

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

July 1, 2026

State Board of Medicine
August 18, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair
Michael R. Ripchinski, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAFP, Vice
Chair
Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG
Gerard F. Dillon, Ph.D., Public Member
Robert Bonacci, M.D., on behalf of Debra Bogan, M.D.,
FAAP, Secretary Department of Health
John D. Six, M.D.
John A. Kutz, M.D., FACS
Taliba Foster, M.D.
Adanma Okereh, CNM, CFNP, Nurse Midwife
Robert Emery, PA-C, MBA, DFAAPA

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Dana Archer, Esquire, Board Counsel
Ashley Keefer Jones, Esquire, Board Counsel
Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Jamison Cassel, Board Administrator
Jason C. Giurintano, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel
Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Nicholas C. Kahler, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Courtney J. Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Willow Marsh, Legislative Aide
Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk
Robert Beecher, Deputy Policy Director, Office of
Policy
Danie Bendesky, Special Assistant for Strategic
Initiatives
Rebecca Brandt, Clerical Assistant

ALSO PRESENT:

Lisa E. Claypool Stevenson, Esquire, Senior Associate
Counsel at UPMC
Misha Patel, Esquire, Assistant General Counsel,
Pennsylvania Medical Society
Ted Mowatt, CAE, Vice President, Wanner Associates

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ALSO PRESENT: (Cont.)

Wendy Ruderman, Senior Reporter, The Philadelphia
Inquirer

William Reynolds, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA, Executive
Director, Pennsylvania Society of Physician
Associates

Sandy Fettrow, CPCS, Credentialing Specialist,
Healthcare Consultant, Zetter Healthcare

Wesley Rish, Esquire, Rish Law Firm

Keven Knipe, MSW, LSW, CCDP Diplomat, Co-Program
Manager, Professional Health Monitoring Program

John Ostrowski, MS, LAT, ATC, Lead Athletic Trainer,
St. Luke's University Health Network

Randy Stevens, M.D., Assistant Professor, Drexel
University College of Medicine

Ann Lawall, Lawall Prosthetics & Orthotics,
President, Pennsylvania Orthotic and Prosthetic
Society

Nielufar Varjavand, M.D., Professor, Drexel
University College of Medicine

Colleen Surlyn, M.D., Respondent

Ayad Yousif, M.D., Applicant

Yavuz Cakir, M.D., Applicant

Call In # 1-215-895-2000

Call In # 1-215-868-4239

Jacob Hill, Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.

State Board of Medicine

August 18, 2026

[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 8:45 a.m., the Board entered into Executive Session with Dana M. Archer, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters currently pending before the Board and to receive the advice of counsel. The Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.]

The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Medicine was held on Wednesday, August 18, 2026. Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Dr. Yealy thanked the Board of Medicine members and staff of the Commonwealth for their dedication, work and excellence to assure the Board was serving the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Acknowledge Public - Turn Off Electronic Devices
[Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, requested all electronic devices be silenced.]

[Dana M. Archer, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel, noted the meeting was being recorded and voluntary participation constituted consent to be recorded.]

Ms. Archer also noted the Board entered into Executive Session for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations to discuss matters on the agenda and to receive the advice of counsel.]

Amendment of Agenda

MS. GOSHERT:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to amend today's Agenda to add Agenda Item 53, which will be entitled Attendance at the IMLC Annual Conference.

DR. KUTZ:

Kutz, so moved.

MR. DILLON:

Dillon, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further conversation about the motion?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.

1 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
2 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
3 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
4 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

5 [The motion carried unanimously.]

6 ***

7 Roll Call of Board Members

8 [Diedre Bowers, Division Chief, provided a roll call
9 of Board members. A quorum was present.]

10 ***

11 Introduction of Attendees

12 [Diedre Bowers, Division Chief, provided an
13 introduction of attendees.]

14 ***

15 Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2026

16 CHAIR YEALY:

17 Next up is the approval of the July 1,
18 2026 meeting minutes. Those were
19 shared in advance. I'm happy to
20 entertain a motion or any conversation
21 about them.

22 DR. KUTZ:

23 Kutz, so moved.

24 MR. DILLON:

25 Dillon, second.

1 CHAIR YEALY:

2 We have a motion to approve and a
3 second. Any further conversation?

4 Hearing none, can we have a roll
5 call vote please?

6
7 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
8 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
9 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
10 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
11 Ms. Okereh, abstain; Mr. Emery, aye.

12 [The motion carried. Ms. Okereh abstained from
13 voting on the motion.]

14 ***

15 Appointment - Drexel Re-entry Program for Physician
16 and Physician Assistants

17 [Nielufar Varjavand, M.D., Professor, Drexel
18 University College of Medicine, provided the history
19 of the college, noting the college first opened in
20 1850 and in 1968 developed the reentry program. She
21 explained the programs offered change based on the
22 needs of the people involved and on technology. She
23 noted there are both virtual and in-person programs
24 that involve assessments and education. Both
25 physicians and physician assistants (PAs) take the

1 programs.

2 Dr. Varjavand reviewed the programs offered. The
3 first program is when a board or healthcare system
4 recommends a physician or PA needs focused learning
5 on a particular topic. Four courses are offered for
6 asynchronous learning. Once the material is learned,
7 the physician or PA joins virtual learner groups.
8 Another program offers virtual education and
9 assessment. The program consists of asynchronous
10 learning, after which they join didactic courses.
11 The program also qualifies for continuing medical
12 education (CME). The third program offers both
13 assessments and education. The final program is
14 assessment only, consisting of two to three days of
15 testing. She noted most physicians prefer the
16 education and assessment program because they are
17 learning while also being given feedback.

18 Chair Yealy noted the programs were not a one
19 size fits all and would vary but requested an idea of
20 the cost and time involved.

21 Dr. Varjavand stated the assessment alone was
22 \$11,000 while each month of the education and
23 assessment program was \$5,800. Didactic programs
24 were approximately \$750 each. As for the duration of
25 the programs, it was dependent on the physician or PA

1 involved. Some people complete their program within
2 a month while other people continue for several
3 months.

4 Dr. Woodland asked if any consideration had been
5 given to adding other kinds of providers to the
6 reentry programs. Dr. Varjavand replied Drexel has
7 been working with PAs and shared a couple of
8 examples.

9 Chair Yealy thanked Dr. Varjavand for sharing
10 about Drexel's reentry program. He noted the key was
11 that people who are seeking a reentry program know
12 about it and understand the issues. He added the
13 program is separate from the Board of Medicine.]

14 ***

15 Report of Prosecuting Attorneys

16 [Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison,
17 presented the VRP Consent Agreements for Agenda Item
18 No. 4, Case No. 26-49-011147; Agenda Item No. 5, Case
19 No. 26-49-009194; and Agenda Item No. 6, Case No. 26-
20 49-010554.]

21 CHAIR YEALY:

22 Seeing no questions, I'd be happy to
23 entertain a motion for the Items in
24 Agenda No. 4, 5 and 6.

25 DR. KUTZ:

1 Kutz, so moved.

2 MR. DILLON:

3 Dillon, second.

4 CHAIR YEALY:

5 We have a motion to approve the VRPs
6 and a second. Any further
7 conversation?

8 Hearing none, may we have a roll
9 call vote please?

10

11 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
12 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
13 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
14 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
15 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

16 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
17 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

18 ***

19 [Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison,
20 presented the VRP Consent Agreements for Agenda Item
21 No. 7, Case No. 24-49-018171.]

22 MS. KEEFER JONES:

23 I believe the Board Chair would
24 entertain a motion to adopt the Consent
25 Agreement at Item No. 7. That's Case

1 No. 24-49-018171.

2 DR. KUTZ:

3 Kutz, so moved.

4 MR. DILLON:

5 Dillon, second.

6 CHAIR YEALY:

7 We have a motion and a second. Any
8 further conversation?

9 Hearing none, may we have a roll
10 call vote please?

11

12 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
13 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
14 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
15 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
16 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

17 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
18 deliberations and voting on the motion. The
19 Respondent at Agenda Item No. 7, Case No. 24-49-
20 018171, is Frank Yang Lue, MD.]

21 ***

22 [Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecution
23 Liaison, presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda
24 Item No. 8, Case No. 26-49-007619.]

25 MS. KEEFER JONES:

1 I believe the Chair would entertain a
2 motion to adopt the Consent Agreement
3 at Item No. 8. That's Case No. 26-49-
4 007619.

5 DR. KUTZ:

6 Kutz, so moved.

7 MR. DILLON:

8 Dillon, second.

9 CHAIR YEALY:

10 We have a motion and a second. Any
11 further discussion?

12 Hearing none, may we have a roll
13 call vote please?

14
15 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
16 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
17 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
18 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
19 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

20 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
21 deliberations and voting on the motion. The
22 Respondent at Agenda Item No. 8, Case No. 26-49-
23 007619, is John Scales, M.D.]

24 ***

25 [Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecution

1 Liaison, presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda
2 Item No. 9, Case No. 25-49-004700.]

3 MS. KEEFER JONES:

4 I believe the Board Chair would
5 entertain a motion to adopt the Consent
6 Agreement at Item No. 9. That's Case
7 25-49-004700.

8 DR. KUTZ:

9 Kutz, so moved.

10 MR. DILLON:

11 Dillon, second.

12 CHAIR YEALY:

13 We have a motion and a second. Any
14 further discussion?

15 Hearing none, may we have a roll
16 call vote please?

17
18 Mr. Claggett, nay; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
19 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
20 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
21 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
22 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

23 [The motion carried. Acting Commissioner Claggett
24 opposed the matter. Mr. Emery abstained from
25 deliberations and voting on the motion. The

1 Respondent at Agenda Item No. 9, Case No. 25-49-
2 004700, is Steve Ennis Norman, M.D.]

3 ***

4 [Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
5 presented the Consent Agreements for Agenda Item No.
6 10, Case No. 26-49-010776; and Agenda Item No. 11,
7 Case Nos. 23-49-011860 and 19-49-012858.]

8 MS. KEEFER JONES:

9 I believe the Board Chair would
10 entertain a motion to adopt the Consent
11 Agreements at Item No. 10, Case No. 26-
12 49-010776; and Agenda Item 11, Case
13 Nos. 23-49-011860 and 19-49-012858.

14 DR. KUTZ:

15 Kutz, so moved.

16 MR. DILLON:

17 Dillon, second.

18 CHAIR YEALY:

19 We have a motion and a second. Any
20 further discussion on these two Agenda
21 Items?

22 Hearing none, may we have a roll
23 call vote please?

24

25 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.

1 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
2 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
3 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
4 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

5 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
6 deliberations and voting on the motion. The
7 Respondents are as follows: Agenda Item No. 10, Case
8 No. 26-49-00010776, Mohamed Mesregah; and Agenda Item
9 No. 11, Case Nos. 23-49-011860 and 19-49-012858,
10 Martin L. Evers, MD.]

11 ***

12 [Nicholas C. Kahler, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
13 presented the Consent Agreements for Agenda Item No.
14 13, Case No. 25-49-006752; Agenda Item No. 14, Case
15 No. 25-49-014970; Agenda Item No. 15, Case No. 25-49-
16 015309; and Agenda Item No. 16, Case No. 25-49-
17 014964.]

18 MS. KEEFER JONES:

19 I believe the Board Chair would
20 entertain a motion to adopt the Consent
21 Agreements at Item No. 13, Case 25-49-
22 006752; Item No. 14, Case No. 25-49-
23 014970; Item No. 15, Case No. 25-49-
24 015309; and Item No. 16, Case NO. 25-
25 49-014964.

1 DR. KUTZ:

2 Kutz, so moved.

3 MR. DILLON:

4 Dillon, second.

5 CHAIR YEALY:

6 We have a motion and a second. Any
7 further discussion?

8 Hearing none, may we have a roll
9 call vote please?

10

11 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
12 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
13 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
14 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
15 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

16 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
17 deliberations and voting on the motion. The
18 Respondents are as follows: Agenda Item No. 13, Case
19 No. 25-49-006752, Joseph John Walters, M.D.; Agenda
20 Item No. 14, Case No. 25-49-014970, Samir Hadi, M.D.;
21 Agenda Item No. 15, Case No. 25-49-015309, Steven
22 Peter Rudis, M.D.; and Agenda Item No. 16, Case No.
23 25-49-014964, Richard Kenneth Gaines, MD.]

24 ***

25 [Courtney J. Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,

1 presented the Consent Agreements for Agenda Item No.
2 17, Case No. 25-49-015170; Agenda Item No. 18, Case
3 No. 25-49-015992; and Agenda Item No. 19, Case No.
4 24-49-018821. The Respondent at Agenda Item No. 18
5 was permitted to address the Board.]

6 MS. KEEFER JONES:

7 I believe the Board Chair would
8 entertain a motion to adopt the Consent
9 Agreements at Item Nos. 17 through 19.
10 Those are Case Nos. 25-49-015170, 25-
11 49-015992, and 24-49-018821.

12 DR. KUTZ:

13 Kutz, so moved.

14 MR. DILLON:

15 Dillon, second.

16 CHAIR YEALY:

17 We have a motion and a second. Any
18 further discussion?

19 Hearing none, may we have a roll
20 call vote please?

21

22 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
23 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
24 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
25 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;

1 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.
2 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
3 deliberations and voting on the motion. The
4 Respondents are as follows: Agenda Item No. 17, Case
5 No. 25-49-015170, Pradip Patel, M.D.; Agenda Item No.
6 18, Case No. 25-49-015992, Colleen Stephanie Surlyn,
7 M.D.; and Agenda Item No. 19, Case No. 24-49-018821,
8 Richard Evan Caesar, M.D.]

9 ***
10 [Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
11 presented the Consent Agreements for Agenda Item No.
12 12, Case No. 25-49-015227; Agenda Item No. 20, Case
13 No. 24-49-000753; and Agenda Item No. 21, Case No.
14 24-49-008728.]

15 MS. KEEFER JONES:

16 I believe the Board Chair would
17 entertain a motion to adopt the Consent
18 Agreements at Item No. 12, Case 25-49-
19 0015227; Item No. 20, Case No. 24-49-
20 000753; and Item No. 21, Case No. 24-
21 49-008728.

22 DR. KUTZ:

23 Kutz, so moved.

24 MR. DILLON:

25 Dillon, second.

1 CHAIR YEALY:

2 We have a motion and a second. Any
3 further discussion?

4 Hearing none, may we have a roll
5 call vote please?

6
7 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
8 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
9 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
10 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
11 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

12 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
13 deliberations and voting on the motion. The
14 Respondents are as follows: Agenda Item No. 12, Case
15 No. 25-49-015227, Francis Michael Hyduck, R.T.;
16 Agenda Item No. 20, Case No. 24-49-000753, Janelle
17 Nicole McHale; and Agenda Item No. 21, Case No. 24-
18 49-008728, Kristy Lynn Reid.]

19 ***

20 Report of Board Counsel

21 MS. ARCHER:

22 Moving on to Agenda Item 22, I believe
23 the Board would entertain a motion to
24 adopt as final the Proposed
25 Adjudication and Order of the Hearing

1 Examiner for the following cases:
2 Agenda Item 22, Alicia Collier,
3 Behavior Specialist, Case No. 26-49-
4 000083; and Agenda Item 24, Melanie
5 McDonald, Behavior Specialist, Case No.
6 25-49-017776.

7 DR. KUTZ:

8 Kutz, so moved.

9 MR. DILLON:

10 Dillon, second.

11 CHAIR YEALY:

12 We have a motion and a second. Any
13 further discussion?

14 Hearing none, may we have a roll
15 call vote please?

16
17 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
18 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
19 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
20 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
21 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

22 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
23 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

24 ***

25 MS. ARCHER:

1 At Agenda Item 23, I believe the Board
2 would entertain a motion to direct
3 Board Counsel to draft an Adjudication
4 consistent with discussions in
5 Executive Session for Roger Dale
6 Anderson, M.D. and that's at Case No.
7 25-49-015305.

8 DR. KUTZ:

9 Kutz, so moved.

10 MR. DILLON:

11 Dillon, second.

12 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

13 For this case, Dr. Yealy is recused.
14 We have a motion and a second. Any
15 further discussion?

16 Hearing none, may we have a roll
17 call vote please?

18
19 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, recuse;
20 Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
21 Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr.
22 Bonacci, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr.
23 Foster, aye; Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr.
24 Emery, abstain.

25 [The motion carried. Chair Yealy was recused from

1 deliberations and voting on the motion. Mr. Emery
2 abstained from deliberations and voting on the
3 motion.]

4 ***

5 [Ms. Archer noted Agenda Item 25 would be tabled
6 until the next meeting.]

7 ***

8 MS. ARCHER:

9 I believe the Board would entertain a
10 motion to adopt as final the Draft
11 Adjudications and Orders for Agenda
12 Items 26 through 29. The names of
13 those cases are: Amjad Iqbal Butt,
14 M.D., Case No. 25-49-016776; Thomas
15 Webster, M.D., Case No. 23-49-017744;
16 Angelo, Case No. 25-49-014800; and
17 Jefferson Togba, Behavior Specialist,
18 Case No. 25-49-017772.

19 DR. KUTZ:

20 Kutz, so moved.

21 MR. DILLON:

22 Dillon, second.

23 CHAIR YEALY:

24 We have a motion and a second. Any
25 further discussion?

1 Hearing none, may we have a roll
2 call vote please?

3
4 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
5 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
6 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
7 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
8 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

9 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
10 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

11 ***

12 Applications for Licensure

13 MS. ARCHER:

14 Jumping down to Applications for
15 Licensure, at Agenda Items 35 and 36, I
16 believe the Board would entertain a
17 motion to provisionally deny the
18 applications for a license to practice
19 as a behavior specialist of Kathryn
20 Jury and Tom Kamara Lake.

21 DR. KUTZ:

22 Kutz, so moved.

23 MR. DILLON:

24 Dillon, second.

25 CHAIR YEALY:

1 We have a motion and a second. Any
2 further discussion?

3 Hearing none, may we have a roll
4 call vote please?

5
6 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
7 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
8 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
9 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
10 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

11 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
12 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

13 ***

14 [Ms. Archer noted Agenda Items 37 and 38 were already
15 granted by the Committee on Licensure Qualifications
16 and would appear on the next Agenda for a
17 ratification vote.]

18 ***

19 MS. ARCHER:

20 I believe the Board would entertain a
21 motion to table Agenda Items 39 and 41
22 to allow the following Applicants to
23 apply for and practice on an
24 institutional license for a period of
25 six months to one year. Agenda Item 39

1 is Ayed Abed Yousif, M.D. and Agenda
2 Item 41 is Carlos Sebastian Gracias,
3 M.D.

4 DR. KUTZ:

5 Kutz, so moved.

6 MR. DILLON:

7 Dillon, second.

8 CHAIR YEALY:

9 We have a motion and a second. Any
10 further discussion?

11 Hearing none, may we have a roll
12 call vote please?

13

14 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
15 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
16 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
17 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
18 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

19 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
20 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

21 ***

22 MS. ARCHER:

23 At Agenda Item 40, I believe the Board
24 would entertain a motion to grant the
25 application for a license as a medical

1 physician and surgeon for Yavuz Cakir,
2 M.D.

3 DR. KUTZ:

4 Kutz, so moved.

5 MR. DILLON:

6 Dillon, second.

7 CHAIR YEALY:

8 We have a motion and a second. Any
9 further discussion?

10 Hearing none, may we have a roll
11 call vote please?

12
13 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
14 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
15 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
16 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
17 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

18 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
19 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

20 ***

21 [Ms. Archer noted Agenda Item 42 was tabled to allow
22 the Board to obtain additional information.]

23 ***

24 MS. ARCHER:

25 I believe the Board would entertain a

1 motion to table the reactivation
2 application to practice as a physician
3 and surgeon of John Barnoski, M.D. to
4 allow him to obtain a reentry
5 assessment and follow through with any
6 recommendations. And that's at Agenda
7 Item 43.

8 DR. KUTZ:

9 Kutz, so moved.

10 MR. DILLON:

11 Dillon, second.

12 CHAIR YEALY:

13 We have a motion and a second. Any
14 further discussion?

15 Hearing none, may we have a roll
16 call vote please?

17

18 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
19 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
20 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
21 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
22 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

23 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
24 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

25

1 MS. ARCHER:

2 At Agenda Item 44, I believe the Board
3 would entertain a motion to deny the
4 reconsideration request of Omar Almusa,
5 M.D.

6 DR. KUTZ:

7 Kutz, so moved.

8 MR. DILLON:

9 Dillon, second.

10 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

11 We have a motion and a second. Any
12 further discussion?

13 Hearing none, may we have a roll
14 call vote please?

15
16 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, recuse;
17 Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
18 Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr.
19 Bonacci, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr.
20 Foster, aye; Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr.
21 Emery, abstain.

22 [The motion carried. Chair Yealy was recused from
23 deliberations and voting on the motion. Mr. Emery
24 abstained from deliberations and voting on the
25 motion.]

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Ratifications

MS. ARCHER:

At Agenda Items 45 through 48, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to ratify the granting of the following applications to practice as a physician and surgeon: Hatem Sarhan, M.D., Ronald Walls, M.D., Maria Carmen Mir Maresma, M.D., and Fatima Tun Nissa Raza, M.D.

DR. KUTZ:

Kutz, so moved.

MR. DILLON:

Dillon, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;

1 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.
2 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
3 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

4 ***

5 Miscellaneous

6 MS. ARCHER:

7 Moving down to Agenda Item 51, I
8 believe the Board would entertain a
9 motion to approve the proposed
10 preceptorship for Gregory Dischman,
11 M.D., under preceptor Robert Crossey,
12 M.D. for a period of six months and
13 direct Board Counsel to issue an
14 unrestricted license to practice under
15 the auspices of that preceptorship.

16 DR. KUTZ:

17 Kutz, so moved.

18 MR. DILLON:

19 Dillon, second.

20 CHAIR YEALY:

21 We have a motion and a second. Any
22 further discussion?

23 Hearing none, may we have a roll
24 call vote please?

25

1 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
2 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
3 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
4 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
5 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

6 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
7 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

8 ***

9 MS. ARCHER:

10 At Agenda Item 52, I believe the Board
11 would entertain a motion to approve the
12 proposed preceptorship for Lawrence
13 Adams, M.D., under preceptor Dr. Yvonne
14 Patterson, M.D. for a period of six
15 months and to direct Board Counsel to
16 issue an unrestricted license to
17 practice under the auspices of that
18 preceptorship.

19 DR. KUTZ:

20 Kutz, so moved.

21 MR. DILLON:

22 Dillon, second.

23 CHAIR YEALY:

24 We have a motion and a second. Any
25 further discussion?

1 Hearing none, may we have a roll
2 call vote please?

3
4 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
5 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
6 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
7 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
8 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, abstain.

9 [The motion carried. Mr. Emery abstained from
10 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

11 ***

12 MS. ARCHER:

13 At Agenda Item 53, I believe the Board
14 would entertain a motion to send five
15 Board staff and Counsel to attend the
16 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact in
17 person annual meeting in Savannah,
18 Georgia, November 16th through the
19 17th.

20 DR. KUTZ:

21 Kutz, so moved.

22 MR. DILLON:

23 Dillon, second.

24 CHAIR YEALY:

25 We have a motion and a second. I'll

1 make a comment. I believe that the
2 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact is
3 one of the advances that helps ensure
4 that the healthcare professionals,
5 starting with physicians, but not
6 exclusively, are at the places that
7 they need to be as efficiently and
8 effectively as possible. Pennsylvania
9 has been engaged with this and looking
10 at this and other ways to make sure
11 that we maintain thresholds and also
12 access to the highest level of care. I
13 think this is a great idea. Any
14 further discussion?

15 Hearing none, may we have a roll
16 call vote please?

17
18 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
19 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
20 Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci,
21 aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Foster, aye;
22 Ms. Okereh, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

23 [The motion carried unanimously.]

24 ***

25 Report of Board Counsel

1 [Dana Archer, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted Agenda
2 Item 30 was regarding the status of current
3 regulations. Agenda Item 31 was an FYI that the
4 Education and Volunteer Services, Regulation 16A-
5 4960, was published as final in May 2026.

6 Ashley Keefer Jones, Esquire, Board Counsel,
7 explained Agenda Item 32, HB 2678, would establish
8 artificial intelligence (AI) guidelines. The draft
9 legislation would require boards to promulgate
10 regulations regarding the use of AI in their
11 professions. She noted the draft legislation would
12 not set specific parameters but would outline
13 criteria the Board would have to consider. If passed
14 it would require the Board set guidelines of when AI
15 can be used within the practice of medicine and
16 violations of the law would constitute unprofessional
17 conduct.

18 Mr. Dillon asked how the process for establishing
19 the guidelines would work. Ms. Keefer Jones
20 explained the guidelines would go through the regular
21 regulatory process which often starts with input from
22 the Board, after which Counsel writes the regulation
23 with the guidance of Board Members.

24 Dr. Woodland stated the Federation of State
25 Medical Boards (FSMB) published a document looking at

1 guidelines for the use of AI in clinical practice.
2 In addition, FSMB is currently consulting to develop
3 further AI guidelines with anticipated publication at
4 the end of 2026 or at the annual meeting in 2027. He
5 noted one of the overarching guidelines was, no
6 matter who the provider is, the clinician providing
7 medical care is responsible for using or not using
8 AI. He also questioned the protection of patient
9 privacy and identity when using AI.

10 Ms. Archer explained Agenda Item 33 is House Bill
11 1851, which is now Act 34 as it was passed. Act 34
12 amends the vital statistics law to allow midwives to
13 certify fetal death. The Department of Health is
14 working to amend regulations, and Ms. Archer would be
15 adding the change into the Board's midwife
16 regulations.

17 Ms. Archer stated Agenda Item 34 was a discussion
18 on National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic
19 Education (NCOPE) standards on direct supervision.
20 She reviewed the Board's current definition of direct
21 supervision. She stated Ann Lawall, Lawall
22 Prosthetics & Orthotics, President, Pennsylvania
23 Orthotic and Prosthetic Society (POPS), was present
24 and requesting the Board amend their regulatory
25 definition of direct supervision to match NCOPE's new

1 definition.

2 Ms. Lawall explained POPS was hoping the language
3 in the regulations could be changed to match the
4 industry standards set by the American Board of
5 Certification for Orthotics and Prosthetics (ABC) and
6 NCOPE which allows for residents to communicate with
7 their supervisors via video conferencing or
8 teleconferencing. She stated Pennsylvania law
9 requires residents to be under the same roof as their
10 supervisor. NCOPE and ABC standards allow for the
11 progression of autonomy for residents throughout
12 their residency period.

13 Ms. Archer stated the current definition of
14 direct supervision does not have anything stating the
15 supervisor must be in person and does state the
16 supervisor must be able to visually assess care. She
17 noted the visual assessment could occur over video.
18 Ms. Lawall argued most orthotic and prosthetic
19 companies interpret the definition to mean the
20 supervisor has to be in the same room so
21 clarification allowing real-time electronic
22 supervision would help clarify the point.

23 Dr. Woodland asked if there was a process for the
24 Board to change the statute or if the issue was in
25 the interpretation. Ms. Archer replied the

1 definition was not in the statute and the graduate
2 licenses were created by regulation to allow the
3 practitioners to obtain their experience necessary
4 for licensure. She noted the Board could technically
5 amend the definition; however, it sounded like an
6 interpretation issue.

7 Ms. Keefer Jones commented, from a bureau-wide
8 perspective, the State Board of Veterinary Medicine
9 has a similar provision requiring direct supervision
10 which has been interpreted to allow video or
11 asynchronous supervision of vet techs.

12 Randy Stevens, M.D., Assistant Professor, Drexel
13 University College of Medicine commented the
14 licensure practice act under discussion was written
15 holistically because there is another certification
16 body involved. He noted there was nothing stopping
17 virtual supervision in the regulation. He provided
18 additional comments on the regulations and statute.

19 Ms. Archer asked if Ms. Lawall was talking about
20 individuals who are still part of an educational
21 program. Ms. Lawall explained the individuals were
22 considered residents who graduated from an orthotic
23 and prosthetic school and had to complete an 18-month
24 residency under the guidance of a certified orthotist
25 prosthetist in the state before sitting for their

1 boards to become licensed. Ms. Lawall suggested the
2 existing language be allowed for video conferencing.

3 Chair Yealy noted Ms. Lawall presented the Board
4 with the need for clarity. He stated the next step
5 would be for the Board to carefully consider how to
6 achieve the needed clarity.

7 Dr. Stevens emphasized the importance of the
8 Board keeping the regulations flexible as continued
9 changes are expected in the profession.]

10 ***

11 Board Meeting Dates

12 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair noted the
13 upcoming meeting dates were listed on the Agenda.]

14 ***

15 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

16 ***

17 Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications

18 [Gerard F. Dillon, Ph.D., Public Member extended
19 appreciation to fellow committee members, Dr.
20 Ripchinski and Dr. Kutz. He noted there was no
21 formal report.]

22 ***

23 Report of Committee on Legislation/Policy Development
24 and Review

25 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, provided FSMB

1 updates. He shared leadership from FSMB and National
2 Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) met in July 2026 to
3 review issues related to examination, specifically
4 USMLE (United States Medical Licensing Examination)
5 issues. Issues discussed included the future of the
6 exam, designated testing dates, security issues,
7 artificial intelligence, and future assessment
8 issues.

9 In addition, a tri-regulatory meeting was held
10 between FSMB and the national organizations for
11 pharmacy and nursing regulatory bodies. Dr. Woodland
12 noted pharmacy and nursing boards are facing similar
13 issues to the medical boards in regards to
14 regulations including artificial intelligence,
15 testing and assessment concerns, workforce issues,
16 and access issues.

17 Dr. Woodland shared the FSMB is hosting the
18 Summit on Artificial Intelligence in Medical
19 Regulation and Clinical Practice on September 14,
20 2026.

21 Mr. Dillon commented the change to designate
22 testing dates for the USMLE is not expected until
23 2029. He noted, from talking with USMLE staff
24 members and colleagues from other boards, no major
25 problems are anticipated; however, he suggested Board

1 staff may consider if Board operations may be
2 impacted.

3 Dr. Woodland noted the delay in starting the
4 designated test dates was to accommodate medical
5 schools, allowing for the consideration of how
6 students will be impacted. He added there is much
7 thought as to what the unintended consequences may be
8 while also noting the importance of security
9 concerns.]

10 ***

11 Committee on Health-Related Professionals
12 [Dr. Emery was appointed to the committee.]

13 ***

14 Report of Department of Health
15 [Robert Bonacci, M.D., on behalf of Debra Bogan,
16 M.D., FAAP, Secretary Department of Health, provided
17 outbreak related updates. Regarding measles,
18 Pennsylvania was up to 307 cases across the state
19 with 60 added in the last week. He pointed out not a
20 single positive individual had been fully vaccinated
21 with the full MMR vaccine series which was consistent
22 with 93 percent of positive individuals nationwide
23 not being fully vaccinated. He noted the DOH was
24 working to vaccinate impacted communities. He
25 highlighted a health alert from late June 2026

1 regarding catch-up and early MMR vaccination. He
2 reviewed vaccination guidance. He reminded everyone
3 to have a heightened index of suspicion for anybody
4 presenting with clinical signs of measles and to
5 reduce exposure to other patients, staff, and
6 individuals through the use of isolation rooms.

7 Regarding cyclospora, cases had peaked around
8 mid-July. Nationally, the CDC reports around 14,000
9 cases; however, Dr. Bonacci cautioned the number was
10 an undercount as Michigan and Ohio had reported
11 20,000 cases between the two states. 281 cases had
12 been reported in Pennsylvania. While Taylor Farms
13 lettuce had been reported as a potential source of
14 the outbreak, other sources could be herbs,
15 blueberries, raspberries, and other fruits.

16 Regarding Ebola, the outbreak continues to
17 accelerate in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
18 with over 5,000 cases cumulatively and more than
19 2,300 deaths. The outbreak is now the second largest
20 Ebola outbreak in history. He emphasized there have
21 been no cases in the United States; however, he
22 encouraged awareness of clinical symptoms
23 particularly for travelers returning from the DRC.

24 Dr. Bonacci reported the health alert system
25 would be transitioning. Anyone already signed up for

1 alerts should have received a notice on how to sign
2 up for the new system and he shared information in
3 the chat on how to sign up. He also noted Governor
4 Shapiro recently shared a message reaffirming
5 Pennsylvania's support for the rights, dignity and
6 independence of Pennsylvanians with disabilities.

7 Chair Yealy thanked Dr. Bonacci for his updates.
8 He noted the key with infection and healthcare is to
9 get the information and get the conversation started
10 with the people who can really inform others.]

11 ***

12 Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report

13 ***

14 Report of Vice Chair

15 [Michael R. Ripchinski, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAFP, Vice
16 Chair, provided comments on AI and where the medical
17 field is heading in relation to AI. He explained AI
18 models synthesize large amounts of clinical
19 information and increasingly perform work on behalf
20 of clinicians. AI systems are being developed with
21 the goal of reviewing clinical information in
22 electronic health records, evaluating the results of
23 actions, continuing a workflow, or bringing an
24 exception back to a physician. He emphasized AI
25 systems can read clinical records, look at laboratory

1 results, medications, prepare refills, arrange
2 appropriate lab monitoring, communicate with
3 patients, document occurrences and essentially only
4 let physicians know of cases that operate outside of
5 given parameters. He noted, while those systems are
6 already operating in other industries and may be slow
7 to be adopted in medicine, they were coming.

8 Dr. Ripchinski noted physicians would have to
9 increasingly think about the consequences of the
10 tasks being performed both in a normal fashion and by
11 exceptions. He mentioned the Board should look to
12 FSMB as well as partners in the healthcare space when
13 thinking about patient autonomy, patient privacy,
14 transparency, physician involvement, and
15 accountability. He emphasized how technology is
16 evolving much quicker than traditional policies and
17 regulatory processes.

18 Chair Yealy commented the job of the Board will
19 be to recognize the changes and doing what it can to
20 stay in front with the mantra of what is best of the
21 health of the people.]

22 ***

23 Report of Board Chair

24 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, shared the
25 Board newsletter was now available on the website.

1 He noted the newsletter is a communication tool and
2 would be a way to stay in touch with the what the
3 Board is thinking, doing, and preparing to do. He
4 thanked everyone who participated in the meeting. He
5 noted school was about to start, and he encouraged
6 everyone to be safe. He stated the Board remains
7 committed to asking how they can do better for both
8 licensees and the people they are providing care to
9 across the state.]

10 ***

11 Public Comment - None

12 ***

13 Adjournment

14 CHAIR YEALY:

15 I'd be willing to entertain a motion to
16 adjourn.

17 DR. KUTZ:

18 Kutz, so moved.

19 MR. DILLON:

20 Second.

21 CHAIR YEALY:

22 And rather than a roll call Jamison,
23 how about if we just by acclamation
24 decide that the meeting's adjourned?
25 Thanks very much.

[There being no other business, the State Board of
Medicine Meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m.]

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary
minutes of the State Board of Medicine meeting, was
reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and
that the minutes accurately summarize the substance
of the State Board of Medicine meeting.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Laurie Elliott", is written over a horizontal line.

Laurie Elliott,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE
REFERENCE INDEX
August 18, 2026

TIMEAGENDA

8:45	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:30	Official Call to Order
10:32	Amendment of Agenda
10:33	Roll Call
10:35	Approval of Minutes
10:38	Appointment - Drexel Reentry Program
10:55	Report of Prosecuting Attorneys
11:28	Report of Board Counsel
11:32	Applications for Licensure
11:38	Ratifications
11:39	Miscellaneous
11:42	Report of Board Counsel (cont.)
12:00	Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications
12:00	Report of Committee on Legislation/ Policy Development and Review
12:06	Report of Committee on Health-Related Professionals
12:06	Report of the Department of Health
12:17	Report of Vice Chair
12:23	Report of Board Chair
12:27	Adjournment