

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

DATE: April 17, 2024

TIME: 8:30 AM

LOCATION: Via Microsoft TEAMS

MEETING MINUTES

Name	Member	Present (Y/N)	DPH STAFF	Present (Y/N)
Patricia C. Bouffard, RN, DNSc, Chairperson	RN Member	N	Craig A. Sullivan, DPH	Y
Cynthia L. Arpin, EdD, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y	Elizabeth Bannon, AAG	Y
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE	RN Member	Y	Alina Bricklin-Goldstein, AAG	Y
Lisa S. Freeman, BA	Public	Y	Cindy Mahon, AAG	Y
Salvatore Diaz, DNP, MSN, RN	RN Member	N	Charai Bellini, DPH	Y
Rebecca Martinez, LPN	LPN Member	Y	Aden Baume, DPH	Y
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC	RN Member	Y	Derrick Williams, Board Liaison	Y
Brett M. Prestia, MD	Public Member	Y	Ryan Burns, DPH Deputy Legal Director	Y
Camille Payne, MD	APRN Member	Y	Chris Andresen, DPH	Y
Michael Cartier, Esq.	Public Member	Y	Helen Smith, DPH	Y
Cheryl-Ann Resha	Public Member	N	Dana Dalton, DPH	Y

CALL TO ORDER 8:33 AM

MINUTES OF March 20, 2024, REGULAR MEETING

The review of the minutes of the March 20, 2024. Gina Reiners asked for a motion to approve the minutes from March 20, 2024. Rebecca Martinez moved to approve the minutes. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved by roll call.

MINUTES OF April 3, 2024, REGULAR MEETING

The review of the minutes of the April 3, 2024. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the minutes. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved by roll call vote.

THE CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR NURSING WORKFORCE, INC

Marcia Proto the executive director for the Connecticut Center for Nursing Workforce presented the pre licensure, RN and LPN educational pathway survey.

Linda Wagner addressed some of the concerns on behalf of the Deans and Directors of schools feel strongly that we'd like to work collaboratively together to address some of the school concerns more frequently rather than monthly.

Gina Reiners referenced concerns provided by Linda Wagner regarding the ordering of the agenda and referenced at this time the placing of school matters on the agenda be placed elsewhere. Gina Reiners also requested these matters be placed within the minutes to be discussed later.

SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Gina Reiners requested to add Allison Christine Sewell, RN petition No. 2024-234. Mary Dietmann first motioned to add Allison Christine Sewell, RN petition No. 2024-234 under summary suspensions. Cynthia L. Arpin seconded the motion. By roll call vote this was approved.

Chereece Reynolds, RN, Petition 2023-241. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina appeared for the Department. Mary Dietmann moved to order the summary suspension. Rebecca Martinez seconded the motion. This motion has been approved by roll call vote.

Marie-Rose U. Simbizi, RN Petition No. 2023-1389. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Marie-Rose U. Simbizi represented herself. Mary Dietmann moved to approve this matter. Cythnia Arpin seconded the motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote.

Upon advice from counsel, the board reopened the consideration of the Marie-Rose U. Simbizi summary suspension to allow the Respondent to be heard. Lisa Freeman moved to reopen the case. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. After hearing Marie-Rose U. Simbizi speak, Lisa Freeman first moved to approve the summary suspension. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. This motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Allison Christine Sewell, RN, Petition No. 2024-334. Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan appeared for the Department. Mary Dietmann moved to approve. Lisa Freeman made seconded the motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Sheila Harrington, RN Petition No. 2023-271. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the MOD as presented. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved following vote by roll call.

CONSENT ORDER

Jennifer L. Urbano, L.P.N. Petition No.2022-113. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina represented the department. Cynthia Arpin moved to approve the consent order. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. This was approved by roll call vote.

Pamela Edgecombe, L.P.N. Petition 2023-428. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina represented the department. Lisa Freeman moved to approve the consent order. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote.

Melissa M. Castelli, R.N. 2023-903. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton represented the department. Lisa Freeman moved to approve the consent order. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

REINSTATEMENT CONSENT ORDER

Amanda V. Hart, Unlicensed R.N. Petition No. 2024-255. Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan represented the department. Respondent was represented by Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the reinstatement consent order. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion to approve. The motion was approved following roll call vote.

MOTION TO AMEND STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Michelle E. McDonald, RN Petition 2024-255 Staff Attorney Joelle Newton represents the department. Respondents represented by Attorney Steve Manning were present and did not oppose the amendment of statement of charges. Cynthia Arpin moved to approve the amendment. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved following the vote by roll call.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Simone Elizabeth Escoffery-Dick R.N. Petition 2023-246. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina represented the Department. Mary Dietmann moved to withdraw the statement of charges. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved following vote by roll call.

Anita Ajagbe R.N. Petition No. 2022 Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina represents the department. Lisa Freeman first moved to withdraw the statement of charges. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. This motion was approved following roll call vote.

HEARINGS

Patrice Andrene Williams, R.N. Petition No. 2023-281. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton represented the Department. Respondent was present and did not have representation.

AAG Elizabeth Bannon described to respondent what the respondent's rights were prior to the start of the hearing. Respondent denied the statement of charges against her. This motion was tabled after hearing the school matters giving time for respondent to look over the exhibits provided to her by the department.

Lincoln Technical Institute. This matter was tabled due to a lack of quorum until the next meeting scheduled for May 1st, 2024. This matter was requested to be placed at the top of the next meeting.

SCHOOL ISSUES

Central Connecticut State University. Kerri Langevin, the newly appointed Program Administrator for the ABSN. Cynthia Arpin moved for approval of Kerri Langevin to be appointed. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Connecticut State Community College Gateway Campus. Barbara K. McFarland, the past interim chair presented a letter to appoint Bienvenido Tabuzo as the new academic Nursing Division Director at Gateway Campus associate degree program. Cynthia Arpin moved to approve. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved following roll call vote.

Goodwin University. Helen Smith from the department visited the East Hartford and Bridgeport campus to approve the report of the visit and the practical nursing program. Cynthia Arpin first motioned to approve the site visit. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion to approve the site visits. The site visit was approved following roll call vote.

Provost Michael Pardales is requesting to approve Vivienne Friday from interim Dean of Nursing to the Dean of Nursing and Health Professions. Lisa Freeman moved to approve Vivienne Friday as the Dean. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion to approve. The motion was approved following roll call vote.

ReNurse Academy. Brittany Faison the Director of ReNurse Academy presented their letter of intent to establish a Practical Nursing program. Gina Reiners provided a list of items ReNursing needed to establish the program. The approval from the Office of Higher Education and a feasibility study prior to approving the Practical Nursing program.

Gina Reiners requested to table this matter until the information was provided to the board.

Brittany Faison, the Director of ReNurse Academy presented the board with statistics on refresher courses and the reasoning behind taking the course with preparation to pass the Nclex and getting the students prepared for the next steps.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Acting chairwoman Gina Reiners invited comment from the public. No member of the public offered comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Lisa Freeman move to adjourn the meeting. Brett Prestia seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

DRAFT