

NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
MINUTES – JUNE 10, 2024

ATTENDANCE NOTIFICATION. Heather Cramer, Board of Health Secretary, called a regular meeting of the State Board of Health to order at 1:01 PM on June 10, 2024, in the Goldenrod Conference Room in the Lower Level of the Nebraska State Office Building in Lincoln. Copies of the agenda were mailed electronically to board members and other interested parties prior to the meeting and posted on the Health and Human Services website and bulletin board. The following members were present: J. Paul Cook, MD; Heather Cramer, RN; Russell Crotty, OD; Diane Jackson, APRN; Brett Lindau, DO; Mark Patefield, PharmD; Connie Lynn Petersen, PhD; David Reese, MHA (arrived 1:32 PM); Doug Vander Broek, DC; Dan Vehle (arrived 1:11 PM); Jeffrey Wienke, Jr, DPM. Quorum was met.

Staff and others in attendance: Monica Gissler Webb, Caryn Vincent

Board members not in attendance: Jaime Dodge, MD; Michael Kotopka, DDS; Daniel Rosenthal, PE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES. Mr. Reese asked if there were any changes to the agenda for the meeting today. Dr. Patefield made a motion to approve the agenda and draft minutes, seconded by Ms. Jackson; voting yes: 10 (Cook, Cramer, Crotty, Jackson, Lindau, Patefield, Petersen, Vander Broek, Vehle, Wienke); voting no: 0; not voting: 0. Motion carried.

Mr. Reese asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the March 11, 2024 regular meeting. Dr. Crotty asked that the attachment from the Credentialing Review Subcommittee be added to the website. Dr. Vander Broek made a motion to approve the draft minutes as amended, seconded by Dr. Cook; voting yes: 6 (Cook, Crotty, Patefield, Reese, Vander Broek, Vehle); voting no: 0; not voting: 5 (Cramer, Jackson, Lindau, Petersen, Wienke). Motion carried.

UPDATES, REPORTS

Dr. Tim Tesmer, Chief Medical Officer, Division of Public Health reported on behalf of Director Menefee and Dr. Donahue. <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/CMO-Communications.aspx>

New reportable recognized / emerging diseases:

- Congenital cytomegalovirus
- Alpha-Gal syndrome (red meat allergy)
- Candida auris

Update on H5N1

Our State Epidemiologist Dr. Matt Donahue has accepted a position with the State of Iowa. His last day with DHHS is June 14, 2024.

Licensure Unit – Lindsay Braddock, Unit Administrator, reported on the Licensing Information System Stabilization Project and the new Board of Behavior Analysts.

Board of Health Chair – Mr. Reese reported the following:

1. Professional board meetings attendance:

Dr Vander Broek attended the March 28th Board of Physical Therapy meeting.

2. John Kuehn has resigned from the Board of Health and I want to thank him for his service. We do have three new members recently appointed by Governor Pillen: Brett Lindau is our new DO, replacing Dr. Bauer; Connie Lynn Petersen is our new mental health professional, replacing Colton Palmer; and Jeff Wienke is our new podiatrist replacing Josh Vest. New members gave brief updates about themselves.

3. David Reese has resigned from Bryan Health with his last day being July 2nd. He has accepted a position as Chief Administrative Officer with Madonna.

Credentialing Review – Dr. Vander Broek, Committee Vice Chair, presented.

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Credentialing-Review.aspx>

The purpose of the Nebraska Hearing Society's application is to enhance the authorized scopes of practice for licensed Audiologists, Hearing Instrument Specialists, and Hearing Instrument Dispensers to better serve hearing impaired patients throughout Nebraska. At the morning meeting, the Committee reviewed the Technical Review Committee report from the Hearing Care Professionals review. The Board Credentialing Review Committee members recommended against the proposal by a vote of three to one.

Misti Chmiel, HIS, spoke on behalf of the application.

Dr. Nikki Kopetzky from the Nebraska Speech Language Hearing Association testified in opposition of the application.

Dr. Vander Broek made a committee motion to approve the application. voting yes: 10 (Cook, Cramer, Crotty, Jackson, Lindau, Patefield, Petersen, Reese, Vehle, Wienke); voting no: 1 (Vander Broek); not voting: 0. Motion carried recommended against the proposal by a vote of ten to one. See the Credentialing Review webpage for more details of the review.

There has been an application for a credentialing review for Occupational Therapy. The start date, per the applicant group, will not be until Fall 2024. Technical Review Committee members will be reviewed at the September 16th Board of Health meeting.

Dr. Crotty asked if there is any follow-up on the Subcommittee on the Credentialing Review Process, and there has not been any further action within DHHS. Senator Hansen's staff reached out to the Nebraska Optometry Association for more information and Dr. Crotty presented. The Board of Health subcommittee will meet before the September 16th meeting.

Rules and Regulations Committee – Dr. Wienke, Committee Vice Chair, reported.

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/DHHS-Regulations.aspx>

There were no proposed rules and regulations for review at this meeting.

1. At the morning Committee meeting members were informed about regulations changes which will be required from the 2023-24 Legislative session with impacts on professional occupations or health care facilities.

LB605 Art Therapy. Revise Mental Health Practice regs.

LB822 Social Worker Licensure Compact

LB874 Child Care. E Clause.

LB910 Authorize EMS to transport canines. Revise EMS and Veterinary Med regs.

LB1138 Provide exemptions for prescribers issuing prescriptions for controlled substances

LB1214 Criminal background checks

LB 1373/1215 Dietitians and Physician Assistant licensure compacts. E clause.

LB43 Open Public Meetings Act. Public is allowed to speak at any public meeting.

Professional Boards Committee. Dr. Crotty, Committee Chair, reported. They conducted two interviews in the morning and recommend the following appointments.

Board of Cosmetology, Electrology, Esthetics, Nail Technology, and Body Art:
Siobhan “Chevy” Kozisek, LE, from Omaha for the term through November 30, 2027.

Dr. Crotty made a committee motion to approve the proposed professional board appointments. voting yes: 11 (Cook, Cramer, Crotty, Jackson, Lindau, Patefield, Petersen, Reese, Vander Broek, Vehle, Wienke); voting no: 0; not voting: 0. Motion carried.

We are still seeking applicants for a few professional member positions.

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Board-Requirements-and-Vacancies.aspx>

Dr. Vandervort spoke about LB 390 (2021) and LB 16 (2022) and clarified that he was not representing the Board of Optometry. His main concern is the reciprocity section 003.03 in 172 NAC 120 and also the residency requirements. Amy Reynoldson from the Nebraska Medical Association said they had advocated for the Medical and Surgery Practice Act to be removed from this bill for similar reasons.

Public Health, Education and Legislation – Dr. Patefield, Committee Chair, reported. In the morning committee meeting they reviewed the status of implementation for the legislative bills passed this session and affecting DHHS Division of Public Health.

Approval of Committee Reports. Mr. Reese asked for a motion to approval all committee reports. Dr. Cook made a committee motion to approve them, with a second by Ms. Jackson. Voting yes: 11 (Cook, Crotty, Cramer, Jackson, Lindau, Peterson, Patefield, Reese, Vander Broek, Vehle, Wienke); voting no: 0; not voting: 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS. None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS. None.

NEW BUSINESS. None.

TOPICS AND PREPARATION FOR NEXT MEETING. The next regular Board of Health meeting will be Monday, September 16, 2024. Location will be Goldenrod conference room, Lower Level of the State Office Building, in Lincoln. The Professional Boards Committee will conduct interviews on Sunday, September 15, 2024 at Bryan East Hospital in Lincoln.

ADJOURN. There being no further business, Dr. Cook made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Ms. Jackson; all in favor by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:36 PM. Minutes were taken by Monica Webb and were approved by the State Board of Health on September 16, 2024.

NOTE: If you would like to receive these minutes electronically, please send a request to the email address below. Please also inform staff if you would like to be removed from this distribution list altogether.

*If you would like any attachments mentioned in these minutes, or have other questions, please contact Monica Webb, 402/471-2948, or email at: monica.gissler@nebraska.gov.
Board of Health: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Board-of-Health.aspx>*

9/16/24, mgw