

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

5 BOARD OF CERTIFIED DIRECT-ENTRY MIDWIVES
6

7 Videoconference
8 February 10, 2021
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10 **These DRAFT minutes were prepared by the staff of the Division of Corporations, Business
11 and Professional Licensing. They have not been reviewed or approved by the Board.**

12
13 By the authority of AS 08.065.020 and in compliance with the provision of AS 44.62, Article 6, a
14 scheduled videoconference meeting of the Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives was held
15 February 10, 2021; 333 Willoughby Ave, 9th Floor Commissioners Conference Room, Juneau, AK.
16

17 **Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order/Roll Call**

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19 Chair Belisle called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM AKDT.

20 Members present: Bethel Belisle, Hannah St. George, Dr. Dana Espindola, and Rachel Pugh

21 Staff Present: RLS Lacey Derr
22

23 **Agenda Item 2 – Review Agenda**

24 **A motion was made to approve the Agenda as written by D. Espindola, seconded by H. St.
25 George; and agreed unanimously.**

26
27 **Agenda Item 3 – Ethics Report**

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29 There were no ethics to report.
30

31 **Agenda Item 4 – Introduce New Board Member**

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33 Rachel Pugh introduced herself to the board and briefly spoke about her experience in
34 midwifery. Other board members introduced themselves and it was agreed everyone was
35 grateful to have Ms. Pugh on the board as they go into the Sunset Audit process and look at the
36 future of midwifery in Alaska.
37

38 **Agenda Item 5 – ECL Regulations – Permanent**

39 Records & Licensing Supervisor Lacey Derr presented the board with the finalized version of the
40 Emergency Courtesy License Regulations 12 AAC 14.125 which went out for public comment.
41 There were no comments received on the proposed regulation. The board confirmed the
42 length of the license and cost through a brief discussion.

43
44 **A motion was made to approve the Emergency Courtesy License Regulations as presented
45 and make permanent by R. Pugh; seconded by H. St. George, the motion passed unanimously.**

46
47 **Agenda Item 6 – Investigative Report**

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49 Investigator Christina Bond joined the meeting to present the Investigative Report. From the
50 time period of September 16, 2020 to February 2, 2021, there were 7 current open cases, five
51 of which were opened since the last board meeting. One case had been closed. Board Chair
52 Belisle asked if Investigator Bond could give an estimate on when some of the other cases
53 would be closed and Inv. Bond stated she hoped quickly. She thanked Board Chair Belisle for
54 her work on Peer Review and thanked the Ms. Pugh as a new reviewing member. There were
55 no further questions on the Investigative Report.

56
57 **Agenda Item 7 – Application Review**

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59 **In a motion by Roll Call Vote, it was unanimously agreed to approve Sarah Hindle as an
60 Apprentice Direct-Entry Midwife.**

61 **Bethel Belisle – Yes**

62 **Hannah St. George – Yes**

63 **Rachel Pugh - Yes**

64
65 **Agenda Item 10 – New Business**

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67 To make the best use of their time, the board started on New Business while waiting for
68 Director Chambers to join. Ms. Pugh asked RLS Derr about fees associated with statutes and
69 regulations. It was agreed to meet again March 3rd after the new Nurse-Midwife had been
70 seated to discuss statute and regulation updates/changes.

71
72 **Agenda Item 8 – Sunset Audit/Legislative Interview**

73
74 Director Sara Chambers joined to discuss the upcoming Sunset Audit and Legislative Interviews.
75 She briefly reviewed the Sunset Audit Recommendations and explained to the board how the

76 Sunset Review process worked. Director Chambers stressed the importance of having active,
77 engaged, and thoughtful board participation at legislative hearings. The recommendation of a
78 'phone tree' was established to support the board and spread the commitment among
79 members. Director Chambers discussed some of the challenges the board had faced over the
80 last few years and offered constructive feedback for answering questions during the hearings
81 and the overall process in general. After thanking Sara for her time, the board agreed there
82 was 'light head' and looked forward to addressing the challenges faced.

83

84 **Agenda Item 9 – Public Comment**

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86 Public comment opened at 11am and there was a member of the public present to speak.

87

88 Malan Paquette – Anchor Point – Stated she's a lifelong Alaskan who's concerned with 'birth
89 tourism'. She said she promotes anti-fraud resources and wanted to bring birth tourism to the
90 boards attention. Ms. Paquette said it's encompassed with human-trafficking and one of her
91 'passions' is to find missing persons and just uplift the resources for the National Center for
92 Missing and Exploited Children. She greatly urged the board to follow their statutes and
93 regulations to the letter of the law and update them to include requirements to search vital
94 statistics databases for name aliases. Alaska's high population of sex-offenders as people travel
95 here to see all of Alaska's beauty and it's hard to tell them apart from normal people.

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97 **Agenda Item 11 – Adjourn**

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99 **A motion was made to Adjourn the meeting by R. Pugh; seconded by H. St. George, the**
100 **motion passed unanimously.**

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102 **Meeting Adjourned 11:09 am**

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Respectfully Submitted:

Lacey Derr, Records & Licensing Supervisor

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Bethel Belisle, CDM Chair

Date

DRAFT