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**Meeting ID:** 11 4789 0471

**Passcode:** 970577

**STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS, AND  
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING  
Atwood Building  
550 West Seventh Ave. Room 102  
Anchorage, AK  
Alaska Board of Nursing Minutes  
August 10-11, 2023**

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the professions of AS 44/62, Article 6, a meeting of the Board of Nursing was held in the Atwood Building 550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 102, Anchorage, AK.

Thursday, August 10, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Danette Schloeder called the meeting to order at 9:00am Thursday, August 10, 2023.

**Agenda Item 1: Roll Call**

Those present constituting a quorum were Board members:

- Chair RN Member: Danette Schloeder, RN, Anchorage
- Educator Member, Vianne Smith, RN, Fairbanks
- RN Member: Lena Lafferty, RN, Anchorage
- LPN Member: Jody Miller, LPN, Haines

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- Public Member: Michael Collins

Those absent:

- APRN Member: Wendy Monrad, APRN, RN, Anchorage

Staff present from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing:

- Patty Wolf, MSN, RNC-OB, Executive Administrator
- Kelly Olson, RN, Nurse Consultant

**Members of the Public that introduced themselves in attendance via Zoom:**

- Lemay Hubb
- Beth Farnstrom
- Marcy Custer RN
- Mary Ann Johnston-Petty
- Colleen Bridge
- Arron Peters

**Introductions:**

Michael Collins, newest board member. Michael is serving as the public board member.

**Agenda Review**

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the agenda for the August 10-11, 2023 meeting.

**Ethics Disclosures: None**

**Report of Board Activities:**

- Lena and Danette attending an IV hydration webinar sponsored by NCSBN and the FDA.
- Danette and Patty will be attending the NCSBN Annual Conference and Delegate Assembly
- Lena discussed IV hydration webinar. The seminar discussed how IV hydration clinics compound medications and additional issues such as storage and dating. Mississippi is a collaborative state where the BON, Board of Pharmacy and Board of Medicine survey these clinics. The seminar raised the question if there needs to be specific regulation related to IV hydration clinics. Patient safety is a concern. Potential questions include: Is there enough emergency equipment on site? Do we need to have regulation related to IV hydration clinics/home visits? Is there an assessment prior to administration of IV fluid since this a medication? NCBSN does have information related to IV hydration.
- Danette learned that there is a heightened awareness related to IV hydration clinics. Mississippi did receive some complaints, so the Mississippi BON, Board of Pharmacy, Board of Medicine and FDA did site visits to clinics. They did find some clinics out of compliance. The FDA is working on addressing on how these clinics should be regulated and issues such as compounding on site, storage of the medications, and appropriate prescription.

**Announcement:**

- Reminder to Board Members: Keep your NCSBN Passport account active by logging in every 60 days. Patty reminded the Board of Nursing members to login.

**Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic)**

- Speaker: Meredith Stokes, US Recognition Manager, PTE.
- Meredith Stokes presented to the BON on PTE Academic English language tests.
- According to Meredith, PTE is a computer-based language test that provides the most unbiased and secure proof of a candidate's English skills for university, professional and immigration applications.
- PTE utilizes AI technology to provide unbiased and secure results of a test takers English proficiency skills.

- Many US Nursing organizations have accepted PTE.
- Danette asked what other Alaska boards have requirements for English proficiency tests. Meredith discussed the different types of tests and what boards that have required English Proficiency tests.

### **Fluoroscopy**

- Speaker Rachel Grieme, OR Educator, Fairbanks.
- Rachel Grieme explained the letter sent to the BON stating that the nurses are doing fluoroscopy at other facilities without BON approval.
- Rachel asked the board to let FMH OR nurses perform fluoroscopy via c-arm with extra training.
- Lena asked the question on which nurse will be doing this? As the circulating nurse and charge nurses have additional responsibilities, where is the extra nurse coming from?
- Danette would like to see more specific details about standard of work, policies, i.e. whole package sent to the board to review for possible conditional approval. The plan would include ~~with~~ follow up reports to the board every 3-6 months with cases.
- Danette discussed the patient safety aspect and ensuring that we as the BON protect the public.
- Lena discussed her experience that when surgeries are booked, the facility already ensures that the c-arm is booked and ready to go for surgery.
- Board is asking for more information from the radiology department since Rachel is a OR educator.
- Michael stated that this appears to be more of a band aid for a staffing issue in the radiology department, putting more on nurses. Increasing the liability concern on the nursing staff. The boards position is that they do not want to solve staffing problems by training the RN to do the task.
- Board is requesting more information related to policy, procedure, and standard of practice to bring back to the board.

### **AHHA Update- Nurse Intern Regulation Project**

- Speaker Jared Kosin, AHHA, President and CEO.
- AHHA is a non-profit trade association that represents hospitals and nursing homes.

- Nurse intern and nurse tech project is to explore and assist nursing students with more opportunities. The spirit of the project is to expand on nursing students' opportunities.
- Many of AHHA member facilities drafted a white paper.
- Jared discussed how would they implement this in Alaska with drafting regulations. AHHA is reconvening the work group to review again. They would like to bring this forward to the board when the proposal is ready.
- AHHA is considering taking to the legislature to change statute.
- The AHHA workgroup has a regulatory suggestion change. AHHA will keep the BON posted on the concept.
- Danette thanked the work group with the efforts on this. Nothing to share with the group today, just giving a verbal update. Vianne and Patty are on the work group.

**Break:** 10:13am

**Return:** 10:30am

**Dementia education in CNA programs:**

- Speaker Kelly Olson, RN BON Nurse Consultant is over the CNA programs in the state of Alaska.
- There is no opposition to the draft regulatory language.
- Kelly reviewed the Federal regulation and Alaska BON regulations to ensure we met the federal regulation.
- Under care of the cohesively impaired, Kelly is proposing to add the federal language to our current regulation. She does not feel that it will impact the current trainings.
- Kelly surveyed 98% stated they already meet the federal language that she is proposing be added to the Alaska nursing regulations.
- Kelly recommends adding the federal regulation to the Alaska nursing regulation as many programs are already completing this.
- Danette thanks Kelly for doing the groundwork.
- Lena questioned one of the programs only had 1-2 hours of cognitively impaired training. No specific time requirement but there are certain education criteria that should be met.

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the change for Alaska regulation to adopt the federal regulation language.

### **APU Update:**

- Speaker Marianne Murray, Director and professor at APU.
- Marianne discussed the NCLEX scores for the first 2 cohorts after the BON sending a letter of concern.
- APU presented the NCLEX plan for success for their associate degree program.
- Current cohort is doing NEXT GEN seminars, summer study work, switched preceptorship, enhanced remediation, increased ATI, and used mountain measurement to evaluate students.
- For future cohorts, increased passing grades, separated pharmacology and pathophysiology into 2 separate courses, changed admission requirements, changes in syllabi, students must get a 73% on the comp predictor to pass, new student orientation, face to face proctored exams and time, offered courses each semester, and utilizes mountain measurement.
- Faculty attended a 3-day workshop on strategies to improve NCLEX pass rates, faculty also presented at the ACEN conference. Marianne is wanted to improve the NCLEX pass rates for the ADN program.
- Danette asked if APU uses the full package of ATI.
- Full day live review for the program and bringing in students from outlying areas for the live review.
- BON asked when the students take the test and what is the current pass rate.
- APU looking at a grant to assist students with exam fees especially students in outlying areas.
- BON requested Marianne to come back in February after the next students take the NCLEX.
- ACEN standards have changed to ensure programs 80% pass rate. ACEN standard is more lenient than the BON, but the program needs to have a focused plan on improvement.

### **Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence Nurse Refresher Program**

- Speaker Kathleen McInnis RN, MS, Project Director, Nurse Refresher Program Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence
- McInnis leads the nurse refresher program for the Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence.

- This program assists in hiring older nurses back into the workforce. This program offers 5 programs for RN and LPN: refresher, refresher lite and virtually simulated clinicals (RN only).
- The program meets students where they are, has rolling admission, builds trust with students.
- All courses are approved by a few boards of nursing, including Colorado.
- The center uses a comprehensive e-clinical program and are continually updating evidence-based practices.
- Students can access the course from anywhere.
- BON asked if they kept any employment data on students, students do get a survey but are not required to complete it.
- BON asked how many are successful in re-licensure? 98% are eligible for re-licensure after completing the didactic and clinical portions of the program.
- BON will do research to ensure this is the right program for Alaska Board of Nursing approved list.
- Executive Administrator will reach out to those states listed and review regulation and statute related to BON requirements for lapsed licensure.

### **Consistent CE Disciplinary Matrix -APRN Audits**

- Patty Wolf, MSN, RNC-OB, Executive Administrator BON.
- Patty presented the APRN disciplinary matrix.
- Any missing CE's is listed, now that APRN's are being audited. APRN missing national certifications, was brought up in an audit.
- APRN's have not been audited previously until this year.
- Documentation that the applicant holds a certification for each role that they practice in.
- DEA number requires 2 hours continuing education related to pain management.
- When APRN's are audited, what is audited (i.e. CE's, certifications, etc.). what would be the discipline be if they did not have a national certification? National certification is how an APRN is licensed initially, certifications can lapse.
- Danette recommended to wait for Wendy BON APRN member to return to work on this matrix to ensure no missing practices.

- Reviewed disciplinary matrix for APRN's related to CE fines.
- Would request an example from investigator about the civil fines.
- Discussed reviewing this by the February 2024 meeting.

**Lunch: 11:48am**

**Return: 1:00pm back in session**

### **Regulation Projects**

- 12 AAC 44.925 Standards of Practice for Telehealth- Stephanie Davis
  - Stephanie presented the 12 AAC 44.925 revised language which was sent to law, the document that was presented did not have a date which is required by law.
  - The new document as a resource was found with a date of 2022.
  - Executive Administrator worked with the APRN alliance to find a document that had a specific date.
  - The document is a position statement from the AANP the supports the provision of health care services via technology.
  - Updated by the AANP board of directors in 2022.
  - Patty thanks the APRN alliance for their assistance on this project.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Lena Lafferty and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the regulation project 20232000075 with recommended changes and send to public comment on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Alternative Probation Program Alison Osborn, regulation specialist
  - Working with law updated some language and was approved, alternative probation program will become effective August 25, 2023.
  - Danette gave an overview of what the program does. The alternative probation program is designed for people to self-report, who can enter into this agreement without public notice, which helps the person recover. Removed from a disciplinary sanction to a probation sanction.



- Previously was a 2-page regulation, called the Alternative to Discipline Program (ADP).
- Regulation 12 AAC 44.740; this gives the board authority to offer the licensee subject an alternative probation program while keeping confidentiality.

### **Potential Regulation Projects**

- CNA certification requirements
  - Approved to go forward at the previous meeting.
  - Motion to send to public comment at previous meeting.
  - Technical changes made by Alison reviewed by the board. This will be sent to law to review before public notice.
- LPN scope of practice
  - Approved to go forward at the previous meeting.
  - Review by Board member Jody Miller and Executive Administrator.
  - Alison is asking where this regulation should go. Discussion on where to place LPN scope of practice in regulation. LPN does not have a specific section, such as the CNA regulation.
  - LPN scope of practice will be included in Article 9, General provisions between 950 and 955. This will be sent to law to review before public notice.
- English Language Section
  - Alison discussed 12 AAC 44.290 and changes made to this regulation to include English speaking countries, instead of just the United States or Canada.
  - Patty stated that there is still more work that needs to be done, due to the change of the language. There has been a change to the regulation process.
  - Could add this into the current regulation projects? Ensure that all language is changed throughout the regulations, to English speaking countries.
  - This is a challenge for the examiners for licensee's who are coming from an English-speaking country and had their nursing program taught in English.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Lena Lafferty and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing to restart the regulation projects about applications for nursing who are outside the United States from other English-speaking countries on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- 12 AAC 44.447 -APRN Prescriptive authority/Telehealth- align with the new telehealth laws.
  - Executive Administrator asked about regulation to align with the new telehealth laws.
  - Maryanne Johnstone-Petty from APRN Alliance spoke about the DEA regulation related to controlled substances and prescribing via telehealth.

**Break: 2:18pm**

**Return: 2:45pm**

Lena Lafferty has left the meeting. There are 4 board members and a quorum to conduct business.

**Walden University College of Nursing- Finding Preceptors concern.**

- Speaker Karen Riden Director, Office of Nursing Certification, Licensure, and Compliance for Walden University College of Nursing.
- Has brought 3 faculty members. Dr. Tacy Stemp, Dr. Ginny Moore and Dr. Judi Kuric.
- Dr. Moore described 12 AAC 44.460 where a PMHNP needs to be with a nurse practitioner or MD. Want to grow nurse practitioners in psychiatric specialty. Would like PMHNP's to have the opportunity to be with other interprofessional personnel within Alaska.
- Proposed change to 12 AAC 44.460 (f)(1) which would allow licensed health professionals who are not APRNs or MDs to serve as preceptors when prescribing is not a learning outcome, and the professional practice matches educational requirements.
- Second proposed change is suggesting the board takes action now to grant their staff the authority to approve licensed health professionals who are not APRNs or MDs on a case-by-case because a compelling educational need is presented, and prescribing is not a learning outcome.

- Most APRN's and MDs in psychiatric healthcare tend to be doing more medication management rather than the other therapies.
- Has challenges in Alaska with getting preceptors in the field of psychotherapy.
- Recommendation from the board of nursing to contact the APRN alliance to assist in finding preceptors.
- Invited Walden University to come back to the next meeting with when APRN board member will be back and for Walden University to bring more information about how many students are impacted.

### **Advisory Opinion Review**

- Low-dose ketamine infusions – finished this one up and has been put on the official format. No changes since the last meeting, just formatted.
- Registered Nurse Administering of Sedating and Anesthetic Agents.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 4 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approves low-dose ketamine infusion and registered nurse administering of sedating and anesthetic agents' advisory opinions on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Vianne still working on combining the 3 Nitrous oxide analgesia RN administration and RN role in self administration.
- Reviewed Administrative advisory opinions – will be emailed to the board members.

**Recess 3:28pm until Friday 9am August 11, 2023**

**Friday, August 11, 2023**

**Call to Order, Chair Danette Schloeder at 9:02am, August 11, 2023**

**Those present constituting a quorum were:**

- Chair RN Member: Danette Schloeder, RN, Anchorage
- Educator Member, Vianne Smith, RN, Fairbanks
- RN Member: Lena Lafferty, RN, Anchorage
- LPN Member: Jody Miller, LPN, Haines
- Public Member: Michael Collins

**Those absent:**

- APRN Member: Wendy Monrad, APRN, RN, Anchorage

**Staff present from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing:**

- Patty Wolf, MSN, RNC-OB, Executive Administrator
- Kelly Olson, RN, Nurse Consultant
- Sonya Lipker, Investigator
- Christina Bond, Investigator
- Shelly Irons, Investigator
- Karina Medina, Investigator
- Kendra Wardlaw, Investigator
- Joy Hartlieb, Investigator
- Julienne Kim, Paralegal

**Members of the Public**

- Beth farnstrom
- Lemay Hupp
- Arron Peters

- Cori Keene
- Colleen Bridge
- Marcy Custerf
- Elizabeth Blair

### **Enter Deliberative Session-**

#### Motion

Danette Schloeder moved that the Board of Nursing enter into deliberative session with a second from Lena Lafferty and followed by 5 ayes, under AS 44.62.310(d) solely to consider a proposed settlement agreement resulting from a mediation in the following adjudicatory proceeding:

*In the matter of Mary Ann Egbert*, Board Case No. 2015-000314 & 2018-000094, and Office of Administrative Hearings Case No. 22-0001-NUR.

The parties, their attorneys, all members of the Board's staff, and all members of the public will be excluded from the deliberative session. Additionally, Board member Wendy Monrad, who was a reviewing Board member in the case, has recused herself from the deliberative session. The administrative law judge who served as mediator will be invited to remain with the Board during the deliberative session.

### **Enter regular session at 9:42am**

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve entering back into regular session on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, that the Alaska Board of Nursing enter Executive Session in accordance with AS 44.62.310© and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing cases and reports by the investigative team. Board Staff members are to remain during this session.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing enter into Executive session on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Enter executive session at 9:43am**

**Enter into regular session at 10:20am**

### **Read Orders**

- Franklin, Barbara

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Barbara Franklin on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Kreger, Candice

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Candice Kreger on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Hunter, Aleahya

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Jody Miller and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Aleahya Hunter on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Tyler, Tamara

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Jody Miller and carried with 4 Ayes and 1 recuse, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Tamara Tyler on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Rodgers, Therese

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 4 Ayes and 1 recuse, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Therese Rodgers on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Keene, Cori

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Cori Keene on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Blury, Ronald

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 4 Ayes and 1 recuse, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Ronald Blury on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Michels, Jacqueline

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Jacqueline Michels on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Rine, Tasha

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 4 Ayes and 1 recuse, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Rasha Rine on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Stewart, Alixandra

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 4 Ayes and 1 recuse, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Alixandra Stewart on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Vail, Ciri

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 4 Ayes and 1 recuse, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Ciri Vail on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Willard, Taryn

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 4 Ayes and 1 recuse, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Taryn Willard on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Ingram, Destiny

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Jody Miller and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Destiny Ingram on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Jones, Franklin

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 4 Ayes and 1 recuse, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Franklin Jones on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Tullar, Stephanie

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Jody Miller and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Stephanie Tullar on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Hacker, John

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for John Hacker on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Irmen, Ashley

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Smith and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Ashley Irmen on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Perkins, Wendy

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Jody Miller and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the consent agreement for Wendy Perkins on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.



On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, that the Alaska Board of Nursing enter into Executive Session in accordance with AS 44.62.310© and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing cases and reports by the investigative team. Danette Schloeder recused as reviewing board member for these cases. Board Staff members are to remain during this session.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approves to enter executive session.

**Enter executive session at 10:33am.**

**Enter regular session at 10:42am**

Danette Schloeder recused as reviewing board member for these cases. Lena Lafferty acting chair for the orders.

### **Read Orders**

- Evans, Edward

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 4 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing **DENY** the license for Edward Evans on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Abdulai, Samu

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 4 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing **DENY** the license for Samu Abdulai on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Hopkins, Melanie

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 4 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing **DENY** the license for Melanie Hopkins on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Danette Schloeder returns as Chair to the meeting.

### **Probation report**

42 licensees on probation, 2 release, 1 has been closed, 3 requests for early release.

### **Investigation report**

220 open cases, 110 cases closed, many are continuing education reports.

Break: 10:48am

Return: 11:01am

### **Licensing Report**

Madeleine Henderson, shared nursing licensing reports:

- Active RN 18413
- Active LPN 671
- Active APRN 1931
- Total active licensed 21294

NCLEX pass rates year to date (6/30/2023):

- UAA AAS 82%
- UAA BSN 91%
- Charter AND 81%
- APU RN 60%
- APU LPN 83%

Kelly Olson shared CNA Report:

- 31 approved nurse aide training programs
- 6 newly approved instructors for FY24 Q4
- 20 programs had a cumulative annual program pass rate above 80% for FY23.

- 10 programs had 100% pass rate for FY23.
- 7 programs fell below 80%-program pass rate for FY23Q3.
- Total permanent certificates 2,836 CNA's
- Transitioned to Credentia full service with enhanced registration and testing process.
- Nurse Aide Instructor Conference will be December 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### New CNA Program requests:

- Alaska Veterans and Pioneers home CNA training center

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the Alaska Veterans & Pioneers Home to become a nurse aide training program and taken off provisional status to become a State Approved Nurse Aide Training Program under Authority 12 AAC 44.83 on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- UAS-Ketchikan (Haines Expansion)

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Jody Miller and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the UAS-Ketchikan (Haines Expansion) to become a nurse aide training program and taken off provisional status to become a State Approved Nurse Aide Training Program under Authority 12 AAC 44.83 on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- Heritage Place (Central Peninsula Hospital Expansion)

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Vianne Smith and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approve the Heritage Place (Central Peninsula Hospital Expansion) to become a nurse aide training program and taken off provisional status to become a State Approved Nurse Aide Training Program under Authority 12 AAC 44.83 on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### **PDMP Update**

Lisa Sherrell, PDMP manager for Alaska.

- Reviewed the prescription drug monitoring program for the state of Alaska.
- Lisa provided a PDMP update and the 2023 PDMP survey results.

**Lunch:** 11:39am

**Return to session:** 1:01pm

All 5 board members present at 1:02pm

#### **APRN DNR/POLST Regulations Statement**

- Patty Wolf, Executive Administrator was contacted by the APRN alliance as it was brought to attention that there was a discrepancy related to APRN scope of practice related to POLST protocol in light of the passing of HB 392.
- A statement was developed and vetted through Law.
- This statement is published on the BON website.
- Request was made for the BON to write a letter of support to the Department of Health to revise their regulation to match HB 392.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approves to move to write a letter of support for APRN's related to POLST to the Department of Health on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### **NLC RN Survey by NCSBN**

- In 2018 there was a survey sent out to Alaska nurses about joining the NLC.
- NCSBN offered to repeat the survey.
- The board of nursing would send a survey out to licensed Alaska nurses, to get current data.

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approves to move forward to send out a survey about the NLC to licensed Alaska nurses on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### **Discrepancy Language in Statue and Regulation**

- Patty Wolf, Executive Administrator discussed discrepancy in language between Sec. 08.68.276 and 12 AAC 44.470(5): timing of continuing education verbiage related to APRN continuing education requirements.
- All licenses due 11/30 of even years.
- Statute overrides the regulation.
- Options are to open a regulations project to change regulation or change the application to align with statute.
- Discussion about what the application current says for APRN's and what the statue currently says.

On a motion made by Danette Schloeder, seconded by Lena Lafferty and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approves to move that the APRN application includes a question about CEU's for pain management and addition were obtained in the 2 years prior to license renewal to align with Sec. 08.68.276 on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### **Division Update**

- Sylvan Robb Division Director and Glenn Saviers Deputy Director introduced themselves to the board.
- Glenn and Sylvan are here to discuss the NLC.
- The NLC bill was initially introduced in 2019.
- Sylvan discussed that the bill was introduced in the House by Representative Mike Prax from North Pole.
- There have been amendments on the original bill.
- The bill was not passed out of committee by at the end of session and work will resume in January.
- On the Senate side, Senator Donny Olson, introduced this bill in the Senate and did not have any hearings. Will resume in next senate session.
- Board did update Glenn and Sylvan that they will resend out NLC survey to Alaska nurse licensees.

- Glenn discusses the Governor support because of the board support.
- There was a discussion about legislature and how this did not make it to the House and Senate floor.
- This bill was introduced in 2023 and would need to finish 2024 or would restart in 2025.
- Sylvan gave the status on compact bill for physical therapy and speech-language pathology which did pass the Senate and is currently in House Finance.
- There are more safeguards in place with the NLC than there are for the physical therapy and speech-language pathology compact licensure. NLC is as high or higher than the requirements for Alaska licensees.
- Glenn states that the best thing to do is to discuss the NLC, if anyone has concerns to reach out to the division directly so this concern can be looked at thoroughly.
- Numbers of 1,500 vacancies throughout Alaska for nurses, could reach numbers up to 5,000 in future years.
- Discussion about how many states have passed this, Washington and Rhode Island are the newest states that have passed the NLC. 6 states have legislation pending to join the NLC,.
- Sylvan and Glenn encourage nurses to write into legislators about their story how the NLC will impact practice in the state nursing workforce, how this affects patient safety, and assist with nursing shortages.
- Discussion about the impact the shortage of nurses has had on the current nursing workforce in Alaska.
- Division update will be provided at next meeting when all data is compiled from the previous year. FY24 budget, included 12 additional positions for the division, working on getting positions created and posted soon, many specifically for the nursing team.
- Universal temporary license approved by the Governor. It was mirrored from the BON who already issues temporary licensure.

**Break: 2:09pm**

**Return: 2:31pm**

**Public Comment:**

- Jennie Monk, representing the AHHA. Appreciates the staff at the BON. A few issues: following the regulation projects closely, requesting that CNA do not want notary required. Earlier this week many CNA's programs have

received letters from the state about post-secondary education registration. CNA training process is rigorous and believes that CNA programs should be exempt since CNA programs are regulated by the BON. Concern CNA abuse registry, nursing homes are required to check this prior to hiring a CNA. This registry has not been updated since 2016.

- Beth Farnstrom, representing the AANA. Compared the increase in licensees from 2019-2023. Thank the staff for the work that they do. Discussed the renewal course that was previously discussed in this board meeting, and potential regulation may need to be updated. Write an article about the alternative to probation program that was recently approved.
- Cathy Winfree, UAF CTC give an update on the LPN program, Kimberly Frontain who is the LPN director. 8 in the current cohort, requesting to increase to 10 in the cohort. Would need to put this on a future agenda.
- Colleen Bridge, with regards to audio, was difficult to hear staff members in the meeting besides the BON chair.
- Stephanie Wrightsman Birch, Secretary for APRN Alliance, APRN alliance is the coalition for all advance practice nurses in Alaska. Has about 1800 APRNs in the State of Alaska. About to beta test a survey for all APRNs in the state, as Medicaid and Medicare numbers for taking patients is low. Is asking of the BON could send out to APRNs via the board since the board has access to contact information for APRNs, once they are able to launch it.
- Marcy Custer wondering about CE and wondering about the discipline related to CE's. Stated that she discovered an email about an audit that went to her spam email whereas the license renewal emails went to her inbox. Was told that if they make a copy of the minutes, recommended to have Patty Wolf write a letter for professional activities.
- Elizabeth Blair first time attending meeting. States that the NLC is very near and dear to her heart. Requested a letter that she attended the meeting. The meeting counts towards professional activities.

### **Closing public comment at 3:01pm**

### **Follow up/Closing Comments**

- Discussed the upcoming strategic planning meeting open to the public, virtually only on Monday Sept 25, 2023.

Join Zoom Meeting **Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81147890471?pwd=NmYvQjd3djhJWkFMaUdjV1hWTW12dz09>

**Meeting ID:** 11 4789 0471

**Passcode:** 970577

On a motion made by Lena Lafferty, seconded by Michael Collins and carried with 5 Ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Alaska Board of Nursing approves to adjourn on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Adjourned at 3:05pm**