



# Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives

## **Draft Minutes**

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Mar 31, 2023 at 9:00 AM AKDT

**The minutes of this meeting were approved during a public meeting of the board May 17, 2023.**

### **Attendance**

#### **Absent:**

Members: Bethel Belisle, Hannah St. George, Darcy Lucey, Rachel Pugh,

Staff: Sara Chambers, Boards and Regulations Advisor; Megyn Grieder, AAG; Christina Bond, Investigator

Guests: Laura Lemons; Zingre Veenstra; other guests not identified

The chair called the meeting to order, welcomed guests, and noted the roll. She invited members to declare any potential conflicts of interest. Member Darcy Lucey declared a potential conflict of interest with a license application and with an investigative matter, both of which were on the agenda. She stated that, as an employer and preceptor of both individuals, she could maintain objectivity for the licensing deliberation but did not feel that she could do so with the investigative matter. Due to potential quorum concerns, Chair Belisle ruled that, in light of her disclosure, Ms. Lucey could participate in the deliberation and voting on the licensing matter but was recused from participation in the Executive Session and vote on the investigative matter. Every other board member declared on the record that they had no conflicts.

The board discussed the agenda, and Ms. St. George indicated she may not be able to stay for the entire meeting due to a scheduling conflict.

**Motion by Lucey: I move to adopt the agenda with an amendment to discuss the investigative matter first.** Unanimously approved.

**Motion by Pugh: In accordance with the provisions of Alaska Statute 44.62.310 (c), I move to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential. Ms. Chambers, Investigator Bond, and AAG Weigand are requested to join the board during the session.** Unanimously approved.

The board, minus Ms. Lucey, entered executive session at 9:20am. They went back on record at 10:00am.

**Motion by Pugh: The Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives for the State of Alaska, having examined the Consent Agreement and Proposed Decision and Order, Case Nos. 2022-000240 & 2022-000972, adopts the Consent Agreement and Decision and Order in this matter.**

On a roll call vote by Belisle, Pugh, and St. George, the motion failed unanimously.

Ms. St. George left the meeting at 10:07am.

The board reviewed a proposed policy on supervised experience that was presented by Ms. Chambers. She explained that guidance was necessary to clarify how to treat supervised experience that had been obtained in good faith under regulations that expired February 21, 2023. The policy would allow experience gained under the existing regulations at the time to be allowed. The board felt this was fair and appreciated the work that she and AAG Greider had done to draft the policy statement.

**Motion by Belisle: I move to adopt the proposed policy allowing legally obtained experience under regulations that expired February 21, 2023, to count toward applications submitted after that date.** Unanimously approved.

The board reviewed the application by examination submitted by Laura Lemons. After a discussion about the application materials, Ms. Pugh indicated she had to leave due to an impending birth but had new questions about the application that she had not previously raised. She asked if the matter could be tabled. Ms. Chambers explained that the board could vote on the application or vote to table it to a time certain.

**Motion by Pugh: I move to table Ms. Lemons' application. Receiving no second, the motion failed.**

Chair Belisle asked what the concerns were and whether they were substantial. Ms. Pugh indicated that they were but that she could not discuss them since she needed to leave the meeting. Ms. Veenstra, attorney for Ms. Lemons, asked if it was appropriate to again postpone the board's discussion since it had already been tabled once. Ms. Chambers stated that the board could vote on the application or vote to table it to a time certain; either would be procedurally acceptable. If tabled, it would likely take about two weeks to schedule and public notice. Ms. Veenstra said that it was very frustrating to not receive information about the board's concerns timely so she and Ms. Lemons could prepare.

**Motion by Belisle: I move to accept the application for licensure by examination submitted by Laura Lemons.** Lucey: yea. Belisle: yea. Rachel: nay. Approved.

Ms Chambers indicated she would issue the license that day. Ms. Pugh left the meeting.

Ms. Belisle thanked everyone and ordered the meeting adjourned since they lost quorum.