

**Minutes of the January 16, 2026
Board of Respiratory Care Practice
Emergency Virtual Meeting**

1. Roll Call

Marcy Wyrens, Chair called the emergency meeting of the Board of Respiratory Care Practice to order at 4:13 pm. on January 16, 2026, in the Morrell Conference Room at the Nebraska State Office Building located at 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Board members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS website at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>, and posted in the Nebraska State Office Building East Vestibule on December 15, 2024

Wyrens announced that this is an open meeting, and the Open Meetings Act is posted.

Members Present: The following members answered roll call:

Marcy Wyrens, Chair (via Webex)

Dr. Maria Michaelis (via Webex)

Rachel Shirk (via Webex)

Members Absent:

Rene Botts, Board Member

Staff Present:

Claire Covert-ByBee, DHHS Program Manager (via Webex)

Kim Hitzel, DHHS Health Licensing Coordinator

Katherine Amyot, DHHS Attorney (via Webex)

Members of the Public:

Heather Nichols Vice-president of the Nebraska Society of Respiratory Care Board Legislative Committee. Heather.Nichols@UNMC.edu (via Webex)

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion:

Motion made by Michaelis, seconded by Shirk to adopt the agenda. Voting Aye: Michaelis, Shirk and Wyrens. Voting Nay: none. Motion carried.

3. LB Bill 736 Athletic Trainer Compact

The Board had discussion about LB 735

Heather Nichols, from the Nebraska Society of Respiratory Care Board (NSRC) spoke in support of the bill.

Motion:

The Board of Respiratory Care Practice agrees to support the LB 735 Respiratory Care Interstate Compact Bill and Marcy Wyrens will testify in-person at the Legislative Hearing on January 22, 2026. The hearing will begin at 1:30 pm.

Motion made by Michaelis, seconded by Shirk. Voting Aye: Shirk, Michaelis, and Wyrens. Voting Nay: none. Motion carried.

4. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:38 pm.