

**NEBRASKA BOARD OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**October 9, 2026**

**ROLL CALL**

The meeting of the Board of Medicine and Surgery was called to order by Chairperson, Wesley Zeger, DO, at 9:00 a.m. on October 9, 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  
Jeffrey Howorth, Secretary  
Rachel Blake, MD  
Jodanne Hedrick, DO  
Brian Keegan, MD

Absent: Adam Kuenning, JD, LLM  
John Massey, MD – joined the meeting at 9:01 a.m.

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, Susan Held and Randy Clark, Investigators with the Investigation Unit and Kat Amyot, 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 September 25, 2026.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

Blake moved, seconded by Howorth, to approve adoption of the agenda with the Chair having the authority to rearrange agenda items as needed. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Howorth, Keegan, and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Kuenning and Massey. 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  
Quinn, Anthony, MD – Initial Application

Dr. Massey joined the meeting at 9:01 a.m.

Zeger, Chairperson announced that the agenda will be rearranged to conduct the Closed Session items on the agenda to be reviewed prior to the other Open Session items on the agenda.

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

Howorth moved, seconded by Goodman, to go to closed session at 9:02 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, Howorth, Keegan, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Kuenning. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Dr. Keegan recused at 9:37 a.m.  
Dr. Keegan returned at 9:50 a.m.

Dr. Blake recused at 9:55 a.m.  
Dr. Blake returned at 9:58 a.m.

The Board members returned to Open Session at 10:38 a.m.

Board Break at 10:38 a.m.  
Board Returned at 10:45 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 a pre-licensure investigation. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Howorth, Keegan, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Kuenning. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

**QUINN, ANTHONY, MD** – application for initial license to practice medicine and surgery. Hedrick moved, seconded by Keegan to recommend denial of the application to practice medicine and surgery. Basis for the denial is disciplinary action in another state and unprofessional conduct. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, Howorth, Keegan, Massey and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Kuenning. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

### **LEGISLATION UPDATES**

Amy Reynoldson, Executive Vice President with the NMA (Nebraska Medical Association) was 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. Public comments regarding the fee schedule were due by September 14, 2026, and there were over 4,000 comments received.

407 Credentialing Reviews that the NMA is following:

- Athletic Trainers – the NMA has been informed that there is a pause in the interest to file a letter of intent.
- 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 were held on 8/21/2026 and 9/16/2026. To review the agendas and the minutes along with meeting schedule use the link listed above.
- Lactation Consultants - NE Breast Feeding Coalition – the letter of intent has been filed, to see the letter and the response to the letter of intent go to: [https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Credentialing-Review-\(407\)-Lactation-Consultants.aspx](https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Credentialing-Review-(407)-Lactation-Consultants.aspx)

### **REGULATIONS UPDATE**

Kat Amyot, Department Legal indicated that 172 NA Chapter 88 has been opened and work will begin on updating the Regulations. When the updates to Chapter 88 are ready they will be presented to the Board for review.

Massey left the minutes at 11:23 a.m.

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

Goodman moved, seconded by Hedrick to approve September 11, 2026, meeting minutes as written. Voting aye: Blake, Goodman, Hedrick, and Zeger. Voting nay: None. Absent: Kuenning and Massey. Abstain: Howorth and Keegan. Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

## **EMAIL BALLOTS SINCE LAST MEETING**

There were no Email Ballots to present for this meeting.

## **PHARMACEUTICAL CARE AGREEMENT(S)**

The Board acknowledges receipt of the Pharmaceutical Care Agreements from May, July and September.

## **FSMB (Federation of State Medical Boards) – AI and the Practice of Medicine: Examining Accountability & Responsibility in the AI Era**

This event was held on September 14, 2026, and Dr. Zeger attended representing the Board.

Dr. Zeger commented that this was a fantastic meeting filled with intriguing information on the status of AI and the future of AI for the medical world.

Dr. Zeger shared some links to articles that may be of interest:

JAMA Ai network:

<https://jamanetwork.com/channels/ai>

### ***The iPatient Meets the iDoctor***

JAMA. 2026;336(8):635-636. doi:10.1001/jama.2026.13582

### ***The Need to Avoid a Regulatory Gray Zone in Digital Wellness***

JAMA. 2026;336(9):731-732. doi:10.1001/jama.2026.14789

### **Will Autonomous AI Exceed AI-Aided Physicians as the Best Medical Care?**

JAMA. 2026;336(11):915-918. doi:10.1001/jama.2026.15380

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

## **BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2026, in the Husker Conference Room at the Hampton Inn & Suites. To see a complete list of the projected schedule for the 2027 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 11:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\*signature available upon request\*

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