

**BOARD OR COMMISSION: Nursing Board (Regular Meeting)**

**DATE: September 6, 2023**

**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	Y		Stacy Schulman, Legal Counsel to the Board	Y
Cynthia L. Arpin, EdD, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y		Helen Smith, DPH	Y
Jason Blando	Public	N		Dana Dalton, DPH	Y
Mary E. Dietmann, EdD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNE	RN Member	N		Laura Morris, DPH	Y
Lisa S. Freeman, BA	Public	Y		Tyra Peluso, Board Liaison	Y
Salvatore Diaz, DNP, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y		Charai Bellini	Y
Rebecca Martinez, LPN	LPN Member	Y			
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC	RN Member	Y			
Brett M. Prestia, MD	Public Member	Y			

**CALL TO ORDER 8:36 AM**

**1. CHAIR UPDATE**

Pat Bouffard stated that the Porter and Chester Institute five-year study will be presented during the September 20, 2023, meeting.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Gina Reiners moved to approve the August 9, 2023, minutes. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. Gina Reiners then moved to vacate her initial motion to accept the minutes from August 9, 2023, noting corrections needed. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Gina Reiners moved to amend the minutes of August 9, 2023, noting the following revisions. Rebecca Martinez seconded the motion.

- Page 3 of 7, Goodwin University matter, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, correction to Cynthia's last name from Reiners to Arpin.
- Page 2, last sentence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph corrected to say approved versus opposed.
- Page 6, Carol Pulliam, RN Matter, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph corrected to say Brett Prestia abstained versus absent.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Gina Reiners moved to approve the minutes as amended. Rebecca Martinez seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT** – There was no public comment.

### **3. MOTION TO REOPEN**

• Kristen Brice, LPN, Petition No. 2022-913. Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan represented the Department. Cynthia Arpin moved to reopen this case to modify the memorandum of decision to ensure the complete timeframe of compliance is reflected inclusive of the probationary period. Rebecca Martinez seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Cynthia Arpin moved to approve the amended memorandum of decision. Brett Prestia seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **4. MEMORANDUM OF DECISION**

• Tiona Stewart, LNP, Petition No. 2023-151. Brett Prestia moved to affirm the MOD as presented, seconded by Rebecca Martinez. The motion was unanimously approved.

• Michael Berkley, RN, Petition No. 2023-381. Brett Prestia moved to affirm the MOD as presented, seconded by Cynthia Arpin. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **5. MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

• Heidi A. Smith, RN: Petition No. 2023-954, Staff Attorney Joelle Newton for the Department. Respondent was present. Cynthia Arpin moved to grant the summary suspension as presented. Salvatore Diaz seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

• Mike Yovel Robert, RN: Petition No. 2022-1118, Staff Attorney Joelle Newton for the Department. Respondent did not appear. Cynthia Arpin moved to grant the summary suspension as presented. Salvatore Diaz seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Awa Ndao, RN: Petition No. 2022-1116 Staff Attorney Joelle Newton for the Department. Respondent did not appear. Gina Reiners moved to grant the summary suspension as presented. Cynthia Arpin seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Beatriz McMillian, RN: Petition No. 2023-681 Staff Attorney Joelle Newton for the Department. Respondent did not appear. Gina Reiners moved to grant the summary suspension as presented. Salvatore Diaz seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Antoinette M. Morris: Petition No. 2022-1115 Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan for the Department. Respondent was represented by Attorney Elio Morgan. Gina Reiners moved to grant the summary suspension as presented. Cynthia Arpin seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. Atty Morgan stated that he does not believe the documentation was sufficient, that there is a violation of due process, and noted his opposition for the record.

## **6. CONSENT ORDERS**

- Charles F. Wetmore, RN, APRN, Petition No. 2019-828; 2022-1139, Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan for the Department. Attorney Michael Lynch appeared on behalf of Respondent. Gina Reiners moved to approve the consent order as presented. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion.

Following Board discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Vote No: Lisa Freeman, Salvatore Diaz, and Rebecca Martinez. Vote Yes: Cynthia Arpin, Brett Prestia, and Gina Reiners. Pat Bouffard voted yes approving the consent order as presented.

- Luisa P. Segarra, LPN: Petition No. 2023-252, Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina for the Department. Salvatore Diaz moved to approve the consent order as presented. Gina Reiners seconded the motion. Following discussion noting the need for a hearing, the board unanimously rejected the consent order.

## **7. PREHEARING REVIEW**

- Alan Manubag, RN: Petition No. 2022-699, Staff Attorney Joelle Newton for the Department. Following board discussion Pat Bouffard noted that a hearing will be needed as there is not enough information to determine an appropriate remedy.

## **8. HEARINGS**

- Jacqueline McInerney, RN\*: Petition No. 2022-1112, Staff Attorney Joelle Newton for the Department. Respondent was present and provided an answer on the record.

At 10:25 am Cynthia Arpin moved to go into executive session. Salvatore Diaz seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The Board returned to the public meeting at 11:10am.

At 11:37 Cindy Arpin moved to go into executive session to discuss Respondent's transcript. Lisa Freeman seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Board returned to the public meeting at 11:46 am. The Board proceeded with Fact Finding at 11:47 am. Cynthia Arpin moved to find on charge 1 based on Respondent's admission; charge 2 and 3 based on the Respondent's School Transcripts and the documents received showing that the Respondent attended a fraudulent school. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. Gina Reiners and Lisa Freeman abstained. The motion was approved.

Cynthia Arpin moved to revoke the Respondent's license. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. Gina Reiners abstained. The motion was approved.

• Michelle Rosa-Harris, RN\*: Petition No. 2023-483; 2023-886, Staff Attorney Craig Sullivan for the Department. Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt for Respondent.

Gina Reiners moved to continue the hearing to October 18, 2023, to allow additional documentation to be submitted. Specifically, all urine tests, therapist reports, employer reports, attendance reports, and the disciplinary monitoring file, dating back to June 2022, as requested by the Respondent's Attorney. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Brett Prestia moved to adjourn at 1:03 pm. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.