

1 STATE OF ALASKA
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
3 DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS, AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
4

5 STATE MEDICAL BOARD
6 MINUTES OF MEETING
7 Thursday April 17, 2025
8

9 By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, a meeting of the
10 Alaska State Medical Board was held Thursday, April 17, 2025.
11

12 **1. Call to Order/ Roll Call**

13 The meeting was called to order by Chair Taylor at 4:02 p.m.
14

15 **Roll Call**

16 Board members present:

17 Brent Taylor, MD, Chair
18 David Barnes, DO
19 Matt Heilala, DPM
20 Lydia Mielke, Public Member (Secretary)
21 David Paulson, MD
22

23 Absent: Samantha Smith, PA-C
24 David Wilson, Public Member
25

26 State employees present: Charley Larson, Investigator, Kendra Wardlaw, Lead Investigator; Jason
27 Kaeser, Licensing Supervisor; and Natalie Norberg, Executive Administrator
28

29 **2. Review / Approval of Agenda**
30

31 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke and seconded by Dr. Heilala. the Alaska State Medical**
32 **Board approved the agenda as presented.**
33

34 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Taylor
35 Absent: Ms. Smith and Mr. Wilson
36

37 **3. Ethics Disclosure**

38 The Chair asked board members regarding any potential financial or personal conflicts to declare. There
39 were no ethical disclosures made by board members.
40

41 Mr. Wilson joined the meeting at approximately 4:08 p.m.
42

43 **4. Board Interview**

44 Chair Taylor asked Dr. Salahuddin Ahmed whether he would like to have his interview in public or in
45 private. Dr. Ahmed chose to have his interview in public. Dr. Ahmed answered questions from the Chair
46 and board members concerning current state licenses, clinical privileges and employment status, as well
47 as questions regarding his completion of requested evaluations. Dr. Ahmed granted permission for the
48 board to deliberate regarding his application in executive session.
49

1 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Dr. Barnes and approved by roll call vote,**
2 **the Alaska State Medical Board entered executive session in accordance with AS**
3 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions for the purpose of**
4 **discussing Dr. Ahmed’s application for licensure with Ms. Norberg remaining during the**
5 **session.**

6
7 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
8 Absent: Ms. Smith
9

10 The board entered the executive session at 4:14 p.m. and returned on the record at 4:21 p.m.

11
12 **On a motion duly made by Dr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Wilson the board approved to**
13 **grant Dr. Ahmed a license to practice in Alaska.**

14
15 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
16 Absent: Ms. Smith
17

18 **5. Investigations Update**

19
20 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by roll call vote,**
21 **the Alaska State Medical Board entered executive session in accordance with AS**
22 **44.62.310(c)(4), for the purpose of discussing Case numbers: 2023-001128, 2024-000301,**
23 **2024-000531, and 2023-000334 with Division staff remaining during the session.**

24
25 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
26 Absent: Ms. Smith
27

28 The board entered the executive session at 4: 24 p.m. and returned on the record at 4:28 p.m.

29
30 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by roll call vote,**
31 **the Alaska State Medical Board accepted the imposition of civil fines as presented in case**
32 **numbers: 2023-001128, 2024-000301, 2024-000531, 2023-000334.**

33
34 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
35 Absent: Ms. Smith
36

37 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by roll call vote,**
38 **the Alaska State Medical Board entered executive session in accordance with AS**
39 **44.62.310(c)(4), for the purpose of discussing Case# 2019-000664 with Division staff to remain**
40 **during the session and the reviewing board member excluded from the session.**

41
42 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
43 Absent: Ms. Smith
44

45 The board entered the executive session at 4:30 p.m. and returned on the record at 4:34 p.m.

46
47 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by roll call vote,**
48 **the Alaska State Medical Board accepted the voluntary surrender of license for Dr. Claribel**
49 **Tan.**

1 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson

2 Abstained: Dr. Heilala

3 Absent: Ms. Smith

4
5 **6. Division / Legislative Update**

6 Deputy Director Saviers was invited to address the Board. The Deputy Director introduced and
7 requested the board's support for the Nurse License Compact and Universal Temporary Licensing bills.
8 Ms. Saviers responded to questions related to the nature of the Nursing Association's opposition to the
9 Compact, whether the public was contacted to weigh in on the Nurse Compact and whether the
10 temporary licensure bill would change the way the medical board currently issues temporary licenses.
11 Next, Ms. Saviers provided an overview of Senate Bill 147 and its companion bill, House Bill 195 related
12 to Pharmacist Prescriptive Authority.

13
14 **7. Pharmacy Board Update**

15 Dr. Ashley Schaber, Chair of Board of Pharmacy, was invited to provide the board with additional
16 information regarding the Pharmacist Prescriptive Authority bills. Dr. Schaber responded to questions
17 related to how the levels of expertise are determined for pharmacists, the determination of the
18 conditions that pharmacists would be allowed to treat independently, the liability for misdiagnosis, the
19 billing process, whether pharmacists carry malpractice insurance, and the accountability process for
20 pharmacists when a patient has a complaint. Board members voiced concerns about pharmacists
21 causing patient harm by treating patients outside of their experience and training and about
22 pharmacists in general not having the training to provide patient care. A board member reported a lack
23 of trust and frustration when pharmacists refuse to fill prescriptions ordered by a physician.

24
25 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by roll call vote,**
26 **the Board directed the executive administrator to work with the Chair to draft a letter of**
27 **support for HB 158 and SB 145 related to Professional Licensing to be forwarded to members**
28 **of the legislature.**

29
30 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson

31 Absent: Ms. Smith

32
33 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by roll call vote,**
34 **the Board directed the executive administrator to work with the Chair to draft a letter of**
35 **support for HB 131 and SB 124 related to the Nurse License Compact to be forwarded to**
36 **members of the legislature.**

37
38 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson

39 Absent: Ms. Smith

40
41 A letter drafted by Dr. Taylor, containing language in opposition to the Pharmacist Prescriptive Authority
42 bills, was presented. Board members stated they agreed with the letter and believed it was brief and
43 well written.

44
45 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by roll call vote,**
46 **the Board approved the draft letter of opposition to SB 147 as presented.**

47 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson

48 Absent: Ms. Smith

49
50 **8. Wrap up / Adjourn**

- 1 The next board meeting will be an in-person meeting held in Anchorage, and also accessible by zoom on
- 2 May 16, 2025, from 8:30 to 4:30 p.m.
- 3
- 4 The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:41 p.m.
- 5