

**NEBRASKA BOARD OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY**

**MEETING MINUTES  
September 11, 2026**

**ROLL CALL**

The meeting of the Board of Medicine and Surgery was called to order by Chairperson, Wesley Zeger, DO, at 9:08 a.m. on September 11, 2026, 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:

Wesley Zeger, DO, Chairperson  
Mark Goodman, MD, Vice-Chairperson  
Rachel Blake, MD  
Jodanne Hedrick, DO  
Adam Kuenning, JD, LLM  
John Massey, MD

Absent: Jeffrey Howorth, Secretary  
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; Hayle Alvarado and Veronica Briggs Investigators with the Investigation Unit; Tricia Allen, Program Manager with the Investigation Unit and Ellie Rohr, DHHS Department Attorney.

Zeger 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 August 28, 2026.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Blake 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: Howorth and Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

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

The following application(s) were pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Mustapha, Jihad Ali, MD – Initial Application  
Reynolds, Richard, MD – Initial Application

**LEGISLATION UPDATES**

Morgan Kristensen, JD, Vice President Advocacy & Regulation, In-house Counsel, Amy Reynoldson, Executive Vice President and Eric Sutton, JD, Director of Health Policy via WebEx all with the NMA (Nebraska Medical Association) were present to discuss and provide updates to the Board for the 109<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

CMS has posted the Medicare fee schedule for 2027. NMA has a meeting scheduled with Senators to discuss the fee schedule. Public comments regarding the fee schedule are due by September 14, 2026.

Morgan said that there are three major 407 Credentialing Reviews that the NMA is following:

- Athletic Trainers – the 407 letter of intent has not been filed to date.
- Certified Nurse Midwives – to see the letter of intent, the application and letters of support go to: [https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Credentialing-Review-\(407\)-Certified-Nurse-Midwives.aspx](https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Credentialing-Review-(407)-Certified-Nurse-Midwives.aspx) Technical Committee Meetings have been scheduled for 9/16/2026, 10/6/2026, 10/29/2026 and 11/10/2026.
- NE Breast Feeding Coalition – the letter of intent has not been filed to date.

## **REGULATIONS UPDATE**

Ellie Rohr, Department Legal indicated that 172 NA Chapter 88 has been opened and they are currently working on updates. When the updates to Chapter 88 are ready they will be presented to the Board for review.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

Goodman moved, seconded by Hedrick to approve August 14, 2026, meeting minutes as written. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Howorth and Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this time of the meeting.

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

Goodman moved, seconded by Massey, to go to closed session at 9:39 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: Howorth and Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

The Board members returned to Open Session at 11:14 a.m.

Board Break at 11:14 a.m.

Board Returned at 11:19 a.m.

## **APPLICATION REVIEW – OPEN SESSION**

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

Physician Initial Application(s) (2)

**MUSTAPHA, JIHAD ALI, MD** – application for initial license to practice medicine and surgery. Hedrick moved, seconded by Massey to recommend tabling the application for additional information. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Howorth and Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**REYNOLDS, RICHARD, MD** – application for initial license to practice medicine and surgery. Hedrick moved, seconded by Goodman to recommend approving the application to practice medicine and surgery. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Kuenning, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Howorth and Keegan. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

## **EMAIL BALLOTS SINCE LAST MEETING**

There were no Email Ballots to present for this meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this time of the meeting.

### **BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2026, in the Husker Conference Room at the Hampton Inn & Suites. To see a complete list of the projected schedule for the 2026 schedule, visit the DHHS website:  
<https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Zeger, Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\*signature available upon request\*

Mark Goodman, MD, Vice-Chairperson  
Board of Medicine and Surgery