

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING DATE:

July 3, 2024

TIME: 8:30 AM

LOCATION: Via Microsoft TEAMS

MEETING MINUTES

Name	Member	Present (Y/N)		DPH STAFF	Present (Y/N)
Gina Reiners, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC, Chairperson	RN Member	Y		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		Brett Moody, DPH	Y
Salvatore Diaz, DNP, MSN, RN	RN Member	Y		Betty Rozario, DPH	Y
Rebecca Martinez, LPN	LPN Member	Y		Charai Bellini, DPH	Y
Camille Payne, APRN	APRN Member	Y		Laura Morris, DPH	Y
Cheryl-Ann Resha	Public Member	Y		Anthony Nanni, DPH	Y
				Ryan Burns, DPH	Y
				Chris Andresen, DPH	Y
				Dana Dalton, DPH	Y
				Helen Smith, DPH	Y
				Aden Baume, DPH	Y
				Susanne Cammarata, DPH	Y
				Jennnifer Green, DPH	Y
				Inna Erlikh, DPH	Y
				Bethany Buckridge, DPH	Y

CALL TO ORDER 8:31 AM

Cynthia Arpin moved to add to the agenda: 1) Chair Updates and the CCNW Dean and Director's

Frequency Report before the approval of the meeting minutes; 2) the DPH Legislative Update after Litigation Matters; 3) Summary Suspension for Erin Fitzpatrick, RN Petition No. 2024-762 after the modification of Reinstatement; and 4) the Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges for Janice Pierre, RN, Petition No. 2023-248 to the agenda. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

CHAIR UPDATES

The NCSBN annual meeting is scheduled August 27-30, 2024. Board Members Gina Reiner, Salvatore Diaz and Dana Dalton from DPH will attend and anything relevant or highlighted will be discussed at a future meeting.

Gina Reiners met with the new director of CCNW, Tina Rodriguez. They agreed to put CCNW on the Board agenda every other month, the second meeting of the month and schedule them for the beginning of the meeting.

Gina Reiners announced the Jennifer Barr, RN, Petition No. 2022-734 Memorandum of Decision will not need to be heard during the meeting as it had been previously approved in a prior meeting. She referred to Deputy Legal Director Ryan Burns who explained that after consulting with the Attorney General's Office, given the technical nature of the change, it did not require action from the Board and would be addressed administratively.

MINUTES OF JUNE 5, 2024, REGULAR MEETING

The draft minutes of the June 5, 2024, meeting was reviewed. Salvatore Diaz moved to approve the minutes. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. Mary Dietmann and Camille Payne abstained. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

SCHOOL BUSINESS

Central CT State University – Feasibility Study

Kerri Langevin, Associated Professor and Chair and Sarah Horniak an assistant in the program appeared for Central State University. Kerri Langevin provided an informational summary of the proposed ABSN accelerated program to the Board. Following a brief discussion, Mary Dietmann moved to approve the feasibility study. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. Cheryl-Ann Resha recused herself from voting on the matter. The remaining members voted to approve the motion.

Albertus Magnus – Feasibility Study

Cindy Jeffrey, Program Director and Salvatore Diaz appeared for Albertus Magnus College. Both Cindy Jeffrey and Salvatore Diaz gave a brief informational summary of the proposed LPN to BSN program. In addition, representatives from Albertus Magnus requested the approval of Cynthia Jeffrey as Program Administrator of the LPN to BSN program.

Following a brief discussion, Cheryl-Ann Resha moved to approve the feasibility study. Rebecca Martinez seconded the motion. Salvatore Diaz recused himself from voting on the matter. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Mary Dietmann moved to approve the appointment of Cynthia Jeffrey. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. Salvatore Diaz recused himself from voting on the matter. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Eastern Connecticut State University – Site Visit

Susanne Cammarata gave an informational update related to the completion of the onsite visit. Dr.

Christina Nado from ECSU was present.

During the discussion of this matter Cheryl Ann Resha temporarily left the meeting.

Cynthia Arpin moved to approve the reported site visit. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The remaining members voted to approve the motion.

Quinnipiac University – Letter of Intent

Larry Slater, Dean for the School of Nursing, presented the Letter of Intent on behalf of Quinnipiac University. Doctor Lisa Rebesch, Senior Associate Dean and Doctor Lisa O'Connor were in attendance. The purpose of the Letter of Intent was to establish a new educational site for Quinnipiac's accredited traditional BSN program at the Center for Education Stimulation Initiative with Hartford Healthcare. After discussion, Helen Smith offered clarification of onsite visits and the topic of unique identifier codes for nursing programs. No votes were taken.

MODIFICATION OF REINSTATEMENT CONSENT ORDER

Heather M. Breen, RN, Petition No. 2024-534. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina appeared for the Department. Respondent was present. Mary Dietmann moved to accept the Modification of Consent Order. Rebecca Martinez seconded the motion. After discussion, the committee received 3 'Nay' votes (Cynthia Arpin, Salvatore Diaz and Lisa Freeman) and 4 'Aye' (Mary Dietmann, Rebecca Martinez, Camille Payne and Gina Reiners) resulting in the motion's approval.

SUMMARY SUSPENSION

Erin Fitzpatrick, RN, Petition No. 2024-762. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Neither the Respondent nor counsel for Respondent were present. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton provided a synopsis of the matter. Rebecca Martinez moved to summarily suspend Respondent. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW STATEMENT OF CHARGES

Janice Pierre, RN, Petition No. 2023-248. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Respondent was not in attendance. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton provided a synopsis of the matter. Dietmann moved to approve the Motion to Withdraw Statement of Charges. Rebecca Martinez seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

CONSENT ORDER

Yesenia Lynette Crus, RN, Petition No. 2023-1230. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina appeared for the Department. Respondent was not in attendance. Staff Attorney Linda Fazzina provided a synopsis on the matter. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the Consent Order. Cindy Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Jennifer White, RN, Petition No. 2023-853. Staff Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Respondent was not in attendance. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton provided a synopsis on the matter. Cindy Arpin moved to approve the Consent Order. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

LITIGATION MATTERS

Mary Dietmann made a motion, seconded by Salvatore Diaz, to enter Executive Session for the purpose of receiving advice from counsel regarding pending litigation. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Cheryl-Ann Resha was not present for the vote. The Board entered Executive Session at 11:02 am. All members of the Board (Cheryl-Ann Resha returned mid-session), Assistant Attorney Generals Elizabeth Bannon, Alina Bricklin-Goldstein and the court reporter were present. Public session resumed at 12:01pm. Cheryl-Ann Resha made a motion to continue discussion on the Selena Marie Acocella v. State of Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing, Doc. No. HHB-CV23-6082517-S. Lisa Freeman seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Ryan Burns, DPH Deputy Legal Director, provided the Board with a brief update recently enacted legislation that is relevant to the Boards operation and areas of jurisdiction.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Samantha Angelini, RN, Petition No. 2022-759. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision as presented. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Keave Davis, RN, Petition No. 2022-1096. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision as presented. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Kenisha Heika Rose, RN, Petition No. 2022-1119. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision as presented. Cynthia Arpin seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Alan Manubag, RN, Petition No. 2022-699. Lisa Freeman moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision as presented. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Jacqueline McInerney, RN, Petition No. 2022-1112. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision as presented. Salvatore Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Heidi Smith, RN, Petition No. 2023-954 & 2023-1426. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision as presented. Rebecca Martinez seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Sara Valentine, LPN, Petition No. 2023-335. Mary Dietmann moved to approve the Memorandum of Decision as presented. Cheryl-Ann Resha seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

After the completion of Memorandum of Decision both Camille Payne and Salvatore Diaz left the meeting.

HEARINGS

Mary-Rose Simbizi, RN, Petition No. 2023-1389. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Respondent was present and did not have representation.

AAG Elizabeth Bannon explained to the respondent the order of how the hearing would take place. Following the close of hearing, the Board conducted fact finding. Lisa Freeman made a motion, seconded by Mary Dietmann, that the respondent be found on all charges. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Rebecca Martinez made a motion to vacate Mary-Rose Simbizi's Summary Suspension after successful completion of a medication training course (approved and submitted to DPH) and monitoring to begin once the Summary Suspension is lifted as soon as employment begins. Mary Dietmann seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Michelle E. McDonald, RN, Petition No. 2022-1111. Staff Attorney Joelle Newton appeared for the Department. Both Respondent and Attorney Stephan Manning were in attendance. Due to time restrictions, this hearing was scheduled to be continued at the next Board of Examiners for Nursing

Meeting scheduled for July 17, 2024.

ADJORNMENT

Rebecca Martinez made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Lisa Freeman.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.