

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 Friday, May 3, 2024
8

9 *These are DRAFT minutes prepared by staff of the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional*
10 *Licensing. They have not been reviewed or approved by the Board.*
11

12 By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, a quarterly meeting
13 of the Alaska State Medical Board was held Friday, May 3, 2024.
14

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

16 The meeting was called to order by Chair Nimmo at 9:01 a.m.
17

18 **Roll Call**

19 Board members present:

20 David Barnes, DO
21 Sarah Bigelow Hood, PA-C
22 Matthew Heilala, DPM
23 Lydia Mielke, Public Member (Secretary)
24 Eric Nimmo, MD (Chair)
25 David Paulson, MD
26 David Wilson, Public Member
27

28 Board staff present: Natalie Norberg, Executive Administrator, Jason Kaeser, Licensing Supervisor, Jacob
29 Olsen, Licensing Examiner, Alisa Perkins, Licensing Examiner
30

31 **2. Review / Approval of Agenda**
32

33 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll call vote**
34 **the Alaska State Medical Board amended the agenda to include a discussion regarding whether the**
35 **board should issue a position statement on SB 115.**
36

37 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr. Paulson,
38 and Mr. Wilson.

39 The was item was added to the agenda after item #10, and before the lunch break.
40

41 **3. Review/Approval of Minutes**

42 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
43 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board accepted the minutes for the February 16, 2024**
44 **meeting as presented.**
45

46 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr. Paulson,
47 and Mr. Wilson.

1
2 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
3 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board accepted the minutes for the April 11, 2024, board**
4 **meeting as presented.**

5
6 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr. Paulson,
7 and Mr. Wilson.

8
9 **4. Ethics Disclosures**

10 Ethics reporting by board members is done on a quarterly basis and is a standing item on the quarterly
11 meeting agenda. The Chair requested Ms. Norberg query each board member.

12
13 There were no ethical disclosures made by board members.

14
15 **5. Physician Health Committee Update**

16 Dr. Foland was invited to address the Board. Dr. Foland acknowledged and once again thanked the
17 Medical Board for its work to adopt a consistent and predictable referral process to the PHC for
18 physicians with a DUI charge. The process appears to be continuing to work well. Dr. Foland further
19 thanked the Board for its consideration to revise the professional fitness questions on licensing
20 applications. Finally, Dr. Foland asked for clarification regarding whether being subject to a consent
21 agreement equates to having a restricted or conditioned license reported to the NPDB. Ms. Norberg
22 offered to seek clarification from the Dept. of Law and get back to the Physician Health Committee on
23 this matter.

24
25 **6. Old Business:**

26 **A. Regulation Project**

27 Changes to the physician application for licensure

28 Chair Nimmo invited Ms. Norberg to introduce this issue:

29 During the November 16, 2023, board meeting, the Board approved a regulation project that would
30 eliminate redundant requirements from the application for MD's, DO's and DPM's. This included the
31 elimination of hospital verifications, AMA/ AOA physician profiles and the DEA clearance. These changes
32 were incorporated into a draft document by the Dept. of Law for the board to review at the February 16,
33 2024, meeting. At that meeting the Board approved an edit to the draft, to clarify that applicants must
34 disclose on their application for licensure any adverse actions taken by a hospital or health care facility,
35 *at any time* against the applicant, not just within the last five years. This language change was
36 incorporated into the new draft that is presented to the Board.

37
38 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by a roll**
39 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board approved the changes to 12 AAC 40.010 through 12**
40 **AAC 40. 050, as presented and drafted by the Dept. of Law, in project number 2024200012, to**
41 **be submitted for public comment.**

42
43 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr. Paulson,
44 and Mr. Wilson.

45
46 **7. New Business**

47 **A. Board Priorities / Annual Report**

1 Chair Nimmo invited Ms. Norberg to introduce this topic. A draft strategic planning document
2 containing examples of guiding principles, goals, strategies, activities, and tasks for the Board to
3 consider for the year was presented. Board members reflected on the document and offered additional
4 ideas for board priorities. Taking a proactive position on special interest topics, such as gender affirming
5 care of minors, was identified by some board members as a potential priority for the board to consider.
6 This notion was countered with the acknowledgement that the board has opted in recent history to take
7 a neutral position on special issues such as the use of ivermectin. Mr. Wilson asserted that taking a
8 position on special issues and using data and scientific research to support the Board's position in order
9 to protect and safeguard the public should be considered a responsibility of the Board. Mr. Wilson also
10 asserted that the Board should be more involved in the legislative process by taking positions on bills
11 and nominating a spokesperson to testify on behalf the board. Other board members also supported
12 the idea of having one or more legislative liaisons available to speak to the legislature on behalf of the
13 board. Dr. Heilala raised concerns about board members being overextended and asked to do too much.
14 Dr. Heilala supports exploring restructuring the board to have standing subcommittees tasked with
15 licensing or investigation assignments and re-examining the Interstate Licensure Medical Compact. Dr.
16 Barnes raised the concern of interference from insurance companies and physician autonomy. Other
17 board members concurred that this is a topic for which the Board may want to issue a position
18 statement. Ms. Norberg was asked to follow up with Board members individually after the meeting to
19 collect and compile their top three priorities to be considered further at a later date.
20

21 **8. Investigation Unit Update**

22
23 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
24 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
25 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of**
26 **discussing Case #2022-000247 with Board and Investigative staff remaining during the session.**
27

28 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
29 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson
30

31 The board entered executive session at 9:50 a.m. The board returned on the record at 10:05 a.m.
32

33 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by**
34 **roll call vote, the board accepted the Consent Agreement as proposed for Ben Prom in Case**
35 **No. 2022-000247.**
36

37 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr. Paulson, and Mr. Wilson
38 Abstained: Ms. Bigelow-Hood
39

40 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
41 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
42 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of**
43 **discussing Case # 2022-000726 with Board and Investigative staff remaining during the**
44 **session.**
45

46 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo,
47 Dr. Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

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2 The board entered executive session at 10:07 a.m. The board returned on the record at 10:13 a.m.

3
4 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by**
5 **roll call vote, the board imposed a civil fine as proposed for John Mendelson in Case #2022-**
6 **000726.**

7
8 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr. Paulson, and
9 Mr. Wilson

10 Abstained: Dr. Heilala

11
12 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
13 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
14 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of**
15 **discussing Case #2023-000843 with Board and Investigative staff remaining during the session.**

16
17 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
18 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

19
20 The board entered executive session at 10:16 a.m. The board returned on the record at 10:23 a.m.

21
22 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by**
23 **roll call vote, the board granted Dan Muschevici, MD an extension of audit until the end of**
24 **the current license cycle in Case #2023-000843.**

25
26 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
27 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

28
29 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
30 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
31 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of**
32 **discussing Case #2023-000850 with Board and Investigative staff and Dr. Gallant remaining**
33 **during the session.**

34
35 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
36 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

37
38 The board entered executive session at 10:26 a.m. The board returned on the record at 10:51 a.m.

39
40 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by**
41 **roll call vote, the board approved an audit exemption for Dr. Gallant upon the submission**
42 **of a sworn attestation from Dr. Gallant that she completed the required number of CME's**
43 **in Case #2023-000843.**

44
45 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
46 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

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2 **9. Break** – The Board went off the record at 10:52 a.m. and returned on the record at 11:04 a.m.

3
4 **10. Residency Exemption Request – Kleber Fertin, MD**

5 Chair Nimmo requested Ms. Norberg introduce this item. As a foreign educated physician, Dr. Fertrin
6 does not meet the residency requirements required in Statute and Regulation to be licensed in Alaska.
7 Alaska statute allows for the medical board to grant an exemption if the applicant is deemed to hold
8 sufficient training and professional experience. Dr. Kleber requested to address the board to request an
9 exemption, however he no showed during the time allotted for his interview.

10
11 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by**
12 **roll call vote, the board decided to table a decision on granting Dr. Fertrin a license.**

13
14 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
15 Paulson, Mr. Wilson

16
17 **Agenda Item Added: SB 115 – Physician Assistant Scope of Practice**

18 Chair Nimmo introduced and opened the floor for discussion regarding whether the Board should issue
19 a statement regarding SB 115. Ms. Bigelow Hood provided some background for the bill, including the
20 Alaska Physician Assistant Association’s call to modernize the regulations and attempts in good faith
21 over multiple years to work with the medical board on modernization, prior to the bill being introduced.
22 The pros and cons of physician assistants having independent practice were briefly explored. Several
23 members observed that this is an important bill, and the Board probably should have taken a position,
24 however with two weeks left in the legislative session, it seems too late.

25
26 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Mr. Wilson, and decided by roll call**
27 **vote, the board decided against issuing a statement regarding SB 115.**

28
29 Roll Call: Nays, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
30 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

31
32 **11. Lunch Break**

33 The Board went off the record at 11:38 a.m. The Board returned on the record at 12:31 p.m.

34
35 Due to reconvening early from the lunch break and being ahead of schedule, the Chair decided to
36 address agenda item #16, Applicant Review.

37
38 **Applicant Review**

39 **Full Board Review**

40 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood and approved by roll**
41 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board enter into executive session in accordance with AS**
42 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of**
43 **discussing license applications with board staff remaining during session.**

44
45 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
46 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

1 The Board entered executive session at 12:32 p.m. The Board returned on the record at 12:47 p.m.

2
3 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and decided by**
4 **roll call vote, the board denied granting a license to Dr. Mahesh Karandikar. The Board**
5 **cited in its decision concerns related to Dr. Karandikar’s ability to provide safe patient care**
6 **based on his history of malpractice cases resulting in catastrophic injury or death to patients**
7 **and the substantiated findings that led to a suspension of license in Wyoming in 2018 and**
8 **restricted license in Washington in 2020.**

9
10 Roll Call: Nays, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
11 Paulson, Mr. Wilson

12
13 **Ratification of Full Licenses**

14
15 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
16 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board approved the following list of physician assistants for**
17 **full licensure.**

18
19 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
20 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

	Lic Type	First Name	Last Name
1.	PA	Marcus	Bruno
2.	PA	Marissa	Caldarella
3.	PA	Thomas	Clopton
4.	PA	Karsen	Cullen
5.	PA	Jenna	Gilbert
6.	PA	Preston	Gorman
7.	PA	Henry	Hathaway
8.	PA	Hillary	Herr
9.	PA	Alicia	Karagianes
10.	PA	Kelsey	Kramer
11.	PA	Sonja	Kuhta
12.	PA	Matteson	McCarty
13.	PA	Michael	Molnar
14.	PA	Joseph	Montgomery

	Lic Type	First Name	Last Name
15.	PA	Heidi	Schulz
16.	PA	Todd	Plocher
17.	PA	Kurtt	Pulver
18.	PA	Grant	Robbins
19.	PA	Richard	Siersma
20.	PA	Kelsey	Thompson
21.	PA	Peter	Voss
22.	PA	Michael	Wechter

22
23 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood and approved by**
24 **roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board approved the following list of osteopathic**
25 **physicians for full licensure.**

26
27 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
28 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

	Lic Type	First Name	Last Name
1.	DO	Shawn	Achtman
2.	DO	Katelyn	Bailey
3.	DO	Minden	Collamore
4.	DO	Kimberly	Dimanna
5.	DO	Angelique	Ferayorni
6.	DO	Christopher	Galbick
7.	DO	Susan	Garand
8.	DO	Ryan	Gorman
9.	DO	Kyle	Hirschman
10.	DO	Alex	Jabourian
11.	DO	Paul	Kaplan
12.	DO	Alicia	Kiger
13.	DO	Nicole	Kunar
14.	DO	Steven	Leong
15.	DO	Lindsey	Migliore
16.	DO	Benjamin	Nance
17.	DO	Daniel	Nargizian
18.	DO	Jayesh	Patel
19.	DO	Dane	Pernot
20.	DO	Adam	Raymond
21.	DO	Richard	Smith
22.	DO	Terrance	Stone
23.	DO	Sarah	Tinsler
24.	DO	Bradley	Werrell
25.	DO	Casey	Willman
26.	DO	Lynda	Williamson
27.	DO		

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On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board approved the following list of allopathic physicians for full licensure.

Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr. Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

	Lic Type	First Name	Last Name
1.	MD	Bilawal	Ahmed
2.	MD	Jahangir	Ahmed
3.	MD	Rajaa	Almestady
4.	MD	Anna	Anderson
5.	MD	Betty	Anderson
6.	MD	Naomi	Arenson

	Lic Type	First Name	Last Name
36.	MD	Jason	Degani
37.	MD	Ayanna	Diarra
38.	MD	Barbara	Distad
39.	MD	Thomas	Doohan
40.	MD	Andrew	Dorizas
41.	MD	Christopher	Drummond

7.	MD	Timothy	Ballard
8.	MD	Mitali	Bapna
9.	MD	Saurabh	Basundhra
10.	MD	Stephen	Bayles
11.	MD	Scott	Beach
12.	MD	Joshua	Beck
13.	MD	Nikole	Benders-Hadi
14.	MD	Brandon	Berger
15.	MD	Erik	Berger
16.	MD	Sameer	Berry
17.	MD	Erika	Bisgaard
18.	MD	Jonathan	Bloch
19.	MD	Robert	Bowen
20.	MD	Daniel	Borbon
21.	MD	Valerie	Brooke
22.	MD	Eileen	Bulger
23.	MD	Elizabeth	Burgess
24.	MD	Daniel	Burritt
25.	MD	Rachael	Carricaburu
26.	MD	Sarah	Carlson
27.	MD	Jacob	Carlile
28.	MD	Elizabeth	Carpenter
29.	MD	Rebecca	Cisneros
30.	MD	Chi	Chan
31.	MD	Michel	Choueiri
32.	MD	Adam	Corman
33.	MD	Tait	Dalton
34.	MD	Peter	Davis-Allen
35.	MD	Khaled	Deeb

42.	MD	Sutapa	Dube
43.	MD	Sean	Dugan
44.	MD	Sean	Dwijendra
45.	MD	Bishoy	ElBebawy
46.	MD	Samuel	Emerson
47.	MD	Ramez	Ethnasios
48.	MD	Michael	Farber
49.	MD	Megan	Farnsworth
50.	MD	Sarah	Fatool
51.	MD	Andrew	Ferguson
52.	MD	Steven	Fitts
53.	MD	Zachary	Forcade
54.	MD	Karenne	Fru
55.	MD	Daniel	Funsch
56.	MD	Malini	Ganesh
57.	MD	Robert	Geise
58.	MD	Anita Rae	Glasson
59.	MD	Zoe	Glick
60.	MD	Monica	Gomberg
61.	MD	Heather	Gridley
62.	MD	Andrea	Greenfeld
63.	MD	Joseph	Guarisco
64.	MD	Tyler	Haas
65.	MD	Donald	Haering
66.	MD	Gregory	Harders
67.	MD	Ryan	Hargraves
68.	MD	Arash	Hassantoufighi
69.	MD	Christopher	Hebert
70.	MD	Michael	Heinrich

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71.	MD	Nancy	Heisel
72.	MD	Julian	Horwitz
73.	MD	Natalie	Howshaw
74.	MD	Jennifer	Huckabee
75.	MD	Yumi	Ishihara
76.	MD	Michael	Jaffe
77.	MD	William	Janss
78.	MD	Jiyeon	Jeon
79.	MD	Nicholas	Johnson
80.	MD	Nathan	Jones
81.	MD	Kimia	Kani
82.	MD	Shannon	Keil
83.	MD	Stephen	Keiser
84.	MD	Meenal	Kheterpal
85.	MD	Imad	Khan
86.	MD	Louis	Kim
87.	MD	Meghana	Kinariwala
88.	MD	Robert	Klemisch
89.	MD	Diana	Kumar
90.	MD	Garson	Lee
91.	MD	Sujin	Lee
92.	MD	Gus	Leotta
93.	MD	Barbara	Levy
94.	MD	Kimberly	Liekweg
95.	MD	Fredrica	Lofquist
96.	MD	Elizabeth	Loggers
97.	MD	Quinton	Lucas
98.	MD	Elizabeth	Madva
99.	MD	Vicky	Mathwig
100.	MD	Christian	McCartney
101.	MD	Gregory	McCormick
102.	MD	Ruth	McGovern
103.	MD	Charles	Minn
104.	MD	Ambreen	Mohamed
105.	MD	Jason	Mounts
106.	MD	Patrick	Mullet
107.	MD	Wayne	Murphy
108.	MD	Julia	Nelson
109.	MD	Amy	Newhouse

110.	MD	Stephanie	Osiecki
111.	MD	Tyler	Ovella
112.	MD	Hetal	Patel
113.	MD	Jayendra	Patel
114.	MD	Brian	Park
115.	MD	Melissa	Park
116.	MD	Kathryn	Pennington
117.	MD	Mara	Phillips
118.	MD	Donald	Pierce
119.	MD	Pollyanna	Pitt
120.	MD	Naomi	Pomerantz
121.	MD	Carmen	Purl
122.	MD	Meera	Ravindranathan
123.	MD	Mark	Reimer
124.	MD	Jonathan	Richina
125.	MD	Rifat	Rifat
126.	MD	Liza	Rodriguez
127.	MD	Enrique	Rodriguez-Paz
128.	MD	Mariajose	Rojas-DeLeon
129.	MD	Joshua	Roland
130.	MD	Daniel	Roubik
131.	MD	Cynthia	Sacco
132.	MD	Gregory	Sacher
133.	MD	Jane	Sailer
134.	MD	Scott	Sanderson
135.	MD	John	Schwab
136.	MD	Garret	Schuchart
137.	MD	Jonathan	Scott
138.	MD	Jeffrey	Sellman
139.	MD	Jeremy	Semeiks
140.	MD	Joseph	Shivdler
141.	MD	Preetika	Sidhu
142.	MD	Skyler	Simpson
143.	MD	Krishni	Somaradne
144.	MD	Richard	St Cyr
145.	MD	Matthew	Stampfl
146.	MD	James	Stensby
147.	MD	Barclay	Stewart
148.	MD	Carrie	Sun

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149.	MD	Katharine	Tansavatdi
150.	MD	Sarena	Teng
151.	MD	Genevieve	Viamonte
152.	MD	Kerri	Voigts
153.	MD	Tina	Walker
154.	MD	Teresa	Walsh
155.	MD	Cornell	Wells
156.	MD	Wells	Weymouth
157.	MD	Joanne	Wu

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12. Public Comments / Board Correspondence

Chair Nimmo recognized three persons to address the Board:

- 1) Jackie Robertson, private citizen; urged the Board to consider the needs of chronic pain patients and support policies that eliminate the stigma and the barriers to access legitimate, needed pain medication.
- 2) Meghan Hall, physician assistant working in Alaska; thanked the Board for its time and consideration regarding the modernization of physician scope of practice; she appreciates the collaboration and looks forward to continued collaboration.
- 3) Pam Ventgen, Executive Director of the Alaska State Medical Board; urged the board to consider meeting monthly in order to expedite the processing of full licenses, citing concerns with the temporary permits that are issued to practitioners, including barriers to hospital privileges, insurance contracts and DEA licenses. Ms. Ventgen asserted that the Medical Board’s silence to the legislature on the issue of independent practice of physician assistants is a grave mistake. Her overall impression is that the Board has missed opportunities to be an asset to the state and needs to figure out how to become a more efficient body.

13. Board Interviews

Ashley Gibbs, MD

On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood and approved by roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing Dr. Ashley Gibb’s application for licensure, with Board staff remaining during the session.

Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr. Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

The board entered executive session at 1:16 p.m. The board returned on the record at 1:25 p.m.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood and approved by roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board approved Ashley Gibbs, MD a full license.

1 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
2 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

3
4 **Taichi Imamura, MD**

5 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
6 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
7 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of**
8 **discussing Dr. Taichi Imamura’s application for licensure, with Board staff remaining during**
9 **the session.**

10
11 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
12 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

13
14 The board entered executive session at 1:32 p.m. The board returned on the record at 1:53 p.m.

15
16 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by**
17 **roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board approved Taichi Imamura, MD a full license.**

18
19 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
20 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

21
22 **Benjamin Huneycutt, MD**

23 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
24 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
25 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of**
26 **discussing Dr. Benjamin Huneycutt’s application for licensure, with Board staff remaining**
27 **during the session.**

28
29 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
30 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

31
32 The board entered executive session at 1:56 p.m. The board returned on the record at 2:10 p.m.

33
34 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by**
35 **roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board approved Benjamin Huneycutt, MD a full**
36 **license.**

37
38 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
39 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson

40
41 **Adam Kishman, PA**

42 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
43 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
44 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of**
45 **discussing Adam Kishman’s application for licensure, with Board staff remaining during the**
46 **session.**

1 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
2 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson
3

4 The board entered executive session at 2:13 p.m. The board returned on the record at 2:27 p.m.
5

6 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by**
7 **roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board approved Adam Kishman, PA a full license.**
8

9 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
10 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson
11

12 **Eric Wright, MD**

13 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
14 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
15 **44.62.310(c)(2), and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of**
16 **discussing Dr. Eric Wright's application for licensure, with Board staff remaining during the**
17 **session.**
18

19 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
20 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson
21

22 The board entered executive session at 2:30 p.m. The board returned on the record at 2:35 p.m.
23

24 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by**
25 **roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board approved Eric Wright, MD a full license.**
26

27 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Barnes, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Nimmo, Dr.
28 Paulson, and Mr. Wilson
29

30 **15. Malpractice Case Reviews**

31 The Chair recommended that the Board enter executive session.

32 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
33 **call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session, in accordance with**
34 **AS 44.62.310 (c)(3), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, with board staff**
35 **remaining in the session, for the purpose of discussing malpractice cases involving the**
36 **following practitioners:**
37

- 38 1. Chi Dau, MD
- 39 2. Giulia Tortora, MD
- 40 3. Gregory Norkus, MD
- 41 4. James Forage, MD
- 42 5. Jesse Kincaid, MD
- 43 6. Matthew Leonard, MD
- 44 7. Parin Cho, MD

45
46 Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Barnes, Dr.
47 Nimmo, and Mr. Wilson.

1
2 The Board went off the record and entered executive session at 2:7 p.m. The Board returned on the
3 record at 3:35 p.m.

4
5 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
6 **call vote the Alaska State Medical Board decided to take no further action with respect to**
7 **malpractice cases involving the following physicians:**

- 8 1. Giulia Tortora, MD
- 9 2. James Forage, MD
- 10 3. Jesse Kincaid, MD
- 11 4. Matthew Leonard, MD
- 12 5. Parin Cho, MD

13
14 Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Barnes, Dr.
15 Nimmo, and Mr. Wilson.

16
17 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Ms. Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
18 **call vote the Alaska State Medical Board decided to request the Executive Administrator draft**
19 **a non-disciplinary advisory letter for the following physicians pertaining to their involvement**
20 **in the reviewed malpractice cases:**

- 21 1. Chi Dau, MD
- 22 2. Gregory Norkus, MD

23
24 Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Barnes, Dr.
25 Nimmo, and Mr. Wilson.

26
27 **16. Applicant Review (see pages 5-10)**

28
29 **20. Closing Business/Adjourn**

30
31 Chair Nimmo called for any final business.

32
33 **On a motion duly made by Ms. Mielke, seconded by Sarah Bigelow Hood, and approved by roll**
34 **call vote the Alaska State Medical Board decided to initiate a regulation project to grant board**
35 **staff, including the Executive Administrator or Licensing Supervisor, the authority to grant full**
36 **licenses to applicants with no “yes” answers to professional fitness questions and no**
37 **malpractice cases.**

38
39 Roll Call Vote: Yeas, Ms. Bigelow Hood, Dr. Heilala, Ms. Mielke, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Barnes, Dr.
40 Nimmo, and Mr. Wilson.

41
42
43 Chair Nimmo announced a special meeting for Board Training, scheduled for May 23. Board members
44 requested to have this meeting date changed to May 30, 4:00 to 6:00 pm.

45
46 The next quarterly meeting date is scheduled for August 9, 2024.

47
48 The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 3:50 p.m.