

**NEBRASKA BOARD OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**August 8, 2025**

**ROLL CALL**

The meeting of the Board of Medicine and Surgery was called to order by Chairperson, Adam Kuenning, at 9:00 a.m. on August 8, 2025, at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 7343 Husker Circle, Lincoln, Nebraska 68504. The meeting was conducted In-Person and by WebEx. The following members answered the roll call:

Adam Kuenning, JD, LLM, Chairperson  
Wesley Zeger, DO, Vice-Chairperson  
Mark Goodman, MD, Secretary  
Rachel Blake, MD  
Jodanne Hedrick, DO  
John Massey, MD via WebEx  
Public Member Position – Vacant

Absent: Brian Keegan, MD

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

Also present to participate in the meeting: Vonda Apking, Program Manager and Jan Gadeken-Harris, Health Licensing Coordinator with the Licensure Unit; Mindy Lester, Assistant Attorney General; Trevor Klaassen and Mark Meyerson, Investigators with the Investigation Unit; Anna Harrison, DHHS Compliance Monitor for Licensing; Katherine Amyot, Department Attorney and Ellie Rohr, Department Attorney.

Kuenning announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

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 web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx> and posted on the Bulletin Board at the entrance to the Nebraska State Office Building May 5, 2025 and revision posted July 25, 2025.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Goodman moved, seconded by Hedrick to approve adoption of the agenda with the Chair having the authority to rearrange agenda items as needed. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**Additions, Modification, Reordering**

The Agenda was rearranged to have Item 10, addressed along with Item 5 Approval of the Minutes.

**ADOPTION OF THE APPLICATION(S) CONSENT AGENDA**

Blake moved, seconded by Goodman to have the following applications removed from the Application Review Consent Agenda:

Agbafe-Mosley, Dorothy, MD - Physician Initial application  
Emmons Brule, Angela, MD – Physician Initial application  
Griffiths, Walter, MD – Physician Initial application  
Urban, Derek, MD – Physician Initial application  
Fine, Ananda-Kriiya, MD – Physician Reinstatement application

Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

## **2025 LEGISLATION UPDATES**

Paul Henderson, Vice President, Advocacy & Regulation, In-House Counsel with the NMA (Nebraska Medical Association) was present to discuss and provide updates to the Board for the 109<sup>th</sup> Legislature, 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session, currently in the Interim Period.

Interim Period Studies that the NMA has been asked to provide input with:

**LR124** - Interim study to examine the role of a pharmacy benefit manager within the Nebraska health insurance industry and the impact on prescription drug prices Banking, Commerce and Insurance

**LR208** - Interim study to examine the impact of mobile services on the delivery of health care services Health and Human Services

**LR232** - Interim study to examine regulatory restrictions and opportunities in medical education in order to strengthen the medical workforce in rural and other underserved areas of Nebraska Health and Human Services

The NMA is closely watching the implementation of the Medical Cannabis ballot initiative passed by the voters in November of 2024. The Medical Cannabis Commission is an extension of the Liquor Control Commission and has been charged with setting parameters for selling of the product. The Commission has adopted some temporary regulations. The law does require that approval of licenses should start by October 1, 2025. The next scheduled meeting is set for September 2, 2025.

**LB527** - Adopt the Medicaid Access and Quality Act and change provisions relating to taxes on health maintenance organizations, prepaid limited health service organizations, and insurance companies  
Approved by Governor on April 7, 2025

Slip Law: <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/109/PDF/Slip/LB527.pdf>

NMA is monitoring the follow-through with this Bill

Requires approval from CMS in order for the reimbursement rate increases to take effect in January 2025  
The application was submitted to CMS at the end of June.

## **REGULATIONS UPDATE**

Currently there are no updates for the Board.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING BY EMAIL BALLOT**

The minutes for May 16, 2025, were presented to the Board by an Email Ballot on June 30, 2025. The minutes were approved by the Board. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Keegan, Kuenning and Massey. Voting nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Hedrick and Zeger. Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this time.

## **INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS, DISCIPLINARY REPORTS, APPLICATION REVIEW – CLOSED SESSION**

Goodman moved, seconded by Hedrick, to go into closed session at 9:15 a.m. for the purpose of review and discussion of investigative reports, disciplinary reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Dr. Goodman Recused himself at 9:28 a.m.

Dr. Goodman Returned at 9:32 a.m.

Dr. Massey Recused himself at 9:32 a.m.

Dr. Massey Returned at 9:45 a.m.

Board Break at 10:33 a.m.  
Board Returned at 10:55 a.m.

The Board members returned to Open Session at 10:56 a.m.

## **APPLICATION REVIEW – OPEN SESSION**

### **BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS ON APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE AND REGISTRATION**

#### **Physician Initial Application(s) (4)**

**AGBAFE-MOSLEY, DOROTHY, MD** – application for Initial license to practice Medicine and Surgery. Hedrick moved, seconded by Goodman to recommend approval of the Initial license to practice Medicine and Surgery. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**EMMONS BRULE, ANGELA, MD** - application for Initial license to practice Medicine and Surgery. Hedrick moved, seconded by Massey to table the Initial license application to practice Medicine and Surgery for additional information. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**GRIFFITHS, WALTER, MD** - application for Initial license to practice Medicine and Surgery. Hedrick moved, seconded by Goodman to recommend approval of the Initial license to practice Medicine and Surgery. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**URBAN, DEREK, MD** - application for Initial license to practice Medicine and Surgery. Hedrick moved, seconded by Goodman to recommend approval of the Initial license to practice Medicine and Surgery. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

#### **Physician Reinstatement Application(s) (1)**

**FINE, ANANDA-KRIIYA, MD** – application for physician reinstatement to practice Medicine and Surgery. Hedrick moved, seconded by Goodman to recommend approval of the reinstatement to practice Medicine and Surgery. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

## **DISCUSSION(S)**

A. A member of the Board is elected by the Board to represent the Board as a member of the Physician Assistant Committee (PAC). The question came up whether the Board's representative needs to employ and supervise a Physician Assistant?

Teresa Hampton, Department Attorney, researched the Statutes and reported the following:

Neb. Rev. Stat. 38-2056 sets out the requirements for membership on the committee. It does not appear that the member from the Board must supervise a PA or be a physician. The individual needs to be a member of the Board of Medicine. See below section (2) from the statute:

*(2) The committee shall be appointed by the State Board of Health. The committee shall be composed of two physician assistants, one supervising physician, one member of the Board of Medicine and Surgery who shall be a nonvoting member of the committee, and one public member. The chairperson of the committee shall be elected by a majority vote of the committee members.*

Dr. Blake is the Board's current representative to the PAC and will continue as the Board's representative.

B. Does Nebraska permit virtual (audio-video) physician supervision for IV contrast administration?

The Board has no comment on this question, however they would like to refer this question to the Medical Radiography Board for consideration.

### **PRACTICE QUESTION(S)**

A. Does the Board have any recommendations or guidelines on physicians writing letters for emotional support animals?

The Board's opinion is that this would be a case-by-case basis and to consult with your legal counsel. A letter is not without risk, is there a legitimate reason for the requesting the letter.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this time.

### **BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2025, in the Husker Conference Room at the Hampton Inn & Suites. To see a complete list of the projected schedule for the 2025 schedule, visit the DHHS website:

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>

Board Break at 11:07 a.m.

Board Returned to Open Session at 1:00 p.m.

### **HEARING - OPEN SESSION**

Molly L. Hannasch, PA requested a hearing before the Board regarding her application for reinstatement after suspension of her license.

Teresa Hampton, Department Attorney and Hearing Administrator requested that the Board go into Closed Session at 2:39 p.m. for discussion of the evidence that was present at the Hearing.

The Board returned to Open Session at 3:00 p.m.

Massey moved, seconded by Hedrick to deny the reinstatement after suspension of Ms. Hannasch's license. Basis for the denial is 1) Continued lack of evidence to support that she has the ability to safely provide medical care; and 2) Failure to demonstrate compliance with appropriate treatment parameters. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Kuenning, Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\*signature available upon request\*

Mark Goodman, MD, Secretary  
Board of Medicine and Surgery