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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

TIME: 10:31 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

State Board of Medicine
May 21, 2024

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BOARD MEMBERS:

Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair
Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair
Gerard F. Dillon, Ph.D., Public Member
Michael R. Ripchinski, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAFP
Walter A. Eisenhauer, MMSC, M.Ed., PA-C - Absent
Sirisha Reddy, Special Assistant, on behalf of Debra L. Bogen, M.D., FAAP, FABM, Acting Secretary of Health, Department of Health
John D. Six, M.D.
John A. Kutz, M.D., FACS - Absent
Benjamin S. Abella, M.D., MPhil
Catherine N. Udekwu, M.D. - Absent

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel
Jacqueline A. Wolfgang, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor and Prosecution Liaison
Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Mark R. Zogby, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Adrienne Rachelle McClendon, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Courtney J. Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Saiyad Ali, Board Administrator

ALSO PRESENT:

Angie Armbrust, Senior Associate, McNeas-Winter Group LLC
Emily Hoffman
Fabian Koninger, M.D.
Mary Marshall, Director, Workforce & Professional Development, The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania
Misha Patel, M.D., Curriculum Education Assistant, Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine

State Board of Medicine
May 21, 2024

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ALSO PRESENT: (cont.)

- Randy Stevens, Director of Legislative Affairs,
Pennsylvania Orthotic and Prosthetic Society
- Jeevika Singh
- Jennifer Smeltz, Republican Executive Director,
Senate Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure
Committee
- Susan DeSantis, PA-C, Pennsylvania Society of
Physician Assistants
- Jackson Teague
- Ted Mowatt, CAE, Vice President/Lobbyist, Wanner
Associates
- Wesley J. Rish, Esquire, Rish Law Office, LLC
- Heather Wilson, MSW, CFRE, Executive Director,
Physicians' Health Program, Foundation of the
Pennsylvania Medical Society
- Christina Edwards
- Rachel Wilbur-Adams, Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

1 State Board of Medicine

2 May 21, 2024

3 ***

4 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
5 at 8:45 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session
6 with Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel,
7 for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
8 deliberations on a number of matters currently
9 pending before the Board and to receive the advice of
10 counsel. The Board returned to open session at
11 10:29 a.m.]

12 ***

13 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
14 Board of Medicine was held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024.
15 Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, called
16 the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

17 ***

18 Acknowledge Public - Turn Off Electronic Devices
19 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, informed
20 everyone that the meeting was being recorded, and
21 those who continued to participate were giving their
22 consent to be recorded. He also requested everyone
23 silence electronic devices.]

24 ***

25 Introduction of Board Members/Attendees

1 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, provided
2 an introduction of Board members and attendees. A
3 quorum of Board members was present.]

4

5 Approval of minutes of the April 16, 2024 meeting

6 CHAIR WOODLAND:

7

8

9

The first order of business is approval
of the minutes from the last meeting on
April 16, 2024.

10 DR. YEALY:

11

I move to approve.

12 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

13

Second.

14 CHAIR WOODLAND:

15

16

17

Any further discussion. Hearing none.
Could we have a roll call please?

18

19

20

21

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

22 [The motion carried unanimously.]

23

24 Report of Prosecuting Attorneys

25

[Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Senior Board

1 Prosecutor and Board Prosecution Liaison, introduced
2 and welcomed new Board prosecutors, Patrick Greene,
3 Berk Demiral, Courtney Restemayer, and Adrienne
4 McClendon.

5 Ms. McCarthy presented the VRP Consent Agreements
6 for Case No. 24-49-006400, Case No. 24-49-006741,
7 Case No. 24-49-007095, Case No. 24-49-007334, and
8 Case No. 23-49-007245.]

9 MS. WALTER:

10 Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the
11 Sunshine Act, the Board entered into
12 Executive Session at 8:45 a.m. to enter
13 into quasi-judicial deliberations and to
14 receive advice of counsel on matters on
15 the agenda at items 17, 22 through 42,
16 and 45 through 46.

17 I believe the Board would entertain
18 a motion to approve the VRP Agreements at
19 Number 3, Case No. 24-49-006400; Number
20 4, Case No. 24-49-006741; Number 5, Case
21 No. 24-49-007095; and Number 6, Case No.
22 24-49-007334.

23 DR. YEALY:

24 So moved.

25 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

1 Second.

2 CHAIR WOODLAND:

3 Any further discussion on those four
4 cases? Hearing none, roll call,
5 please, Saiyad.

6
7 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
8 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
9 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
10 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 MS. WALTER:

13 I believe the Board would entertain a
14 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
15 at Number 7 on the agenda, Case No. 23-
16 49-007245.

17 DR. YEALY:

18 So moved.

19 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

20 Second.

21 CHAIR WOODLAND:

22 Any further discussion on this item?
23 Hearing none, could we have a roll
24 call, please?

25

1 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
2 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
3 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
4 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

5 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
6 name at Number 7 is Mohan Maganlal Patel, M.D.]

7 ***

8 [Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
9 presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 22-49-
10 018713.]

11 MS. WALTER:

12 I believe the Board would entertain a
13 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
14 at Number 8 on the agenda, Case No. 22-
15 49-018713.

16 DR. YEALY:

17 So moved.

18 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

19 Second.

20 CHAIR WOODLAND:

21 Any further discussion on item 8?
22 Hearing none, could we have a roll
23 call, please?

24

25 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;

1 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
2 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
3 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
5 name at Number 8 is Suryanarayan Jiaraj, M.D.]

6 ***

7 [Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
8 presented the Consent Agreements for Case No. 22-49-
9 007142, Case No. 22-49-016357, Case No. 23-49-005897,
10 Case No. 23-49-007616, and Case No. 23-49-008327.]

11 MS. WALTER:

12 I believe the Board would entertain a
13 motion to approve the Consent Agreements
14 at the following agenda items: Number 9,
15 Case No. 22-49-007142; Number 10, Case
16 No. 22-49-016357; Number 12, Case No. 23-
17 49-007616, and Number 13, Case No. 23-49-
18 008327.

19 DR. YEALY:

20 So moved.

21 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

22 Second.

23 CHAIR WOODLAND:

24 Any further discussion on those four
25 cases? Hearing none, could we have a

1 roll call, please, Saiyad?

2

3 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
4 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
5 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
6 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

7 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
8 name at Number 9 is Balakrishna R. Ragoor, M.D.;
9 Number 10, Bassem R. George, M.D.; Number 12, Steve
10 Wayne Powell, M.D.; and Number 13, Rowena T.
11 Grumbine, M.D.]

12

13 MS. WALTER:

14 I believe the Board would entertain a
15 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
16 at Case No. 23-49-005897.

17 CHAIR WOODLAND:

18 Motion?

19 DR. YEALY:

20 So moved.

21 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

22 Second.

23 CHAIR WOODLAND:

24 Any further discussion on this item?

25 Hearing none, Saiyad, could we have a

1 roll call, please?

2

3 Mr. Claggett, nay; Dr. Woodland, aye;
4 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, nay; Dr.
5 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
6 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

7 [The motion carried. Arion Claggett and Gerard
8 Dillon opposed the motion. The Respondent's name at
9 Number 11 is Justin A. Mourt, LRT.]

10

11 [Mark R. Zogby, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented
12 the Consent Agreement for Case No. 22-49-013712.]

13 MS. WALTER:

14 I believe the Board would entertain a
15 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
16 at Number 14 on the agenda, Case No. 22-
17 49-013712.

18 DR. YEALY:

19 So moved.

20 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

21 Second.

22 CHAIR WOODLAND:

23 Any further discussion? Hearing none.
24 Could we have a roll call, please?

25

1 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
2 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
3 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
4 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

5 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
6 name at Number 14 is Elizabeth Cooke Sowerby, LRT.]

7 ***

8 Report of Board Counsel - Proposed Reports from
9 Hearing Examiner

10 MS. WALTER:

11 Number 15 on the agenda. I believe the
12 Board would entertain a motion to adopt
13 the proposed Adjudication of the hearing
14 examiner and substitute the Board Order
15 in the Matter of Dominique R. Etienne,
16 Case Nos. 22-49-018715 & 23-49-016295.

17 DR. YEALY:

18 So moved.

19 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

20 Second.

21 CHAIR WOODLAND:

22 Any further discussion on this item?
23 Hearing none, could we have a roll
24 call, please, Saiyad?

25

1 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
2 Dr. Yealy, nay; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
3 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
4 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

5 [The motion carried. Donald Yealy opposed the
6 motion.]

7 ***

8 MS. WALTER:

9 I believe the Board would entertain a
10 motion to adopt the proposed Adjudication
11 of the hearing examiner at Numbers 16 and
12 17. Number 16 is Gina Gilbert, Case No.
13 22-49-007653 and Number 17, John Chu,
14 M.D., Case No. 23-49-003824.

15 DR. YEALY:

16 So moved.

17 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

18 Second.

19 CHAIR WOODLAND:

20 Any further discussion on these two
21 items? Hearing none, could we have a
22 roll call, please?

23

24 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
25 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.

1 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
2 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

3 [The motion carried unanimously.]

4 ***

5 Report of Board Counsel - Other

6 MS. WALTER:

7 Number 22. I believe the Board would
8 entertain a motion to grant the
9 Reactivation Application of Judith K.
10 Weinstein, M.D.

11 DR. YEALY:

12 So moved.

13 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

14 Second.

15 CHAIR WOODLAND:

16 Any further discussion? Hearing none.
17 Let's have a roll call, please?

18

19 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
20 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
21 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
22 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

23 [The motion carried unanimously.]

24 ***

25 Applications for Licensure - Allied Health

1 Professionals

2 MS. WALTER:

3 I believe the Board would entertain a
4 motion to provisionally deny the
5 Applications at Numbers 23 and 24.
6 Number 23, the Application for Nurse-
7 Midwife of Erin E. Koser and Number 24,
8 the Application to Practice as a Behavior
9 Specialist of Heather Swimley.

10 DR. YEALY:

11 So moved.

12 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

13 Second.

14 CHAIR WOODLAND:

15 Any further discussion on these two
16 items? Hearing none, could we have a
17 roll call, please, Saiyad?

18

19 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
20 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
21 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
22 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

23 [The motion carried unanimously.]

24

25 Applications for Licensure - Unrestricted Physician

1 and Surgeon

2 MS. WALTER:

3 I believe the Board would entertain a
4 motion to grant the Applications for
5 Unrestricted Licensure as a Physician and
6 Surgeon of Mohamad Bakro, M.D., Number 25
7 on the agenda and Sirisha Brennan, M.D.,
8 Number 27 on the agenda.

9 DR. YEALY:

10 So moved.

11 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

12 Second.

13 CHAIR WOODLAND:

14 Any further discussion on these two
15 items, 25 and 27? Hearing none, could
16 we have a roll call, please?

17

18 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
19 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
20 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
21 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

22 [The motion carried unanimously.]

23

24 MS. WALTER:

25 I believe the Board would entertain a

1 motion to offer Institutional Licenses to
2 the following Applicants: Number 26,
3 Giovanni Barbagli, M.D.; Number 29, Mona
4 Al Rammah, M.D.; and Number 30, Sanoj
5 Shahul, M.D.

6 DR. YEALY:

7 So moved.

8 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

9 Second.

10 CHAIR WOODLAND:

11 Any further discussion on these three
12 items; 26, 29, and 30? Hearing none,
13 could we have a roll call, please?

14

15 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
16 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
17 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
18 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

19 [The motion carried unanimously.]

20

21 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, exited the
22 meeting at 11:00 a.m. for recusal purposes.]

23

24 MS. WALTER:

25 I believe the Board would entertain a

1 motion to grant the Application to
2 Practice as a Physician and Surgeon of
3 Ahmed Doomi, M.D., Number 28 on the
4 agenda.

5 Dr. Yealy is recused from this
6 matter.

7 DR. ABELLA:

8 So moved.

9 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

10 Second.

11 CHAIR WOODLAND:

12 Any further discussion on Number 28?
13 Hearing none, Saiyad, could we have a
14 roll call, please?

15
16 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
17 Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye;
18 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr.
19 Abella, aye.

20 [The motion carried. Donald Yealy recused himself
21 from deliberations and voting on the motion.]

22 ***

23 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, reentered the
24 meeting at 11:01 a.m.]

25 ***

1 MS. WALTER:

2 I believe the Board would entertain a
3 motion to provisionally deny the
4 Application for Unrestricted Licensure as
5 a Physician and Surgeon of Jeffrey
6 Strain, M.D.

7 DR. ABELLA:

8 So moved.

9 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

10 Second.

11 CHAIR WOODLAND:

12 Any further discussion? Hearing none,
13 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
14 please?

15

16 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
17 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
18 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
19 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

20 [The motion carried unanimously.]

21

22 Applications for Licensure - Reactivations

23 MS. WALTER:

24 Number 32 is the Reactivation Application
25 of Karen Patrice Angell, M.D. I believe

1 the Board would entertain a motion to
2 direct the Board administrator to send a
3 reentry letter to Dr. Angell.

4 DR. YEALY:

5 So moved.

6 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

7 Second.

8 CHAIR WOODLAND:

9 Any further discussion on Number 32?
10 Hearing none, Saiyad, could we have a
11 roll call, please?

12
13 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
14 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
15 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
16 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18 ***

19 MS. WALTER:

20 I believe the Board would entertain a
21 motion to grant the Reactivation
22 Applications of Bruce Baldwin, M.D.,
23 Number 33 on the agenda and Number 34,
24 David Bruce Evans, M.D.

25 DR. YEALY:

1 So moved.

2 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

3 Second.

4 CHAIR WOODLAND:

5 Any further discussion on items 33 and
6 34? Hearing none, could we have a roll
7 call, please?

8

9 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
10 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
11 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
12 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14

15 MS. WALTER:

16 I believe the Board would entertain a
17 motion to direct the Board administrator
18 to send reentry letters to Morry
19 Moskovitz, M.D., Number 35 on the agenda,
20 and Number 36, Baligh Yehia, M.D.

21 DR. YEALY:

22 So moved.

23 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

24 Second.

25 CHAIR WOODLAND:

1 Any further discussion on these two
2 items, 35 and 36? Hearing none, could
3 we have a roll call, please, Saiyad?

4
5 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
6 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
7 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
8 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

9 [The motion carried unanimously.]

10 ***

11 Ratifications

12 MS. WALTER:

13 I believe the Board would entertain a
14 motion to Ratify the granting of the
15 Applications for the following Applicants
16 for Licensure as a Physician and Surgeon
17 at Numbers 37 through 42 on the agenda.

18 Number 37 is Aws Atheel Ahmed
19 Kamona, M.D.; Number 38, Tarun Kumar,
20 M.D.; Number 39, Steven M. Malkin, M.D.;
21 Number 40, Jobran Mansour, M.D.; Number
22 41, Senthil Kumar Thiyagarajan, M.D.; and
23 Number 42, Sunny Thumar, M.D.

24 DR. YEALY:

25 So moved.

1 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

2 Second.

3 CHAIR WOODLAND:

4 Any further discussion on items 37
5 through 42? Hearing none, Saiyad,
6 could we have a roll call, please?

7

8 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
9 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
10 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
11 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13

14 Miscellaneous

15 MS. WALTER:

16 I believe the Board would entertain a
17 motion to deny the Request for
18 Reconsideration for the Application of
19 Fnu Jeevika, M.D. for consideration under
20 Act 41 and Endorsement for an
21 Unrestricted License as a Physician and
22 Surgeon.

23 DR. YEALY:

24 So moved.

25 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

1 Second.

2 CHAIR WOODLAND:

3 Any further discussion? Hearing none.
4 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
5 please?

6

7 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
8 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
9 Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.
10 Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12

13 MS. WALTER:

14 I believe the Board would entertain a
15 motion to deny the Request for
16 Reconsideration and provisionally deny
17 the Unrestricted Licensure Request of
18 Fabian Koninger, M.D.

19 DR. YEALY:

20 So moved.

21 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

22 Second.

23 CHAIR WOODLAND:

24 Any further discussion on 46? Hearing
25 none, could we have a roll call?

1

2

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;

3

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.

4

Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.

5

Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

6

[The motion carried unanimously.]

7

8

Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report

9

[Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel,

10

provided a Regulatory Status Report for the Board's

11

review.]

12

13

Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report

14

[Jacqueline A. Wolfgang, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel,

15

stated the final rulemaking for regulation 16A-4958

16

implements Act 41 regarding licensure by endorsement.

17

She noted the proposed rulemaking was published on

18

August 13, 2022, and the Board received 36 public

19

comments expressing support for the regulation, along

20

with comments from the Independent Regulatory Review

21

Commission (IRRC) and the House Professional

22

Licensure Committee.

23

Ms. Wolfgang reported that Board Counsel

24

previously reviewed the comments with the Board and

25

was instructed to draft final rulemaking, noting the

1 final regulation before the Board reflected the
2 Board's instruction and was ready for their review
3 and approval.

4 Chair Woodland commented that it does out
5 naturopathic docs as well as a specific entity.

6 Ms. Walter explained that the final regulation
7 related to naturopathic doctors was published on May
8 18, 2024.

9 Ms. Wolfgang further explained that IRRC asked
10 that the final regulation be held until that
11 regulation was published and was why it was being
12 moved forward at this time.]

13 MS. WOLFGANG:

14 If no one has any questions, I would ask
15 for a motion to approve the regulation
16 and to move it on through the final-form
17 rulemaking regulatory process.

18 DR. YEALY:

19 So moved.

20 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

21 Second.

22 CHAIR WOODLAND:

23 Any further discussion other than what
24 we had before? We need to do a roll
25 call vote.

1

2

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;

3

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.

4

Ripchinski, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.

5

Six, aye; Dr. Abella, aye.

6

[The motion carried unanimously.]

7

8

[Chair Woodland asked Ms. Wolfgang to address the

9

next step of the regulation.

10

Ms. Wolfgang explained that the next step would

11

be to deliver the regulation to IRRC and the

12

committees for approval to then be published as

13

final.]

14

15

Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report

16

[Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel,

17

addressed House Bill 1295 Title 63 amendments. She

18

informed Board members that it relates to hearings

19

and hearing examiner procedures and provides a

20

statutory framework for hearings in person or

21

virtual. She noted it allows for negative inference

22

to be drawn from the failure to appear of a

23

respondent and the allegations against the individual

24

to be found true.

25

Ms. Walter also noted it requires continuances

1 only for good cause, allows for adverse impact
2 statements from an individual who has been adversely
3 impacted by the allegations of the order, and allows
4 for reasonable accommodations for visual and hearing
5 impairment or any other disorder.

6 Chair Woodland commented that it was a
7 modernization of the hearing examiners to include
8 virtual and some equity and inclusion-type
9 situations.

10 Ms. Walter addressed Schedule II prescribing.
11 She stated a physician assistant prescribing
12 controlled substances is limited to prescribing a
13 prescription that would last for 30 days. She noted
14 intrathecal pain pumps are Schedule II controlled
15 substances, and because the refill on the intrathecal
16 pain pump is usually about six months, the physician
17 assistant is currently not allowed under the
18 regulations to issue those prescriptions.

19 Ms. Walter asked whether the Board would
20 entertain writing into the regulations an exclusion
21 from the 30-day rule specifically tailored to writing
22 prescriptions for intrathecal pain pumps by physician
23 assistants for either a general or specific duration.

24 Dr. Yealy noted being in support of the general
25 concept. He mentioned that the device and the

1 deployment of the opioid is not done on the same
2 schedule as used other opioids on and actually fits
3 within common clinical practice. He stated having
4 this prohibition in place will not allow them to
5 optimally serve residents of the Commonwealth and
6 believed the specific exclusion carefully written in
7 regulation will allow them to safely serve people.

8 Ms. Walter asked whether the intrathecal pain
9 pump is the only delivery method where the six-month
10 prescription for an opioid is delivered or should the
11 specific term intrathecal pain pump not be used.

12 Chair Woodland stated the Board is asking for
13 that specific carve-out for intrathecal pain pumps.
14 He did not know of other six-month entities that are
15 prescription-oriented.

16 Dr. Yealy commented that all of his clinical
17 experience deals with intrathecal use of these
18 agents, and he is not aware of an alternative long-
19 term repository delivery system. He explained how
20 the medication is administered using sterile
21 technique for up to a six-month period.

22 Chair Woodland mentioned that the Board may have
23 to come back if there is additional technology or new
24 devices requiring a longer prescription pad.

25 Ms. Wolfgang asked whether it would have to be

1 specified in the written agreement and whether the
2 Board wanted that indicated in the regulations.

3 Chair Woodland believed it should be specified
4 because a carve-out was being created from the usual
5 practice of 30 days to allow a six-month situation
6 for this type of therapy.

7 Dr. Yealy agreed and did not think the additional
8 language adds an undue burden for either the people
9 providing the care or the person receiving it.

10 Dr. Ripchinski also supported the concept and
11 adding it to the agreement. He believed it will be a
12 limited group of people who are going to have the
13 ability and oversight from physicians to do this.]

14 ***

15 For the Board's Information/Discussion - Old
16 Business/New Business - Upcoming 2024 and 2025
17 Meeting Dates

18 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, noted
19 the 2024 and 2025 Board meeting dates are available
20 on the Board's agenda for review.]

21 ***

22 Miscellaneous - FYI-FSMB Symposium on Alternate
23 Licensing Models

24 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, referred
25 to the Federation of State Medical Boards' Symposium

1 on Alternative Licensing Models. He stated there had
2 been a lot of discussion nationally, not only about
3 workforce and issues of clinical workforce for the
4 United States but also for other countries throughout
5 the world.

6 Chair Woodland reported a fairly good discussion
7 at the last FSMB Meeting between Finland and New
8 Zealand about their alternative pathways and what
9 their systems are looking at as well. He noted the
10 FSMB also put forth a commission to guide the
11 discussion on alternative pathways for state
12 licensure, which is going to include Intealth and the
13 the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical
14 Education (ACGME).

15 Mr. Dillon commented that the approaches the
16 Federation might take in terms of recommended
17 pathways to the states may be similar to the practice
18 within the state of Pennsylvania, including licensing
19 via endorsement of credentials for some international
20 graduates and the opportunity for institutional
21 licenses. He noted that, so far, there is a little
22 bit of overlap between the early suggestions and what
23 Pennsylvania already does, but believed there would
24 certainly be benefit from broader thought on this
25 topic.

1 Dr. Yealy wanted to compare and contrast what is
2 done in the Commonwealth on the State Board of
3 Medicine with the ideas that others are hearing. He
4 encouraged others to share information that exists
5 elsewhere.

6 Chair Woodland mentioned that much of it
7 addresses the current education models of different
8 countries, and the Board recognizes there is an
9 evolution happening, not only within the current
10 education models but also the access to information.
11 He noted the discussion about how artificial
12 intelligence may affect some of that as well.

13 Chair Woodland referred to issues when
14 considering out-of-country credentials and really
15 considering those credentials when it comes to their
16 own state licensure models. He mentioned that other
17 countries and states have the same issues and
18 everybody is trying to find a common place to help
19 process some of those alternative pathways, whether
20 it be people coming into this country or people from
21 this country going to other countries.

22 Chair Woodland commented that every state has to
23 deal with their own regulatory process, so anything
24 said at the level of the commissions still has to be
25 interpreted by their regulatory process and state

1 licensing boards.]

2

3 Miscellaneous - FYI-Annual Report

4 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair,

5 addressed the Annual Report, noting 4,219 cases were

6 opened and 4,412 closed in 2023 and 3,728 opened and

7 3,271 closed in 2022. He thanked everybody on the

8 State Board of Medicine for their hard work on the

9 tremendous number of cases processed.

10 Chair Woodland pointed out that the disciplinary

11 type in 2023 was 103 and has gone down from 2019

12 through 2023 from 350, 230, 172, 163, and 103,

13 respectively.]

14

15 Report of Board Chair

16 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, informed

17 everyone that the National Health Observances for May

18 2024 is raising awareness about physical fitness,

19 mental health, older adults' health and well-being,

20 and women's health. He explained that National

21 Physical Fitness and Sports Month is obviously get up

22 and get moving. He noted it talks about older adults

23 and youth being involved in healthy activity.

24 Chair Woodland addressed Older Americans Month,

25 which is being led by the Administration for

1 Community Living, and emphasizes the power of
2 connection, not only activity for older individuals.

3 Chair Woodland referred to Mental Health
4 Awareness Month, noting the Substance Abuse and
5 Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
6 sponsors mental Health Awareness Month and highlights
7 the importance of mental health. He also mentioned
8 different sports individuals are promoting good
9 mental health and addressing mental health issues.
10 He included the National Institute of Mental Health's
11 (NIMH) website in his report for the latest
12 information on those topics.

13 Chair Woodland stated National Women's Health
14 Week May 12-18, 2024, looked at empowering women in
15 their health journey; safe sexual health; shining a
16 light on maternal mental health, talking about it,
17 and reducing women's health stigma; understanding
18 care is there; reproductive health from puberty to
19 menopause and beyond; and heart and mental health.

20 Chair Woodland addressed inequities in
21 healthcare, including gender inequity, as far as
22 research into women's health and and how that has
23 lagged behind men's health. He provided a White
24 House proclamation about women's health in his
25 report. He referred to a comment, where too many

1 medications, treatments, and textbooks are based on
2 men's needs. He discussed the need for gender
3 equality and funding for health care.

4 Chair Woodland referred to PA Black Maternal
5 Health Week last month, noting there are several
6 bills being introduced through "Momnibus," which is
7 the legislative package put out from the PA Black
8 Maternal Health Caucus.

9 Chair Woodland reported that one of those bills
10 moving forward concerns blood pressure cuff
11 monitoring and having insurers pay for blood pressure
12 cuffs to help facilitate discovering hypertensive
13 disease during pregnancy.

14 Chair Woodland noted the second bill is a
15 cultural sensitivity and bias training bill. He
16 noted reactivation of his New Jersey license requires
17 cultural sensitivity training, which was helped
18 produced by Drexel.

19 Chair Woodland addressed the FSMB Annual Meeting,
20 noting the delegate reports looked at a physician and
21 training recommendation guidelines, which was
22 accepted and will be brought forth to all of the
23 state medical boards in the country.

24 Chair Woodland also noted the artificial
25 intelligence (AI) in medicine and professional

1 regulation recommendations and guidelines were
2 accepted and added to most of the other national
3 organizations.

4 Chair Woodland announced that he was reelected to
5 a three-year term on the FSMB Board and will have
6 three more years of Pennsylvania being represented on
7 the Federation of State Medical Boards.

8 Chair Woodland noted conversations about
9 workforce needs, sexual misconduct, opioid
10 misprescribing, and interdisciplinary team-based
11 approach to medical regulation. He also noted
12 discussions about hydration clinics and working in
13 harmony with other groups.

14 Mr. Dillon added that there was discussion,
15 prompted by the Oregon Board, concerning how medical
16 directors of health insurance companies are regulated
17 and there was a recommendation that the Federation
18 put together a research group to see how insurance
19 medical directors are regulated across all the states
20 and come up with recommendations for that area.

21 Chair Woodland mentioned that FSMB also has a
22 robust agenda for administrators of state medical
23 boards.

24 Chair Woodland stated the Federal Trade
25 Commission's proposal for the noncompete rule to do

1 away with some of the noncompete rules that are
2 written into employees' contracts was approved on
3 April 23, 2024, and will go into full effect in
4 September. He mentioned Pennsylvania House Bill 1633
5 is moving forward and will be discussed at a future
6 date.

7 Chair Woodland recognized May and June as the
8 months of medical school graduations as well as
9 acceptances into medical school. He mentioned the
10 Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) has a
11 great website for anyone just entering medical school
12 and includes the regulatory process.

13 Chair Woodland also included the World Medical
14 Association's Declaration of Geneva, which is the
15 physician's oath, along with the modern version of
16 the Hippocratic Oath in his report.]

17 ***

18 Report of Vice Chair

19 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, recognized
20 National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week across
21 the United States. He stated the Pennsylvania Board
22 of Medicine and everybody on the call knows the
23 dedication, impact, and caring that happens from
24 their EMS partners each and every day. He commented
25 that all are able to create that chain of not only

1 survival but also improvement.

2 Dr. Yealy noted that many people may fail to
3 recognize that organized EMS actually started in
4 western Pennsylvania by a group of people who came
5 from an underrepresented minority background. He
6 noted they were the first to not only receive
7 training in what could be done but to actually
8 operationalize that and do it in the field.

9 Dr. Yealy encouraged everyone to recognize EMS
10 professionals for the rest of the week for their
11 amazing work because it is often unrecognized.
12 Recently, nurses not only around the country but
13 specifically within the Commonwealth were recognized.

14 Chair Woodland commented that emergency medical
15 services is often a point of entry into the
16 healthcare system for many individuals, and EMS
17 providers are incredibly adept at helping individuals
18 make that point of entry in a very positive manner.]

19 ***

20 Report of Acting Commissioner

21 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
22 Professional and Occupational Affairs, informed Board
23 members that the application for naturopathic doctors
24 will be available in the Pennsylvania Licensing
25 System (PALS) on May 22, 2024.

1 Acting Commissioner Claggett announced the Bureau
2 will be enabling e-licensure on May 31, 2024, to
3 allow all licensees to print their own license
4 instead of waiting for the license to arrive in the
5 mail. He also mentioned there will not be a fee for
6 e-licensure, and it will have a response (QR) code to
7 verify the person is an active licensee.]

8

9 Report of Department of Health

10 [Sirisha Reddy, Special Assistant, on behalf of Debra
11 L. Bogen, M.D., Department of Health, recognized May
12 is National Lyme Disease Awareness Month and
13 announced that the Department of Health launched a
14 tick-borne diseases dashboard that provides a weekly
15 summary of emergency department tick bite and Lyme-
16 related visits as well as monthly Lyme disease case
17 counts by county.

18 Ms. Reddy noted legislation has been introduced
19 in both the House and the Senate to increase lead
20 testing for children, and Dr. Bogen has issued an
21 editorial emphasizing the importance of lead testing
22 for children.

23 Ms. Reddy noted the health advisories to health
24 systems and providers is also posted on the
25 Department of Health website. She reported the last

1 health advisory went out last Friday regarding
2 influenza A(H5N1) for healthcare providers. She
3 noted H5N1 has not been identified in Pennsylvania as
4 of May 1 but has been identified in nine states.

5 Chair Woodland thanked Ms. Reddy for the alerts
6 from the Department of Health to raise awareness to
7 issues that may or may not impact patients.]

8

9 Report of Committee on Health-Related Professionals -
10 No Report

11

12 Report of Committee on Legislation/Policy Development
13 and Review

14 [Michel R. Ripchinski, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAFP, echoed
15 Dr. Yealy and wished everyone a Happy National EMS
16 Week. He mentioned being the board chair of
17 Lancaster EMS, and the EMS professionals and
18 paramedics are near and dear to his heart as they not
19 only honor the past but forge into the future of EMS
20 across the Commonwealth and the nation.

21 Dr. Ripchinski discussed working on the growth of
22 the Lancaster community-based paramedic program. he
23 noted their community paramedicine program is a
24 critical piece to taking care of their patients, not
25 only preventing admissions, but also helping patients

1 transition to prevent a readmission to the hospital,
2 as well as community outreach and connecting with
3 community agencies and partners to take care of
4 patients when they are well beyond the hospital and
5 well out of their physician offices.

6 Dr. Ripchinski reported seeing growth in
7 community paramedicine but also growth in teaching
8 and educational programs for their EMTs and
9 paramedics, which is a stepping stone to future
10 healthcare careers and being able to partner with
11 them.

12 Dr. Ripchinski noted having a prehospital EMS
13 fellowship-trained physician in Lancaster who is
14 working with their Penn Medicine program across
15 southeastern PA to continue to coordinate with EMS
16 professionals and EMS organizations and to grow,
17 train, and develop those staff members as well.

18 Dr. Ripchinski commented on the many
19 opportunities into the future, including bringing
20 technology and other services into the field, as well
21 as continuing to engage and train staff.

22 Dr. Ripchinski stated artificial intelligence has
23 been in the news lately with their Chat Generative
24 Pre-Trained Transformer (GPT) and open AI
25 announcement. He referred to Dr. Betchel's comment

1 in the Journal of Medical Regulation in May, where
2 medical boards have to start thinking about
3 regulatory considerations of rapidly expanding AI in
4 the practice of medicine.

5 Dr. Ripchinski noted his thought-provoking short
6 article triggered thoughts about a regulatory goal in
7 the future to allow the integration of technology
8 with clinical management and to evolve while
9 maintaining standards of care, ethical practice, and
10 avoiding patient harm. He referred to the COVID
11 years and how to use those lessons learned from
12 thinking about telemedicine regulation and expansion
13 and growth and applying some of that learning to AI
14 in the future.

15 Chair Woodland commented that the new FSMB
16 statement highlights that the provider is responsible
17 whether or not it is used. He noted looking at how
18 to teach critical thinking in the day of AI and what
19 sensational education needs to happen, especially in
20 the surgical world and some of the other worlds.

21 Chair Woodland commented that Heidi Koenig from
22 the Kentucky State Medical Board was part of the
23 committee who helped write the recommendations after
24 reading a novel by Jane Austen called *Sense and*
25 *Sensibility* and is why the title of their

1 recommendations is *Sense and Sensibility* because many
2 applications can be put forth about approaching AI
3 with sense and sensibility.

4 Chair Woodland mentioned raising cybersecurity as
5 it applies to artificial intelligence with FSMB and
6 what gets into the development of intelligence in a
7 computer-generated thought process. He noted
8 artificial intelligence has something called
9 hallucinations or misguided thought processes that
10 can happen and cautioned against entering biased
11 information.

12 Chair Woodland commented that the electronic
13 medical record (EMR) now represents 25% of the
14 healthcare budget and has been the biggest
15 displeasure for providers. He expressed a concern
16 with artificial intelligence doing the same.]

17 ***

18 Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications - No
19 Report - No Report

20 [Gerard F. Dillon, Ph.D., Public Member, noted the
21 committee continues to be very busy and thanked Dr.
22 Yealy, Dr. Kutz, and Mr. Eisenhauer for their hard
23 work.]

24 ***

25 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

1 [Saiyad Ali, Board Administrator, thanked Board
2 members for allowing him the opportunity to attend
3 the FSMB Meeting. He noted it to be enlightening to
4 hear other ideas from other boards.

5 Chair Woodland mentioned new special breakout
6 sessions for the board administrators to discuss
7 their boards.

8 Chair Woodland noted the President of the
9 Osteopathic Medical Board of California, Denise
10 Pines, presented her work on inequities in maternal
11 health in Pennsylvania and was also just reelected to
12 the Federation.]

13 ***

14 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, noted
15 the next scheduled Board meeting is June 25, 2024,
16 and welcomed everyone to attend in person.]

17 ***

18 Adjournment

19 CHAIR WOODLAND:

20 Motion to adjourn.

21 DR. YEALY:

22 So moved.

23 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

24 Second.

25 ***

1 [There being no other business, the State Board of
2 Medicine Meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.]

3 ***

4

5 CERTIFICATE

6

7 I hereby certify that the foregoing summary
8 minutes of the State Board of Medicine meeting, was
9 reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and
10 that the minutes accurately summarize the substance
11 of the State Board of Medicine meeting.

12

13



14

Rachel Wilbur-Adams,

15

16

Minute Clerk

17

Sargent's Court Reporting

18

Service, Inc.

19

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26

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE
REFERENCE INDEX

May 21, 2024

| | TIME | AGENDA |
|----|-------|---|
| 1 | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | | |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | 8:45 | Executive Session |
| 9 | 10:29 | Return to Open Session |
| 10 | | |
| 11 | 10:31 | Official Call to Order |
| 12 | | |
| 13 | 10:31 | Acknowledge Public - Turn Off |
| 14 | | Electronic Devices |
| 15 | | |
| 16 | 10:31 | Introduction of Board Members/Attendees |
| 17 | | |
| 18 | 10:34 | Approval of Minutes |
| 19 | | |
| 20 | 10:35 | Report of Prosecuting Attorneys |
| 21 | | |
| 22 | 10:55 | Report of Board Counsel |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | 10:59 | Applications for Licensure |
| 25 | | |
| 26 | 11:04 | Ratifications |
| 27 | | |
| 28 | 11:06 | Miscellaneous |
| 29 | | |
| 30 | 11:08 | Report of Board Counsel (cont.) |
| 31 | | |
| 32 | 11:20 | For the Board's Information/Discussion |
| 33 | | |
| 34 | 11:20 | Miscellaneous (cont.) |
| 35 | | |
| 36 | 11:27 | Report of Board Chair |
| 37 | | |
| 38 | 11:36 | Report of Vice Chair |
| 39 | | |
| 40 | 11:38 | Report of Acting Commissioner |
| 41 | | |
| 42 | 11:40 | Report of Department of Health |
| 43 | | |
| 44 | 11:42 | Report of Committees |
| 45 | | |
| 46 | 11:53 | Adjournment |
| 47 | | |
| 48 | | |
| 49 | | |
| 50 | | |