

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS, AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

Atwood Building  
550 West Seventh Ave. Room 1270  
Anchorage, AK

BOARD OF NURSING

Board of Nursing Minutes  
November 7-9, 2018

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. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ste. 1270 Anchorage, AK 99501. Executive Session on November 8 was held in Suite 1550. Room change signs were posted at Suite 1270.

**Wednesday, November 7, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Agenda Item 1**

**Roll Call**

Those present, constituting a quorum were:

- Chair: Jennifer Stuke LPN, Wasilla
- Secretary: Wendy Thon, MSN, APRN, FNP-C, FAANP, Eagle River
- Educator: Joe Lefleur, MSN Ed, RN, Ketchikan
- RN Member: Starla Fox, RN, Dillingham
- RN Member: Sharyl Toscano PhD, MS, RN-CPN, Anchorage
- Public Member: Linda Hutchings, Soldotna
- Public Member: Note this seat is currently vacant

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

- Gail Bernth MSN, APRN, Executive Administrator
- David Worrell, Licensing Examiner
- Joan Green, Nurse Consultant

Members of the Public in attendance:

- Beth Farnstrom RN, AaNA
- Carrie Doyle CNS, Providence Hospital
- Renee Steffen RN, ANTHC
- Laura Sarcome CNM, APRN Alliance
- Jean Brown RN
- Brandon Biddle
- Brenda Cook RN, Southcentral Foundation
- Jeremy Hoffman, AaNA
- Jill Jasinsic, ANPA
- James Reineke, PAMC
- Erika Priksat

### **Agenda Review**

On a motion made by Linda Hutchings, seconded by Wendy Thon and carried with 6 ayes it was,  
**RESOLVED that the agenda be accepted.**

### **Ethics Disclosures:**

Jennifer Stuke reported attending the NCSBN Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN.  
Sharyl Toscano reported attending the NCSBN Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN.  
Ethics disclosure forms were completed.

### **Agenda Item 2: Regulation Projects**

Jun Maquis, Regulation Specialist in attendance via teleconference

**Telehealth:** The Board accepted public testimony. Renee Steffen CNE from ANTHC expressed concern that the proposed regulation would restrict the ability to provide care in rural communities particularly in the field of behavioral health. Brenda Cook, nurse manager from Southcentral Foundation expressed concern that patients are sent out of state and much care coordination and case management occurs with out of state nurses and this would inhibit that communication and ability to provide care. The board reviewed the written public comment.

Most of the discussion occurred around the ability to enforce the proposed regulation (a) an advanced practice nurse (APRN) or registered nurse (RN) may practice telehealth if the following conditions are met (1) in order to provide care for a patient in this state, including diagnosis, treating, rendering an opinion, providing case management, the APRN or RN must be licensed to practice in this state under AS 08.68.

The board does not want to restrict the management of pain or palliative care in rural areas. The requirement that a licensed health care provider be physically present with the patient when a controlled substance was prescribed was removed.

The board determined that an APRN with access to the patient's records may prescribe a medication to a patient without conducting a physical exam.

On a motion made by Sharyl Toscano, seconded by Joe Lefleur and carried with 6 ayes it was,  
**RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing request that the proposed telehealth regulations be sent to the Department of Law for a pre-review.**

**Repeal 12 AAC 44.321:** This regulation provides the ability for the licensing examiners and Executive Administrator to issue licenses according to the board pre-approved checklists. Currently, the checklists are sent out for public comment via a regulations project. This is costly and cumbersome. The board wants to approve the checklists via motion and continue to have licensing staff issue licenses following the checklists. The staff does not have the authority to deny a license.

Discussion occurred that if this regulation was repealed would the staff still have the authority to issue a license or would all license applications go to the board for review.

On a motion made by Linda Hutchings, seconded by Wendy Thon and carried with 6 ayes it was,  
**RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing requests that the proposed repeal of 12 AAC 44.321 be sent to the Department of Law for a pre-review.**

Recess for a break at: 10:30 a.m.

Returned from break at: 10:45 a.m.

### **Agenda Item 3: Ketamine Clinics by CRNAs**

Presentation by April Erickson CRNA via teleconference asking for approval to open stand-alone ketamine clinic operated by CRNAs within the state to be within their scope of practice.

Board Members asked questions and a summary of the answers were:

- Proper wastage of ketamine will occur because there will another licensed nurse and the CRNA and licensed nurse will waste the medication together
- Patients will be over age 18, no pediatrics
- Addiction will be evaluated via a screening tool, urine drug screens will occur before infusions begin, and after every infusion there will be communication with the prescribing provider regarding the effectiveness of the infusion
- Treatment of mental health is not within the scope of practice of a CRNA. Only referrals from a psychiatrist or a Certified Mental Health Nurse Practitioner will be accepted for a ketamine infusion in the treatment of a mental health condition.

The Board of Nursing reviewed the documents provided and determined that under 12 AAC44.430 ketamine clinics are within the scope of practice for CRNAs.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Cooperative Practice Agreements between APRNs and Pharmacists**

Information provided to the board regarding cooperative practice agreements that is within the Board of Pharmacy regulations. These agreements have been in place for years.

Information only, no action taken.

#### **General Board Discussion took place:**

The on-line renewal system was discussed. There is confusion regarding “My Alaska” and “My License”. The APRNs have expressed frustration with having the ability to upload only two pdf files as the ability to combine pdf files is limited.

It is not clear on the renewal application that RN national certification is accepted in lieu of submitting 30 contact hours of continuing education. This will need to be clearer on the next renewal.

Joe Lefleur asked the question of who is responsible for the nursing student in the field? Are they working under the school or under the hospital policies?

Per 08.68.800 Exceptions to application of chapter. (a) This chapter does not apply to (3) the practice of nursing by an individual enrolled in an approved program or course of study approved by the board to satisfy the requirements of AS 08.68.251. The nursing faculty/instructor is responsible for the student.

Recess for lunch at: 12:00 p.m.

Returned from lunch at: 1:31 p.m.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Public Testimony**

Anna Monahan from Soldotna (via telephone) – issue: Degree Requirement to Teach. She believes it forecloses on many nurses with significant real-world experience from sharing that experience with nurses in training. Mentioned that a new grad with no experience could teach while 4 local nurses with a total of over 90 years of combined experience couldn't. Concerned about boomer retirements resulting in shortages and growing needs in rural communities – need every available experienced nurse to share their experience.

Board member Sharyl Toscano responded that she appreciates the difficulty of faculty requirements and the board is open to new models. It is noted that AK requires baccalaureate degree, but national accrediting bodies are looking for a Master's degree.

Board member Joe Lefleur stated that communities have individual needs and if hospitals can use or depend on local talent why can't the university. He is concerned that programs are moving towards a BSN and there is a need to keep the Associate degree as a stepping stone.

Jim Reineke introduced himself as the new CNO for Providence Health care system. He has years of experience in the USAF.

Laura Sarcome CNM, APRN Alliance spoke to a problem with renewal and not being able to upload more than 2 documents. It was awkward at best. She suggests a warning be placed on the renewal page that documents may also be sent in via email and fax.

Sharyl Toscano, not speaking as a board member mentioned difficulty APRN's were having uploading required documents with the limited availability. Emailing or faxing the documents are an option.

Beth Farnstrom RN, AaNA asked if executive session meeting will be all day in the future?

Executive Administrator responded that is not the plan but adequate time will be scheduled to review cases and listen to the licensees.

**Agenda Item 6: APU AND RN Program Application**

In attendance from Alaska Pacific University were: Jessica Downes DNP, MSN, RN, Katie Baraki MS, RN, Stephanie Morgan PhD and Robert Onders MD. They were available to answer questions during the review of the application.

Joseph Lefleur, nurse educator board member, provided a short synopsis to the Board and reviewed the application with the board. He stated everything proposed falls within the regulations.

Board members asked questions related to number of credits, finances, personnel qualifications, and the need to share clinical sites.

Jessica Downs is the designated program director per 12 AAC 44.060(e)

On a motion made by Joseph Lefleur, seconded by Wendy Thon, and carried with 6 ayes it was: **RESOLVED** to approve the APU program application on a provisional basis.

Recess for break at: 2:21 p.m.

Returned from break at: 2:25 p.m.

**Friday Agenda item were moved forward.**

**Agenda Item 19: PDMP Report**

The report was reviewed. No action taken

**Agenda Item 20: Board Correspondence**

Board correspondence was reviewed. No action taken.

**Agenda Item 15: CNA Report & Licensing Statistics**

The board noted that there was a decrease in the number of certified nurse aides after renewal. It is typical for this to occur with each renewal cycle. The board will be monitoring the licensing numbers as this affects the available work force. It is also noted that new CNA training programs are beginning.

**Agenda Item 14: Certified Nurse Aide Program Review**

The submitted CNA Program Report was reviewed. The board sends “kudos” to the Alaska Job Corps CNA program for an improved program pass rate.

On a motion made by Joe Lefleur, seconded by Wendy Thon, and carried with 6 ayes, it was

**RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska approve the CNA training programs at Heritage Place in Kenai/Soldotna, the Alaska Technical Center in Kotzebue, Katchemak Bay Community College in Homer, Kenai Peninsula College/KPBSD in Kenai, and the Valdez Combined Program for the next 2 years.**

Recess for break at: 2:51 p.m.

Returned from break at: 2:54 p.m.

**Agenda Item 7: Administration of Non-Herbal Nutritional Supplements**

Request from AK Pioneer Homes for clarification of regulation 12 AAC 44. 945

Public testimony was provided by Sonja Alvarez via teleconference. Her mother is residing in the Pioneer Home. The family has found that magnesium and turmeric is helpful in treating their mother. The staff at the home are unable to administer the supplements due to regulations. This is presenting a significant hardship to the family.

Emily Palmer from the Pioneer Home and Clinton Lasley from HSS presented a short PowerPoint presentation regarding the Pioneer Homes levels of care and the services provided. The Pioneer Homes have a goal to allow residents to safely age in place and provide services while allowing maximum self-sufficiency. The current regulations prevent staff from administering “one or more “ingredient herbal supplements. They express a need to re-write the regulation but also include safety measures such as physical approval and third-party quality assurance for the supplement administered.

The board requested the Executive Administer to draft a revised regulation addressing this matter and present it at the February board meeting for review.

**Agenda Item 8: Division Report**

Sara Chambers, Acting Director, Charles Ward, Acting Deputy Director, and Melissa Dumas, Administrative Officer presented the division report. The board expressed concern over the financial status and noted a deficit. This is not unusual since primary revenue comes with a renewal cycle. The increase cost per licensee is largely related to Investigative cost. Major factors that drive costs are regulations, attorney time, and meetings. The cost of database improvements is an indirect cost and shared among all boards.

The Division is closely monitoring Nurse License Compact and military spouse licensure. A new Governor will mean new Department and Division leadership. This may alter priorities.

**Agenda Item 9: Advisory Opinion related to Administration of Botox and Dermal Fillers**

Rachael Arnold MSN, APRN, FNP-C requested a Board opinion if it is within the scope of practice for an APRN to administer Botox.

The Board reviewed the documentation provided. Discussion occurred that under the current advisory opinion it states “It is within the scope of practice for a RN to execute the medical orders from a licensed

physician/APRN/PA. The physician/APRN/PA must be properly trained in cutaneous medicine and surgery and in the administration of a neuro modulator for cosmetic purposes.

The board recessed at 4:19 p.m. until Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 9 a.m.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

## **Roll Call**

Those present, constituting a quorum were:

- Chair: Jennifer Stukey LPN, Wasilla
- Secretary: Wendy Thon, MSN, APRN, FNP-C, FAANP, Eagle River
- Public Member: Note this seat is currently vacant
- Educator: Joe Lefleur, MSN Ed, RN, Ketchikan
- RN Member: Starla Fox, RN, Dillingham
- RN Member: Sharyl Toscano PhD, MS, RN-CPN, Anchorage
- Public Member: Linda Hutchings, Soldotna

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

- Gail Bernth MSN, APRN, Executive Administrator
- Joan Green RN, Nurse Consultant
- Greg Francois, Chief Investigator
- Sonja Lipker, Senior Investigator III
- Jennifer Summers, Investigator III
- Amber Whaley, Senior Investigator III
- Joel Dolphin, Investigator III
- Carl Jacobs, Investigator III - observing
- Shyla Consalo, Investigator III
- Christina Bond, Investigator III
- Erika Pricksat, Investigator III - observing

## **Agenda 10: Executive Session**

On a motion duly made by Joe Lefleur, seconded by Starla Fox , and carried with 6 ayes, it was **RESOLVED that the Alaska Board of Nursing enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing cases, reports by the investigative team. Board staff is to remain during the session.**

Let the record reflect that the Board of Nursing moved into executive session at 9:05 a.m.

The door is locked, only board members and board staff are present.

The board returned to the record, out of executive session at 11:35 a.m.

On a motion duly made by Sharyl Toscano, seconded by Linda Hutchings, and carried with 5 ayes and 1 opposed, it was

**RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska moved to deny Cheri Ray license NURP5770, Case #2018-000760 application for RN by reinstatement under 08.68.270 and 12 AAC 44.705(a)(14).**

On a motion duly made by Wendy Thon, seconded by Starla Fox, and carried with 0 ayes and 6 opposed, it was

**RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska reinstates Christiana Ulofoshio, NURP4878, and having examined the Consent Agreement, Decision and Order under Case # 2018-001163, adopts the Consent Agreement, Decision and Order in this matter. This Agreement shall be effective immediately upon its adoption by the Board.**

**The consent agreement was not accepted.**

**Subsidiary Motion:** On a motion duly made by Wendy Thon, seconded by Sharyl Toscano, and carried with 6 ayes, it was

**RESOLVED that a new Consent Agreement for Christiana-Ulofoshio NURP4878 will include a nursing refresher course approved by the board.**

On a motion duly made by Sharyl Toscano, seconded by Linda Hutchings, and carried with 5 ayes and 1 recused, it was

**RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska, having examined the Consent Agreement and Proposed Decision and Order, Case No 2018-000647, Hauni M. Hart, NUAA131489, certificate applicant, adopts the Consent Agreement and Decision and Order in this matter.**

**This Consent Agreement take effect immediately upon signature of this Order in accordance with the approval of the Board of Nursing.**

**The Division may enforce the Consent Agreement by immediately suspending Respondent's certificate, without an additional order from the Board of Nursing or without a prior hearing, for a violation of the Consent Agreement.**

On a motion duly made by Sharyl Toscano, seconded by Linda Hutchings, and carried with 6 ayes, it was

**RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska, having examined the Consent Agreement and Proposed Decision and Order, Case No. 2018-000281, Certified Nurse Aide Shawna Kruger, Certification number 13013, adopts the Consent Agreement and Decision and Order in this matter.**

**This Consent Agreement takes effect immediately upon signature of this Order in accordance with the approval of the Board of Nursing.**

**The Division may enforce the Consent Agreement by immediately suspending Shawna Kruger's certificate, without an additional order from the Board of Nursing or without a prior hearing, for a violation of the Consent Agreement.**



On a motion duly made by Joe Lefleur, seconded by Linda Hutchings, and carried with 6 ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Board of Nursing for the State of Alaska, having examined the Consent Agreement and Proposed Decision and Order, Case No 2017-001294, Respondent Liane G. White, NUAA12311, and any subsequent Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) certificate issued, adopts the Consent Agreement and Decision and Order in this matter.

**This Consent Agreement takes effect immediately upon signature of this Order in accordance with the approval of the Board of Nursing.**

**The Division may enforce the Consent Agreement by immediately suspending Respondent's certificate, without an additional order from the Board of Nursing or without a prior hearing, for a violation of the Consent Agreement.**

On a motion duly made by Starla Fox, seconded by Wendy Thon, and carried with 6 ayes, it was **RESOLVED** that the Board of Nursing, having examined the proposed Consent Agreement, Decision and Order under Case Number 2017-000495, in the matter of Marilyn W. Morgan, Registered Nurse License No. NURR8861, adopts this Consent Agreement, Decision and Order in this matter.

**The Consent Agreement, Decision and Order take effect immediately upon signature of this Order in accordance with the approval of the Board of Nursing.**

On a motion duly made by Linda Hutchings, seconded by Joe Lefleur, and carried with 5 ayes and 1 opposed, it was

**RESOLVED** that the Board of Nursing table the proposed Consent Agreement in the matter of Jodi C. Ulricksen-Duffield (Caroline) until the board meets Friday, November 9.

#### **Agenda Item 11: NCLEX Item Review**

Board members Jennifer Stuke and Joe Lefleur departed to Pearson Vue to review the RN and LPN NCLEX exam for compliance with Alaska's statutes and regulations.

The board recessed at 11:45 am until Friday, November 9 at 9:00 am.

**Friday, November 9, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**Roll Call**

Those present, constituting a quorum were:

- Chair: Jennifer Stukey LPN, Wasilla
- Secretary: Wendy Thon, MSN, APRN, FNP-C, FAANP, Eagle River
- Public Member: Note this seat is currently vacant
- Educator: Joe Lefleur, MSN Ed, RN, Ketchikan
- RN Member: Starla Fox, RN, Dillingham
- RN Member: Sharyl Toscano PhD, MS, RN-CPN, Anchorage
- Public Member: Linda Hutchings, Soldotna

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

- Gail Bernth MSN, APRN, Executive Administrator
- David Worrell, Licensing Examiner
- Joan Green, Nurse Consultant

Members of the Public in attendance:

- Beth Farnstrom, AaNA
- Pat Reynaga, Providence Alaska Hospital
- Cassie Fees, Fresenius Medical Care
- Bonnie Zientele, Fresenius Medical Care
- Carrie Doyle, Providence Alaska Hospital
- John Bitney, Fresenius
- Jean Brown, RN
- Jewell Smith, MBA, BSN, RN, CPHQ Liberty Dialysis
- LeeAnne Carrothers, PT, PhD UAA
- Marianne Murray, DNP, MSN, RN, CHSE UAA
- Laura Sarcone, CNM APRN Alliance

**Agenda Item 12: Public Testimony**

(a) Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact

Fresenius Dialysis Center spoke in support of adoption of the enhanced Nurse License Compact for the State of Alaska. A letter of support with their reasons was submitted to the board by Cassie Fees, Director of Operations Alaska JV Clinics. Specifically, citing staff shortages/length of

training/natural disasters as main reasons for support. If Alaska was part of the Compact Fresenius would be able to bring nurses to their Alaska clinics from other Compact states.

Jewell Smith, Liberty Dialysis spoke in favor of the enhanced Nurse License Compact for Alaska. She cited the difficulty in hiring Alaskan dialysis trained nurses and compact licensing would be more timely, easier, and less expensive to bring in traveling support nurses.

Beth Farnstrom, AaNA, spoke against the enhanced Nurse License Compact for Alaska citing if a natural disaster happens, the Board of Nursing already has systems in place; the legislature makes the nurse compact decision and not the Board of Nursing. Concerned was expressed regarding the safety of patients with compact nurses being in Alaska; and finances are a concern for the State.

- (b) Carrie Doyle, Providence Alaska Medical Center, expressed concern with confusing roles for staff who have dual licenses/certification. Examples: An RN now an ANP, but hired as an RN. Is their scope RN or ANP. Nurses who float to different units at the hospital, does their scope change, even if they are actually floating to do CNA duties? Clarification on new RN graduates. Board member Joe Lefleur to research for the February board meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 13: UAA Nurse Aide Program Application**

LeeAnne Carrothers, PT, PhD and Marianne Murray DNP, MSN, RN, CHSE requested that UAA be granted provisional approval of UAA's nurse aide training program.

The board reviewed the documents submitted, asked questions, and considered faculty qualifications.

On a motion duly made by Wendy Thon, seconded by Linda Hutchings, and carried with 6 ayes, it was **RESOLVED that the Board of Nursing in the State of Alaska grants the University of Alaska-Anchorage provisional approval of their CNA training programs and grants authorization to conduct training until the board's final decision on the application.**

#### **Agenda Item 16: Licensing Report**

Report by the Board of Nursing stated the RN/APRN's are in the renewal cycle until November 30. 7,000+ RN's have renewed with 8,000+ left to renew. 800+ APRN's left to renew.

Licensing statistics for the past quarter and year to date were reviewed by the board.

#### **Return to Agenda Item 10 Executive Session**

On a motion duly made by Joe Lefleur, seconded by Jennifer Stukey, and carried with 6 ayes, it was **RESOLVED that the Alaska Board of Nursing enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing cases, reports by the investigative team. Board staff is to remain during the session.**

Let the record reflect that the board moved into executive session at 10:02 am.  
The door is locked, only board members and board staff are present.  
The Board of Nursing is out of executive session at 10:06 am.

On a motion duly made by Wendy Thon, seconded by Joe Lefleur, and carried with 6 ayes, it was  
**RESOLVED that the Alaska Board of Nursing move to approve application for reinstatement of nurse aide certification for Jodi C. Ulricksen-Duffield (Caroline) NUAA12505. She must successfully complete the CNA examination written and skills sections before being certified.**

Recess for break at: 10:07 a.m.  
Returned from break at: 10:29 a.m.

**Agenda Item 21: Elections:**

Board nominations were taken for the chair and secretary positions. Through secret voting ballot Wendy Thon was elected as Chair and Joe Lefleur elected Secretary. Their new positions become effective January 1, 2019.

The 2019 board meeting dates need to be posted on the website. The Executive Administrator will follow-up.

**Agenda Item 18: Governance Policies**

**Discipline Guidelines:** Wendy Thon suggested the board re-consider adopting a standardize means to review discipline cases for a consistent, more objective tool to determine sanctions. The Virginia Board of Nursing Standard of Care Worksheet was reviewed. It was recommended that the board also review North Carolina's tool. The Executive Administration is to provide board members with a copy of each tool for use between now and the February board meeting and board will re-discuss at the February meeting.

**Communication Goal:** Starla Fox recommended board members work together at end of board meetings and write articles for AaNA Journal. A board member is to write an article for AaNA after each board meeting providing a summary of the board business, regulation changes, or advisory opinions. The draft of the article is sent to the EA to review. If after publishing a board member finds an inaccuracy, it is requested that the EA be notified so that a retraction or correction can be made immediately. Wendy Thon, as the new Chair, will write the next article following this board meeting.

**Education Goal:** Sharyl Toscano stated the board should do an audit of nursing program's faculty. Concerned was expressed if faculty are qualified to teach as per regulations. Discussion occurred if the board had the authority to do an audit, if a sample audit was adequate. A decision was made that Joe Lefleur will design a template of what is needed in the annual school report to the board to be presented at the next meeting.

Discussion occurred regarding adjunct faculty qualification. There is no definition of adjunct in the regulations but the board believes defining an adjunct should be based upon job description and not on whether part-time or full-time.

#### **APRN and Loss of Prescriptive Authority –**

A recommendation was made by investigations and the Executive Administrator to take a governance policy and move it into regulation. It pertains to notifying the Drug Enforcement Agency and the Alaska Pharmacy Board of any APRN that loses controlled substance prescriptive authority for any reason.

On a motion duly made by Wendy Thon, seconded by Sharyl Toscano, and carried with 6 ayes, it was

**RESOLVED that Wendy Thon will draft a regulation related to the loss of prescriptive authority for APRN's and the notification of DEA and the pharmacy board to be reviewed at the next board meeting.**

Recess for lunch: 12:01 p.m.

Return from lunch: 1:10 p.m.

#### **Agenda Item 17: NLC**

Present on the teleconference to provide testimony were Patricia Atkinson from ASHNHA, Tammie Perreault from Department of Defense, Jim Puente and Rebecca Blotch from NCSBN.

Public Testimony was received from Tammie Perreault regional liaison from the Department of Defense. She spoke in favor of the Nurse License Compact. The key issue is to remove barriers for military spouses as they move often from state to state. It is time-consuming and expensive to license in each state. Military families often need two incomes to support the family and rapid licensure of a spouse is important. The NLC also provides consistent rules among the states.

Patricia Atkinson spoke in favor as it would assist employers to fill nursing positions more quickly.

Jim Puente and Rebecca Blotch from NCSBN answered questions about the NLC and how it is working among the 31 other states since implementation in 1/2018.

- A multi-state compact license is issued from the state where the applicant has legal residence. For the purpose of the NLC, residence is determined by an attestation statement that the nurse signs when she is completing her application.
- NCSBN grant funds may be used in 2 areas. One area is for advocacy or lobbying for legislative approval and the other is for direct expenses during the implementing phase such as temporary staffing during the transition and IT support.
- In order for nursing students to be made eligible for taking the NCLEX, the nursing program must be approved by the BON. Some of the key components nurse regulators evaluate in-depth include evaluation of the governing entity program leadership, faculty, curriculum, physical and fiscal resources, clinical learning experiences and an evaluation plan for continued quality improvement.

Sara Chambers stated there is a potential loss of licensing staff if the number of licensees drop. There is also a potential loss of income from licensing fees to cover the licensing examiners and board overhead as there are fewer licenses.

Board members expressed concerns regarding the NLC in the areas of:

- It will be unknown who is in the state practicing nursing.
- The cost of an investigation for a nurse with a compact license practicing in Alaska will be paid for by Alaska nurses as the compact nurse has not paid any licensing fees to the state.
- Alaska requires nurses graduate from a nationally accredited school and the Uniform License Requirements for the NLC accept graduates from a board approved school to take the NCLEX.
- The Alaska nurse fee just increased and there is a predicted increase of another \$60 to cover potential loss of income from Alaska licenses.
- Differences in continuing competency/education requirement among the different states.

On a motion to support the eNLC made by Sharyl Toscano, seconded by Wendy Thon, with a vote of 3 ayes and 3 nays it was

**RESOLVED that the Alaska Board of Nursing does not move forward in support of adopting the eNLC.**

#### **Agenda Item 18: Governance Policies – Probationary Status**

Sonia Lipker, Sr. Investigator is seeking board guidance regarding a policy for handling requests from probationers. The board considered various options and at what other boards have in place.

On a motion made by Wendy Thon, seconded by Linda Hutchings, and carried with 6 ayes it was **RESOLVED that the Alaska Board of Nursing review written requests from Probationers at one annual meeting (May) and decide upon the following board meeting (August). The probationers may appear in-person or via teleconference to speak to their request.**

Recess for break at: 2:43 p.m.

Returned from break at: 2:55 p.m.

#### **Return to Agenda Item 10 Executive Session**

On a motion duly made by Wendy Thon, seconded by Starla Fox and carried with 6 ayes, it was **RESOLVED that the Alaska Board of Nursing enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing cases, reports by the investigative team. Board staff is to remain during the session.**

Let the record reflect that the Board of Nursing moved into executive session at 2:56 p.m.

The door is locked, only board members and board staff are present.

The board came out of executive session at 3:05 p.m.

No action was taken. Executive Session was informational only.

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m. until February 2019, site to be determined.

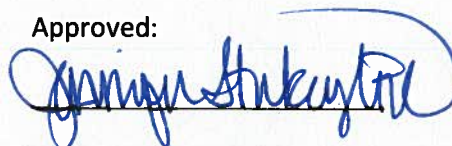
Respectfully submitted,



Gail Bernth  
Executive Administrator  
Alaska Board of Nursing

Date: 11/29/2018

Approved:



Jennifer Stukey, Chair  
Alaska Board of Nursing