The Board of Examiners for Nursing held a meeting on September 7, 2011 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Tarah Cherry, Public Member
Heidi Darling, LPN
Jennifer Long, APRN
Danielle O’Connell, RN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeffrey T. Marvin, Public Member

ALSO PRESENT: Joanne V. Yandow, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, DPH
Pamela Pelletier, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Matthew Antonetti, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

STUDENTS

There were no students present at this meeting.

CHAIR UPDATES

- Katherine Pellerin has resigned from the Board.
- Today is Danielle O’Connell’s last meeting.
- Chair Bouffard will update the Board later in today’s meeting regarding the NCSBN Annual Meeting.

OPEN FORUM

No issues were brought up for discussion from the audience.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND REORDERING OF AGENDA

Revised agendas were distributed to the Board Members this morning.

Lynn Bradley’s, RN hearing, has been rescheduled to October 5, 2011.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

There is nothing new to report at this time as the Legislature is not in session.

The 2012 Legislation Session will be February 8th – May 9th.
ST. VINCENT’S COLLEGE – WAIVER REQUEST

On August 10, 2011 the Board Office received a letter from Margo McCarthy, Chair of the Nursing Program, requesting a continuance of a one-year temporary waiver for Karri Davis that was approved by the Board on August 18, 2010. Ms. Davis is matriculated into the double degree MSN program at the University of Hartford with an anticipated graduation date of May 2012. Jennifer Long moved to grant the waiver request. The motion was seconded by Danielle O’Connell and passed unanimously. There was no one present at today’s meeting from the St. Vincent’s Nursing Program.

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY – WAIVER REQUEST

The Board Office received a letter from Claire Bassett, Clinical Placement Coordinator on August 22, 2011 requesting a one-year temporary waiver for Erin Martin. Ms. Bassett was present at today’s meeting to request the waiver and stated that Ms. Martin is currently matriculated into the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at Fairfield University with an anticipated graduation date of May 2012. Mary Brown moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to grant the waiver request. The motion passed unanimously.

SOUTHERN CT STATE UNIVERSITY – WAIVER REQUEST

On August 5, 2011 the Board Office received a letter from Lisa Rebeschi, Chair of the Department of Nursing, requesting a one-year temporary waiver for Evelyn Corda. Ms. Corda is currently matriculated into the MSN program at Saint Joseph College of Maine with an anticipated graduation date of December 2012. Jennifer Long moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to grant the waiver request. The motion passed unanimously. There was no one present from Southern’s Nursing Program at today’s meeting.

BRIDGEPORT HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING – PERMANENT ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. Carol Papp, Administrator of the BHSON, was present for this discussion. The Board was provided with the organizational chart and an e-mail from Mary Ellen Kosturko, Sr. Vice President/Chief Nursing Officer of Patient Care Operations, stating that the only responsibilities that Dr. Papp has is to the School of Nursing. She does not have any departments from the hospital that report to her. Dr. Papp had been the Interim Administrator for the Bridgeport Hospital School of Nursing (BHSON) since December 21, 2010 and had been named as the Permanent Administrator for the BHSON effective July 3, 2011. Maria Pietrantuono moved and Mary Brown seconded to accept Dr. Papp’s credentials as they meet the Regulations for Nursing Education Programs and Licensure Requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

CHARTER OAK NURSE REFRESHER PROGRAM – SIX MONTH REVIEW

Jane Murdock and Susan Deane were present to provide the Board with the six month follow-up report regarding the CT League for Nursing/Charter Oak State College Virtual RN Refresher Course. The Virtual RN Refresher Course, which consists of two didactic and two virtual modules, was presented and approved by the Board on June 2, 2010.

Surveys were sent to the 13 students who completed all four modules and the program received eight responses which were highly positive. Four students were required to take the NCLEX-RN exam with successful completion.

Currently, only one student is employed full-time and the program received an excellent evaluation from her employer in all areas. Some students have not actively pursued employment due to personal and family obligations and others were waiting to complete the NCLEX-RN exam before applying for positions. A few students have found barriers in obtaining employment mostly due to the economic influences that healthcare facilities are facing.
Susan Deane and Jane Murdock will return to the Board in February 2012 to update the Board on employment of the remaining 12 original students regarding employment as an RN and employer feedback if at all possible.

**NCLEX SCORES – SECOND QUARTER 2011**

The Board reviewed the NCLEX RN & LPN scores for the second quarter of 2011. Both the RN programs and the LPN programs exceeded the 80% required by state statute. The RN first time pass rate for this quarter was calculated to be 91.55% and the LPN first time pass rate for this quarter was calculated to be 89.19%.

Tarah Cherry and Heidi Darling arrived at this time.

**LINCOLN COLLEGE OF NEW ENGLAND – LETTER OF INTENT**

The Board received in their agenda packets a Letter of Intent from Lincoln College regarding their intent to open an associate degree nursing program. The program will be housed in their Hartford location and a Feasibility Study is pending review by the Board in October.

**RN/LPN SURVEY FORMS – REVIEW**

Earlier this year Pam Pelletier met several times with the Deans and Directors to try to capture all the necessary information for this annual survey. Many programs now have more than one graduation class per year and the forms are now based on the calendar year and not the academic year to decrease confusion in completing the survey. After much discussion with the Deans and Directors, the final version is being presented to the Board for approval.

Mary Brown moved and Jennifer Long seconded to accept the annual survey as edited. The motion passed unanimously.

**SCOPE OF PRACTICE – CORRESPONDENCE/STATISTICS ON INQUIRIES**

Pam Pelletier apprised the Board of calls received in the Board Office during the months of May through August which is approximately 70 calls per month. Ms. Pelletier also discussed with the Board how the Regulations and Statutes are not keeping up with today’s technology.

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING UPDATE**

Chair Bouffard and Jennifer Long attended the NCSBN Annual Meeting in Indianapolis August 3 - 5, 2011, to consider pertinent association business with its member boards of nursing. There were 56 member boards represented by delegates.

Highlights of some of the significant actions approved by the member boards of nursing included adoption of revisions to the Uniform Licensure Requirements; Election of Officers for the NCSBN Board of Directors and Leadership Succession Committee; and acceptance of the Singapore Nursing Board and College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia as associate members of NCSBN.

NCSBN Board of Directors President Myra A. Broadway, JD, MS, RN, executive director, Maine State Board of Nursing, commented, “In addition to welcoming our two new associate members, we are pleased that the delegates had sufficient time to discuss and vote for the proposed Uniform Licensure Requirements to help promote future uniformity among member boards and facilitate nurse mobility.”

NCSBN sponsored Meet the Press, a press room-style Regulatory Network at this year’s Annual Meeting. Donning press hats, NCSBN staff moderated six panels that covered a variety of topics affecting nursing today. Attendees were even given NCSBN jotters, small notebooks once commonly used by reporters, to take notes.
In addition to reporting out to the member boards, the TERCAP Committee also hosted an exhibit booth to promote the streamlined, shorter and more focused instrument. Boards of nursing (BONs) were invited to visit the booth to be entered in the TERCAP database onsite, ask questions of the NCSBN TERCAP staff and view a live demo of the 2011 TERCAP.

NCSBN will meet August 8 - 10, 2012, in Dallas for the 2012 Annual Meeting and Delegate Assembly.

The NCSBN is a not-for-profit organization whose members include the boards of nursing in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and four U.S. territories — American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands. There are also nine associate members.

The mission of the NCSBN is to provide education, service and research through collaborative leadership to promote evidence-based regulatory excellence for patient safety and public protection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Janice E. Wojick presented the following minutes to the Board Members for their review, editing, and approval.

MARCH 2, 2011

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Danielle O’Connell, to accept the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Tarah Cherry, Heidi Darling, and Maria Pietrantuono who abstained.

MARCH 9, 2011

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed with the exception of Tarah Cherry, Heidi Darling, and Maria Pietrantuono who abstained.

APRIL 6, 2011

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to accept the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Mary Brown and Danielle O’Connell who abstained.

APRIL 20, 2011

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, to accept the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Heidi Darling who abstained.

MAY 4, 2011

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Mary Brown, to accept the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Tarah Cherry who abstained.

MAY 25, 2011

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Danielle O’Connell, to accept the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Heidi Darling who abstained.
JUNE 1, 2011

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Jennifer Long, the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Tarah Cherry, Heidi Darling, and Danielle O’Connell who abstained.

JUNE 15, 2011

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Danielle O’Connell, the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

JULY 20, 2011

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Danielle O’Connell, to accept the minutes as edited. The motion passed unanimously.

AUGUST 17, 2011

Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Mary Brown, to accept the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Heidi Darling and Danielle O’Connell.

2012 BOEN CALENDAR – REVIEW

The 2012 Legislative Session begins on February 8th and concludes May 9th. When the Legislature is not in Session the Board uses the Legislative Office Building (LOB) for their meetings. During Session we were not able to use the same facility for all of the meetings as in the past. Therefore meetings scheduled during the Legislative Session will be held at the Department of Public Health Complex. There is limited parking/shuttle service at the DPH Complex. We are requesting that nursing students only attend Board meetings held at the LOB as the LOB can accommodate the students and also has parking available. Please note that all meetings start at 8:30 AM.

JANUARY 18 HEARINGS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
FEBRUARY 1 BUSINESS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
FEBRUARY 15 HEARINGS Department of Public Health 470-C *
MARCH 7 BUSINESS Department of Public Health 470-C *
MARCH 21 HEARINGS Department of Public Health 470-A/B *
APRIL 4 BUSINESS Department of Public Health 470-C *
APRIL 18 HEARINGS Department of Public Health 470-A/B *
MAY 2 BUSINESS Department of Public Health 470-C *
MAY 16 HEARINGS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
JUNE 6 BUSINESS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
JUNE 20 HEARINGS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
JULY 18 HEARINGS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
AUGUST 15 HEARINGS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
SEPTEMBER 5 BUSINESS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
SEPTEMBER 19 HEARINGS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
OCTOBER 3 BUSINESS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
OCTOBER 17 HEARINGS LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING **
Karen Carlson McPadden submitted a written request to the Board Office on August 8, 2011, requesting approval for a full-time position, three days per week, at Highwatch Recovery Center. The position she is requesting approval for is a night shift position which would have supervision from 7PM to 11:30 PM with no supervision from 11:30 PM to 7AM. Ms. McPadden would be alone in the office building where the medications are kept although she would not have a key to the meds and this facility DOES NOT dispense controlled substances. Residents live in cottages, and each cottage has a psych tech. Ms. McPadden would make “dorm sweeps” throughout the night and would be adequately supervised, as the psych techs and the night security guard are all in recovery themselves and would be alert to any sign of impairment. Ms. McPadden has not practiced nursing in six years although she has completed the Charter Oak Refresher Program. Due to the lack of proper supervision at Highwatch, the Department withheld approval. Approval was given to Ms. McPadden to work per diem at Highwatch, day and evening shifts, which she is currently working. Ms. McPadden described in her letter her urgent need for full-time employment with benefits, and is currently seeking Board approval. Mary Brown moved and Tarah Cherry seconded to grant Ms. McPadden’s request at this time to modify the Memorandum of Decision to allow her to work at Highwatch without shift restrictions. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Patricia Bouffard and Maria Pietrantuono who were opposed.

HEARING – FRANCES DILORETO, RN

Legal Office Attorney Leslie Scoville was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. DiLoreto was not present at this hearing and she did not have representation at this hearing. Attorney Scoville made an Oral Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. Jennifer Long moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to grant the Oral Motion to Deem. The motion passed unanimously.

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Jennifer Long seconded that Ms. DiLoreto be found on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Jennifer Long seconded that Ms. DiLoreto’s license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARING – MICHAEL R. GORE, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley was present representing the Department of Public Health. Mr. Gore was not present at this hearing nor was he represented by counsel at this hearing.

Attorney Shanley provided the Board with a written Motion to Deem Allegations Admitted. Jennifer Long moved, Mary Brown seconded to grant the Motion to Deem. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board recessed this hearing at 11:10 AM to allow Attorney Shanley to return to the Department to access documents requested by the Board.

HEARING – DENISE LaBONTE, RN

Legal Office Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. LaBonte was present pro se. Documents were entered into the record and opening statements were made. The Board recessed this case and resumed the hearing of Michael Gore.
CONTINUATION OF THE MICHAEL R. GORE, LPN HEARING

The Board reopened the Michael Gore record at noon to review the documents and the hearing concluded at 12:10 PM.

Jennifer Long moved and Mary Brown seconded that Mr. Gore be found on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Jennifer Long moved and Heidi Darling seconded that Mr. Gore’s license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

Lunch Recess 12:15 PM – 12:50 PM

CONTINUATION OF THE DENISE LabONTE, RN HEARING

Testimony was provided by the following Meridian Manor employees: Mary Ellen Royka, Director of Nursing, Jenny Giannini, LPN, Arnell Deleon, RN who worked per diem, and Ms. Labonte. Jennifer Long and Danielle O’Connell left at 3:20 PM during the hearing.

Mary Brown moved and Heidi Darling seconded that Ms. Labonte be found on all charges with the exception of 2e., 3, and 4 – 20-99(b)(7). The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, that Ms. Labonte’s license be placed on probation for six months with monthly employer reports, and coursework on medication administration and medication documentation with documentation of concerns and problems arising in patient care. The motion passed with all in favor with the exception of Tarah Cherry who was opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to end this meeting at 4:35 PM.
The Board of Examiners for Nursing held a meeting on September 21, 2011 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair  
Mary M. Brown, RN  
Jeffrey T. Marvin, Public Member  
Maria Pietrantuono, RN

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Tarah Cherry, Public Member  
Heidi Darling, LPN  
Jennifer Long, APRN

**ALSO PRESENT:** Stacy Owens, Counsel to the Board, DPH  
Pamela Pelletier, Nurse Consultant, DPH  
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH  
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH  
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH  
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH  
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH  
Pohn Kwee, Secretary II, DPH  
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.

**STUDENTS**

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Bullard Havens LPN Program, Western CT State University, Saint Joseph College, Porter and Chester Institute, and the University of Connecticut.

Chair Bouffard provided the students with an overview of the Board’s responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs.

**SCHOOL ISSUES – SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE – WAIVER REQUEST**

Dr. Joyce Fontana, Chair of the Department of Nursing, was present to request a one year temporary waiver request for Cynthia Meeker, RN, BSN, for the fall semester to work with students in a psychiatric setting. This waiver will not exceed the 10% limit required by state statute 20-90-51(3). Ms. Meeker is currently matriculated into the Psychiatric APRN Program at Saint Joseph’s College with an anticipated date of graduation in 2014. Ms. Meeker has over 30 years of nursing experience, primarily in psychiatric nursing. She will instruct undergrad students in psychiatric nursing at the Institute of Living in the fall semester.

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Jeffrey Marvin seconded to grant the request for the one-year temporary faculty education waiver. The motion passed unanimously.

**CONSENT ORDER – NICOLE SANTO, LPN**

Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan presented the Board with a Consent Order for Nicole Santo. Ms. Santo was not present at this meeting. Ms. Santo’s license was suspended pursuant to an Interim Consent Order which was signed by the Board on January 19, 2011 pending further investigation. Mary Brown moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded that the Consent Order be accepted as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Consent Order.
MEMORANDA OF DECISION

Janice E. Wojick presented the Board with the following Memoranda of Decision which all become effective upon Chair Bouffard’s signature at this meeting.

CARLA COLLINS, RN

Mary Brown moved to affirm the Board’s prior decision to place Ms. Collins’ license on probation for one year with restrictions as specified in the Memorandum of Decision. The motion was seconded by Maria Pietrantuono and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision.

BELINDA GARNETT, LPN

Maria Pietrantuono moved to affirm the Board’s prior decision to revoke Ms. Garnett’s license. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision.

JENNIFER GRECO, LPN

Maria Pietrantuono moved to affirm the Board’s prior decision to revoke Ms. Greco’s license. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Marvin and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision.

JAMIE GRENIER, RN

Jeffrey Marvin moved to affirm the Board’s prior decision to extend Ms. Grenier’s probation to November 1, 2015 with restrictions as specified in the Memorandum of Decision. The motion was seconded by Maria Pietrantuono and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision.

CAROLE RUGGIERO-RUIZ, RN

Mary Brown moved to affirm the Board’s prior decision to deny Ms. Ruggiero-Ruiz’ request for reinstatement at this time. The motion was seconded by Maria Pietrantuono and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision.

BRYAN SHERMAN, LPN

Mary Brown moved to affirm the Board’s prior decision to place Mr. Sherman’s license on probation for one year with restrictions and his license remains suspended until the successful completion of the coursework as specified in the Memorandum of Decision. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Marvin and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision.

STACEY WILLIAMS, LPN

Maria Pietrantuono moved to affirm the Board’s prior decision to revoke Ms. Williams’ license. The motion was seconded by Mary Brown and passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Decision.

HEARING – JACQUELINE LISCIO, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Liscio was present pro se. Testimony was provided by Ms. Liscio.

Jeffrey Marvin moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded that Ms. Liscio be found on all charges as Ms. Liscio had orally admitted to all charges. The motion passed unanimously.
Jeffrey Marvin moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded that Ms. Liscio’s license be placed on probation for six months with monthly employer reports and coursework in Ethics and Medication Administration.

**HEARING – SUE PELLETIER, LPN**

Ms. Pelletier’s first hearing was held on August 17, 2011. Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley was present representing the Department of Public Health at this second hearing before the Board. Ms. Pelletier was not in attendance nor did she have representation at this hearing. At the conclusion of the August 17, 2011 hearing, the Board requested that the Department provide the full personnel file, the HAVEN file, and the substance abuse evaluation. The Respondent is to provide documents that supported her testimony that she is indeed in a recovery program, including a letter from her sponsor, documentation of her AA meeting attendance for one year, and any other support letters she can provide or witnesses she would like to bring to the hearing to testify.

On September 20, 2011 Ms. Pelletier requested a continuance via telephone and fax stating that she would not be able to attend due to a broken hearing aid. Chair Bouffard was notified of Ms. Pelletier’s request, and advised that Ms. Pelletier attend the meeting and put her continuance request on the record. Again, Ms. Pelletier was not in attendance and did not have representation at this hearing. Mary Brown moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, that the continuance request be denied. The motion passed unanimously.

Exhibits were entered into the record, the Board reviewed the documentation, and the record was closed.

Mary Brown moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, that Ms. Pelletier’s license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously. The Board stated that they had concerns due to the fact that Ms. Pelletier has an active license and asked that this Memorandum of Decision is expedited.

**REINSTATEMENT HEARING – MARCELLE GRENIER, LPN**

Legal Office Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Grenier was present pro se. Testimony was provided by Ms. Grenier and the Board moved into Executive Session in order to question Ms. Grenier regarding confidential medical records. Executive Session concluded and the hearing concluded also.

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Mary Brown seconded to grant Ms. Grenier’s request to reinstate her LPN license and to place her license on probation for four years with restrictions. Ms. Grenier is to successfully complete a Board approved LPN refresher course, successfully complete the NCLEX- PN Exam, provide drug/alcohol screen reports weekly for the first and fourth years and twice per month for the second and third years of the probation. Therapist and employer reports are to be provided monthly for the first and fourth years and quarterly for the second and third years of probation. Respondent shall not administer, count, or have access to narcotics or other controlled substances, or have responsibility for such activities in the course of her nursing duties for the first year after returning to work as a nurse. The Respondent shall not be employed as a nurse for a personnel provider service, assisted living services agency, homemaker – home health aide agency, or home health care agency, and shall not be self-employed as a nurse during the probationary period. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present that this meeting be adjourned at 10:45 AM.