	Pamela Uhler, RN
Kathy Harrison, RN	Lisa Walters, RN
Anna May, RN	

The following Board members were not present to answer roll call:

Liane Connelly, RN, <i>Chair</i>	Kayleen Dudley, RN
Carman DeMare, APRN-NP	Nick Faustman
Suzanne Deyke, RN	

The following individuals were also present:

Becky Wisell, <i>Licensure Unit Administrator</i>	Teresa Roddy, RN, <i>Education Consultant</i>
Juan Ramirez, PhD, <i>Independent Consultant</i>	Sherri Joyner, <i>Health Licensing Coordinator</i>
Niki Eisenmann, RN, <i>Practice Consultant</i>	Richard Mettler, <i>DHHS System Consultant</i>

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

MEETING OVERVIEW

Members and staff introduced themselves. Mettler explained that he was there to facilitate certain portions of the meetings. Wisell said that Department staff wanted to hear to members' ideas and will try to help the Board reach its goals. Stones gave a brief overview of the day's plan. She noted that when drafting a charter and preparing a strategic plan, the members should keep in mind that the primary charge of the Center for Nursing, as set forth in statute, is to address the nursing shortage in Nebraska.

STATUS REPORT OUT

Ramirez presented his report on the Center for Nursing's 2010-2015 Strategic Plan. The report used data gathered from online RN renewal surveys to assess whether the 2010-2105 goals had been met. These goals include: increasing the number of RNs who were employed full-time; increasing the number of licensed RNs who are ethnic minorities; increasing the number of licensed RNs who are men; having the geographic distribution of nurses more closely reflect the state's population distribution; co-sponsoring

These minutes were approved by the  
Nebraska Center for Nursing Board on  
November 20, 2015.

activities that promote the image of nursing; decreasing the out-migrations of nurses; decreasing the non-renewal rate for RN and LPN licenses; increasing the percentage of RNs with BSN degrees; increasing the number of nurses with doctorates; having adequate and qualified nursing faculty, and sustaining the work of the Center for Nursing. Ramirez noted that several of the goals were hard to assess because he did not have access to appropriate data.

Stones remarked that most of the goals had been met, but that gains were still needed in increasing the number of ethnic minority members in nursing. Uhlir, referring to the maps in the report, noted that the number of RNs per county might not represent a good benchmark for assessing if there is a nursing shortage in a particular county. Even if the ratio of nurses in Buffalo County, for example, is above the national average, the county might still have a nursing shortage because it serves large numbers of patients from surrounding counties. Stones mentioned that in assessing shortages in nursing, it was important to look not just at the bulk number of nurses, but also to assess if nurses have the skill sets that are in demand. Members also discussed the need to make sure that their goals in the next strategic plan are “smart goals,” and that they have access to data that can measure whether a goal was met.

*10:30 Meeting went into recess*

*10:43 Meeting reconvened*

## CFN CHARTER

Those present reviewed a draft charter for the Center for Nursing. Mettler said that he had worked with Karen Bowen and Liane Connelly when developing the draft, but he emphasized that it was a draft rather than a final plan.

Stones said it was critical that the charter address budget issues and delineate the administrative support to be provided by the Department. Regarding budget issues, members expressed frustration that they knew so little about the Board’s financial status. Orduña said it was difficult to develop a strategic plan when you do not know how much money you have. Some members expressed concern that the nursing boards might not be receiving an equitable share of the licensing fees received by the Department. Wisell said her understanding was that the yearly allocation to the Center for Nursing has been approximately \$60,000. She said she would try to provide the Board with a budget status report at the November meeting.

On the topic of administrative support, members expressed frustration that their attempts to work with the Department in order to obtain access to social media resources and a new website have had no results so far. Access to these resources is important to the Board because dissemination of information is central to the Center’s mission. Ramirez reported that the current website is difficult to modify and does not support the types of reports that he would like to post.

Members discussed potential mission statements for the Center for Nursing, and came up with the following: “Assure that the people of Nebraska have access to a well-prepared and diverse nursing workforce.” Ideas for a vision statement and strategic pillars were briefly discussed. The Board will work on those topics at a future meeting.

*1:55 Meeting went into recess*

*2:03 Meeting reconvened*

Members went through the draft charter to determine the items that could be eliminated and other items that should be added. They agreed that the charter should address the following:

- How the members are appointed
- That the Legislature is the Center’s sponsoring authority
- The powers and duties of the officers
- The duty of the Chair to annually present a request for funding at a meeting of the Board of Nursing

- The Board's relationship with the Center for Nursing Foundation
- Consequences when a member misses three consecutive meetings
- The support services to be provided by the Department, including making arrangements for meetings, providing clerical support, arranging contracts, and providing access to renewal data

Members also brought up the possibility of including the Center's relationship with the Nebraska Action Coalition in the charter, but decided that it might be better to address this topic in the strategic plan.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

Members identified various environmental threats and environmental opportunities that might impact the Center's strategic plan. The list will be distributed to members for the November Board meeting.

#### NEXT STEPS

Stones announced that the next meeting of the Center for Nursing Board is scheduled for November 20, 2015 at Cornhusker State Industries. Stones asked members to brainstorm ideas and hone in on their top three ideas or strategic pillars for the Board to use at the November meeting to structure the strategic plan.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri Joyner  
Health Licensing Coordinator

