

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

December 23, 2025

State Board of Medicine
December 23, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS:

Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau 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
Walter A. Eisenhauer, MMSC, M.Ed., PA-C - Absent
Robert Bonacci, M.D. on behalf of Debra Bogan, M.D.,
FAAP, Secretary Department of Health
John D. Six, M.D. - Absent
John A. Kutz, M.D., FACS
Catherine N. Udekwu, M.D. - Absent
Taliba Foster, M.D.
Adanma S. Okereh, CNM, CRNP, Nurse Midwife

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Dana Archer, Esquire, Board Counsel
Ashley Keefer, Esquire, Board Counsel
Jamison Cassel, Board Administrator
Deidre Bowers, Division Chief
Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Keith E. Bashore, Esquire,
Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Jason C. Giurintano, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
Counsel Division
Adrianna McClendon, Esquire, PA Office of General
Counsel
CJ Restemayer, Esquire, Office of General Counsel
Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Deputy Policy Director, Office
of Policy, Department of State
Danie Bendesky, Special Assistant for Strategic
Initiatives, Department of State
Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State
Willow Marsh, Legislative Aide, Department of State
Nicholas Kahler, Intern, Office of Attorney General

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ALSO PRESENT:

Kevin Knipe, MSW, LSW, CCDP Diplomat, Co-Program
Manager, Professional Health Monitoring Program
Kyle Sampson, Chair, Pennsylvania State Real Estate
Commission
William Reynolds, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA, Executive
Director, Pennsylvania Society of Physician
Associates
Angie Armbrust, Government Affairs Specialist, McNeese
Government Relations
Misha Patel, Esquire, Assistant General Counsel,
Pennsylvania Medical Society
Wesley Rish, Attorney, Rish Law Office
Patrick Leadbitter, DPAS, PA-C
Randy Stevens, M.D., Assistant Professor, Drexel
University College of Medicine
Tanya Miller, MS, LAT, ATC, NASM-CES, Assistant
Director of Sports Medicine, Shippensburg
University
Ted Mowatt, CAE, Vice President, Wanner Associates
Allison Walker, Sargent's Court Reporting Service,
Inc.

1 ***

2 State Board of Medicine

3 December 23, 2025

4 ***

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

13 ***

14 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
15 Board of Medicine was held on Tuesday, December 23,
16 2025. Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, called
17 the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

18 ***

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

22 ***

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

Roll Call of Board Members

* * *

* * *

Chair Yealy also welcomed new Board Member, Dr. Foster, a psychiatrist from Philadelphia. He noted it was exciting to have Board Members with diverse backgrounds to allow the Board to make the best

1 decisions possible.]

2 ***

3 Approval of Minutes of the November 18, 2025 regular
4 meeting and September 24, 2025 special meeting

5 CHAIR YEALY:

6 Next up, we have some minutes to
7 approve. Included on the Agenda are
8 the minutes from the November 18, 2025
9 scheduled meeting and the September
10 24th special meeting that was held.
11 The latter focused on Department of
12 Health approaches to giving advice
13 about health care and reaffirmed long-
14 standing approach that existed in the
15 Commonwealth.

16 I'd be happy to entertain a motion
17 to approve both of those minutes.

18 DR. KUTZ:

19 Kutz, so moved.

20 MR. EISENHAUER:

21 Eisenhower, second.

22 CHAIR YEALY:

23 We have a motion and a second. Any
24 further conversation about the minutes?
25 They've been circulated in advance.

1 DR. BONACCI:

2 Dr. Yealy, may I ask. I was going to
3 need to split by abstention on this.
4 Is it possible to vote on them
5 separately?

6 CHAIR YEALY:

7 We can actually. And so let me first
8 bring up the vote. Since we have a
9 motion for both of them, we can vote on
10 the November 18th minutes first. So
11 let me turn things over to the Board
12 Administrator for a roll call vote.

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

19 [The motion carried. Dr. Bonacci and Dr. Foster
20 abstained from voting on the motion.]

21 ***

22 CHAIR YEALY:

23 Thank you. And can we now do a roll
24 call vote for the September 24, 2025
25 minutes?

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Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
Dillon, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh, aye; Dr. Foster,
abstain; Mr. Eisenhower, aye.

[The motion carried. Dr. Foster abstained from
voting on the motion.]

Report of Prosecuting Attorneys

[Todd Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison,
presented the VRP Agreements for Agenda Item No. 4,
Case No. 25-49-018432; and Agenda Item No. 5, Case
No. 25-49-015868.]

MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a
motion to adopt the VRP Consent
Agreements at Item No. 4, Case No. 25-
49-018432, and Item No. 5, Case No. 25-
49-015868.

DR. KUTZ:

Kutz, so moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Eisenhower, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

1 We have a motion and a second.

2 Any further conversation or
3 discussion? Hearing none, can we have
4 a roll call vote, please?

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

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 ***

13 [Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecution
14 Liaison, presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda
15 Item No. 6, Case No. 24-49-009782.]

16 MS. ARCHER:

17 I believe the Board would entertain a
18 motion to adopt the Consent Agreement
19 at Item No. 6, Case No. 24-49-009782,
20 for which Dr. Yealy and Dr. Ripchinski
21 are recused.

22 DR. KUTZ:

23 Kutz, so moved.

24 MR. EISENHAUER:

25 Eisenhower, second.

1 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

2 We have a motion and a second. Any
3 further discussion? If not, roll call.

4
5 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, recuse;
6 Dr. Ripchinski, recuse; Dr. Woodland,
7 aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye;
8 Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh, aye; Dr.
9 Foster aye; Mr. Eisenhower, aye.

10 [The motion carried. Dr. Yealy and Dr. Ripchinski
11 were recused from deliberations and voting on the
12 matter. The Respondent for Agenda Item No. 6, Case
13 No. 24-49-009782, is Charles Patrick Cole, M.D.]

14 ***

15 [Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented
16 the Consent Agreement for Agenda Item No. 7, Case No.
17 25-49-015252.]

18 MS. ARCHER:

19 I believe the Chair would entertain a
20 motion to adopt the Consent Agreement
21 at Item No. 7, Case No. 25-49-015252.

22 DR. KUTZ:

23 Kutz, so moved.

24 MR. EISENHAUER:

25 Eisenhower, second.

1 CHAIR YEALY:

2 We have a motion and a second. Any
3 further conversation or discussion?
4 Seeing none, can we have a roll call
5 Vote, please?

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

12 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent for
13 Agenda Item No. 7, Case No. 25-49-015252, is Scott
14 Allen Gerber.]

15 ***

16 [CJ Restemayer, Esquire, Office of General Counsel,
17 presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda Item No.
18 8, Case No. 23-49-008942.]

19 MS. ARCHER:

20 I believe the Chair would entertain a
21 motion to adopt the Consent Agreement
22 at Item No. 8, Case No. 23-49-008942.

23 DR. KUTZ:

24 Kutz, so moved.

25 MR. EISENHAUER:

1 Eisenhauer, second.

2 CHAIR YEALY:

3 We have a motion and a second.

4 Any further conversation or dialogue?

5 Seeing none, may we have the roll call
6 vote, please?

7

8 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
9 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
10 Dillon, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
11 Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh, aye; Dr. Foster
12 aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent for
14 Agenda Item No. 8, Case No. 23-49-008942, is Jennifer
15 Amy Batrus, P.A.-C.]

16 ***

17 [Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
18 presented the Consent Agreements and Orders for
19 Agenda Item No. 9, Case No. 25-49-005452.]

20 MS. ARCHER:

21 I believe the Chair would entertain a
22 motion to adopt the Consent Agreement
23 at Item No. 9, Case No. 25-49-005452.

24 DR. KUTZ:

25 Kutz, so moved.

1 MR. EISENHAUER:

2 Eisenhauer, second.

3 CHAIR YEALY:

4 We have a motion and a second. Any
5 further conversation or dialogue?

6 Seeing none, may we have a roll call
7 vote please?

8

9 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
10 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
11 Dillon, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
12 Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh, aye; Dr. Foster
13 aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye.

14 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent for
15 Agenda Item No. 9, Case No. 25-49-005452, is Cheryl
16 Evelyn Ross-Cammock, MD.]

17 ***

18 Report of Board Counsel - Adjudications from Hearing
19 Examiner

20 MS. ARCHER:

21 At Agenda Item 10, I believe the Board
22 would entertain a motion to direct
23 Board Counsel to draft an Adjudication
24 and Order consistent with discussions
25 in Executive Session for Milad Ishak

1 Shaker, M.D., and that's at Case No.
2 24-49-018885.

3 DR. KUTZ:

4 Kutz, so moved.

5 MR. EISENHAUER:

6 Eisenhauer, second.

7 CHAIR YEALY:

8 We have a motion and a second. Any
9 further discussion or dialogue? Seeing
10 none, may we have a roll call vote,
11 please?

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

18 [The motion carried unanimously.]

19 ***

20 MS. ARCHER:

21 I believe the Board would undertake a
22 motion to direct Board Counsel to draft
23 and issue an Adjudication and Order
24 consistent with discussions in
25 Executive Session for Rula Atwani, M.D.

1 That's at Case No. 25-49-009869, Agenda
2 Item No. 11.

3 DR. KUTZ:

4 Kutz, so moved.

5 MR. EISENHAUER:

6 Eisenhauer, second.

7 CHAIR YEALY:

8 We have a motion and a second. Any
9 further discussion or dialogue? Seeing
10 none, may we have a roll call vote,
11 please?

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

18 [The motion carried unanimously.]

19 ***

20 Applications for Licensure

21 MS. ARCHER:

22 Agenda Items 14 and 15, I believe the
23 Board would entertain a motion to
24 provisionally deny the Applications for
25 a License to Practice as a Behavior

1 Specialist of Daniel Morgan and Alicia
2 Collier.

3 DR. KUTZ:

4 Kutz, so moved.

5 MR. EISENHAUER:

6 Eisenhower, second.

7 CHAIR YEALY:

8 We have a motion and a second. Any
9 further discussion or dialogue? Seeing
10 none, may we have a roll call vote,
11 please?

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

18 [The motion carried unanimously.]

19 ***

20 MS. ARCHER:

21 I believe the Board would entertain a
22 motion to table Agenda Items 16, 17, 19
23 and 20 to invite the Applicants to
24 obtain a reentry assessment and follow
25 through with any recommendations.

1 DR. KUTZ:

2 Kutz, so moved.

3 MR. EISENHAUER:

4 Eisenhower, second.

5 CHAIR YEALY:

6 We have a motion and a second. Any
7 further discussion or dialogue? Seeing
8 none, may we have a roll call vote,
9 please?

10

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

16 [The motion carried unanimously.]

17

18 MS. ARCHER:

19 At Agenda Item 18, I believe the Board
20 would entertain a motion to grant the
21 Application for a License to Practice
22 as a Medical Physician and Surgeon of
23 Mara Shelbayh, M.D.

24 DR. KUTZ:

25 Kutz, so moved.

1 MR. EISENHAUER:

2 Eisenhauer, second.

3 CHAIR YEALY:

4 We have a motion and a second. Any
5 further discussion or dialogue?

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

8

9 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
10 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
11 Dillon, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
12 Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh, aye; Dr. Foster
13 aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye.

14 [The motion carried unanimously.]

15 ***

16 MS. ARCHER:

17 I believe the Board would entertain a
18 motion to table the Reactivation
19 Application at Agenda Item 21 to allow
20 the Applicant to obtain a reentry
21 assessment and follow through with any
22 recommendations.

23 DR. KUTZ:

24 Kutz, so moved.

25 MR. EISENHAUER:

1 Eisenhauer, second.

2 CHAIR YEALY:

3 We have a motion and a second. Any
4 further discussion or dialogue? Seeing
5 none, may we have a roll call vote,
6 please?

7

8 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
9 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
10 Dillon, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
11 Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh, aye; Dr. Foster
12 aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14 ***

15 MS. ARCHER:

16 I believe the Board would entertain a
17 motion to table Agenda Item 22 to allow
18 the Board to obtain additional
19 information.

20 DR. KUTZ:

21 Kutz, so moved.

22 MR. EISENHAUER:

23 Eisenhauer, second.

24 CHAIR YEALY:

25 We have a motion and a second. Any

1 further discussion or dialogue?
2 Hearing none, may we have a roll call
3 vote, please?
4
5 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr.
6 Ripchinski, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr.
7 Dillon, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
8 Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh, aye; Dr. Foster
9 aye; Mr. Eisenhower, aye.

10 [The motion carried unanimously.]

11 ***

12 MS. ARCHER:

13 At Agenda Items 23 through 26, I
14 believe the Board would entertain a
15 motion to ratify the granting of the
16 following Applications: The
17 Application to practice as a Medical
18 Physician and Surgeon of Oya Yalcin-
19 Cok, M.D.; Robert Gordon, M.D.;
20 Mohammad Haroon, M.D.; and Rupali Jain,
21 M.D.

22 DR. KUTZ:

23 Kutz, so moved.

24 MR. EISENHAUER:

25 Eisenhower, second.

1 CHAIR YEALY:

2 We have a motion and a second. Any
3 further discussion or dialogue?
4 Hearing none, may we have a roll call
5 vote, please?

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

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13 ***

14 Miscellaneous

15 MS. ARCHER:

16 At Agenda Item 28, I believe the Board
17 would entertain a motion to deny the
18 proposed preceptor for Abby Irwin, M.D.

19 DR. KUTZ:

20 Kutz, so moved.

21 MR. EISENHAUER:

22 Eisenhower, second.

23 CHAIR YEALY:

24 We have a motion and a second. Any
25 further conversation or dialogue? May

1 we have a roll call vote, please?

2

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

8 [The motion carried unanimously.]

9

10 MS. ARCHER:

11 At Item No. 29, I believe the Board
12 would entertain a motion to amend the
13 Final Order at Case No. 11-49-04866 to
14 allow Edward Alexander, M.D. to
15 reinstate his license without requiring
16 participation in the Disciplinary
17 Monitoring Unit given his updated
18 evaluation. However, the Application
19 will be tabled to allow him to obtain a
20 reentry assessment and follow through
21 with any recommendations.

22 DR. KUTZ:

23 Kutz, so moved.

24 MR. EISENHAUER:

25 Eisenhower, second.

1 CHAIR YEALY:

2 We have a motion and a second. Any
3 further conversation or dialogue?
4 Hearing none, may we have a roll call
5 vote, please?

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

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13 ***

14 Miscellaneous - FSMB Attorneys Workshop Recap
15 [Dana Archer, Esquire, Board Counsel, reported the
16 FSMB Attorneys Workshop in Philadelphia, PA, started
17 on a high note with opening remarks from Ashley
18 Goshert, Esquire, Board Counsel, and herself for the
19 State Board of Osteopathic Medicine. She noted the
20 highlight of the workshop was the State of the States
21 session where boards shared updates and challenges.
22 She added much of the discussion related to the
23 Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC),
24 difficulties with the implementation of IMLC and
25 comparisons with other states.

1 Ms. Archer commented her favorite session was
2 regarding compounding, particularly the legal
3 regulatory complexities with compounded medications
4 and how Boards can address compounding effectively.
5 Ms. Archer concluded by thanking the Board for
6 sending her to the workshop.]

7 ***

8 Report of Board Counsel - Other
9 [Ashley Keefer, Esquire, Board Counsel, updated the
10 Board on the appeal status of Gene Perchwitz v. State
11 Board of Medicine. She noted a telephonic stay
12 argument took place on December 4, 2025, with the
13 stay being denied on December 5, 2025.]

14 ***

15 Regulatory Report - No Report

16 ***

17 Board Meeting Dates

18 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, noted the 2026
19 Meeting Dates were available for those interested.]

20 ***

21 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

22 ***

23 Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications - No
24 Report

25 ***

1 Report of Committee on Legislation/Policy Development
2 and Review

3 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, reported the
4 American Medical Association (AMA) is doing a deep
5 dive into telehealth utilization. He stated the top
6 five physician specialties utilizing more than 20
7 percent of the visits in telehealth are neurology,
8 endocrinology, gastroenterology, family general
9 medicine, and urology. He added the top five
10 physician specialties utilizing less than 20 percent
11 of visits include ophthalmology, dermatology,
12 emergency medicine, orthopedic surgery and
13 anesthesiology. He pointed out for emergency
14 medicine, the telehealth visits are follow-up visits.

15 Chair Yealy commented for emergency medicine,
16 physicians actually do telehealth, but it falls under
17 a different rubric, not under emergency care itself.
18 He added telehealth is a wonderful way to get care to
19 people when and how they need it.

20 Dr. Woodland reported the "Big Beautiful Bill"
21 will reshape healthcare in 2026. He stated there are
22 many things that will change as a result of the new
23 legislation. He noted the big fear for patients is
24 confusion that could delay care, worsen health
25 outcomes, and present financial hardship for

1 families. For physicians, he noted, the confusion
2 could relate to patients being uninsured or
3 underinsured, less stability for safety net
4 financing, and growing pressure on the already
5 strained practices.

6 Dr. Woodland added fiscal incentives that
7 expanded in Medicaid will end, having a ripple
8 effect. The cost for ACA marketplace enrollees will
9 increase until action is taken. In addition, medical
10 students will have fewer options to pay for student
11 loans, and some of the options will have caps. He
12 added this may determine who can go into medicine and
13 who cannot. Finally, related to the bill, he added
14 physicians can expect to see significant policy
15 changes starting in January 2026, which may affect
16 their practices, especially around fiscal concerns.

17 Dr. Woodland shared the Association of Medical
18 Colleges (AAMC) continues promoting funding for
19 health and scientific research. He added AAMC has
20 information on their website, www.aamc.org, regarding
21 access to programs to enhance workforce resilience
22 and support the training of future physicians and
23 researchers.

24 Dr. Woodland reported the new issue of the
25 *Journal on Medical Regulation* (JMR), published by

1 FSMB, highlights corporatization in health
2 professions; trends in case complexity and its
3 implications; and looking at telehealth. He added,
4 as the chair of the oversight committee for JMR, he
5 supports the journal.

6 Dr. Woodland mentioned discussions about the
7 assistant physician legislation; however, there is no
8 current legislation in Pennsylvania.

9 Dr. Woodland stated the annual FSMB meeting is in
10 Spring 2026. He thanked the Board for their
11 supporting his nomination to run for chair-elect. He
12 reported he has been going through the interview
13 process with the Nominating Committee over the past
14 month.

15 Mr. Dillon stated, at the prior meeting, the
16 Board decided to send two people to the FSMB meeting.
17 He offered to attend again, but it might be good for
18 the newer members to attend, if interested.

19 Chair Yealy stated making sure the Pennsylvania
20 board is engaged and fully represented at FSMB is
21 good for the Commonwealth. He stated the Board's
22 overall agenda is to find the people who are the most
23 interested and the most dedicated to support their
24 involvement.

25 Dr. Ripchinski voiced his support for Mr.

1 Dillon's attendance. He also was interested in
2 attending in the future, but unable to attend in the
3 spring due to a personal conflict.

4 Dr. Kutz echoed Dr. Ripchinski. He was
5 unavailable in the spring, but was interested in
6 future meetings.

7 Chair Yealy encouraged any Board Members
8 interested in attending to notify himself, Mr. Cassel
9 or Acting Commissioner Claggett. He added a
10 combination of people with experience and people who
11 want to gain experience would make the most sense.

12 Ms. Okereh shared January 23rd is National
13 Maternal Health Awareness Day. She stated the day
14 highlights maternal health issues and advocates for
15 better care for mothers and their families. She
16 added preventable maternal complications continues to
17 impact families across Pennsylvania, particularly
18 after discharge. She explained a need for ensuring
19 that every mother and baby in the Commonwealth have
20 access to high quality evidence-based care, strong
21 postpartum support and standardized safety
22 practices.]

23 ***

24 Report of Committee on Health-Related Professionals -
25 No Report

Report of Department of Health

[Robert Bonacci, M.D., on behalf of Debra Bogan, M.D., FAAP, Secretary Department of Health, reported Pennsylvania is firmly in the midst of cold and flu season. He shared graphics demonstrating where rates are of influenza A, B and RSV compared to last year. He noted there are rapidly rising rates of influenza. He noted there is also an uptick in SV cases. He reminded all practitioners of the importance of making sure their patients are protected from respiratory viruses by being protected through vaccination and immunizations per guidance from professional medical societies.

Dr. Bonacci stated the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) at the CDC met on December 4 and 15, 2026. As a result of the meetings, ACIP voted to change the recommendation around the universal newborn dose for the hepatitis B vaccination. He added the Commonwealth continues to strongly recommend the guidelines set forth of the American Academy of Pediatrics and other professional medical societies, which uniformly continue to recommend the universal birth dose for hepatitis B. He noted since the original recommendation in 1991,

1 there has been a significant decrease in the
2 incidence of perinatal and acute hepatitis B cases in
3 infant populations.

4 Chair Yealy thanked DOH for continuing to provide
5 clarity on both the respiratory virus season and on
6 how to protect from a variety of threats. He noted
7 the Commonwealth has always taken advice from
8 multiple sources including primary science and expert
9 groups.]

10 ***

11 Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report

12 ***

13 Report of Vice Chair

14 [Michael R. Ripchinski, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAFP, Vice
15 Chair, thanked Mr. Eisenhauer for his years of
16 service. He expressed his appreciation for Mr.
17 Eisenhauer's experience, leadership, knowledge, and
18 advocacy for physicians' assistants across
19 Pennsylvania. He wished Mr. Eisenhauer well in his
20 next endeavors.

21 Dr. Ripchinski also welcomed Dr. Foster to the
22 Board.]

23 ***

24 Report of Board Chair

1 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, added his
2 thanks to Mr. Eisenhower for being an outstanding
3 partner to the Board. He noted his appreciation for
4 working with the most dedicated and bright people
5 from across the Commonwealth. He noted the Board
6 strives to be both consistent and tailored at the
7 same time while keeping an eye on how to best serve
8 the people of Pennsylvania.]

9 ***

10 Public Comment

11 [Tanya Miller, MS, LAT, ATC, NASM-CES, Assistant
12 Director of Sports Medicine, Shippensburg University,
13 commented as a member of the Pennsylvania Athletic
14 Trainer Society (PATS). She noted PATS had been
15 informed work is starting with designing a compact
16 similar to other compacts across the country. She
17 added they are currently looking for states to sign
18 on and become part of the basic makeup of the
19 committee to work towards a compact. She offered to
20 send additional information to the Board.

21 Chair Yealy thanked her for the information. He
22 asked that she stay engaged to share information.]

23 ***

24 [William Reynolds, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA, Executive
25 Director, Pennsylvania Society of Physician

1 Associates (PSPA), thanked Mr. Eisenhower for his
2 exceptional service on the State Board of Medicine.
3 He noted Mr. Eisenhower had demonstrated an
4 unwavering commitment to public welfare, to high
5 standards of licensure and to continued excellence of
6 medical care in Pennsylvania.]

7 ***

8 Adjournment

9 CHAIR YEALY:

10 Seeing no other conversation, I'd be
11 happy to entertain a motion to adjourn.

12 DR. KUTZ:

13 Kutz, so moved.

14 MR. EISENHAUER:

15 Eisenhower, second.

16 CHAIR YEALY:

17 I think we'll just assume that in
18 affirmation here. And Walt, that is
19 your final action on the Pennsylvania
20 Board of Medicine. Thank you very much
21 and thank you all for attending.

22 ***

23 [There being no other business, the State Board of
24 Medicine Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.]

25 ***

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 dark ink, appearing to read 'Allison Walker', is written over a horizontal line.

Allison Walker,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE
REFERENCE INDEX
December 23, 2025

<u>TIME</u>	<u>AGENDA</u>
8:45	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:30	Official Call to Order
10:32	Roll Call
10:37	Approval of Minutes
10:40	Report of Prosecuting Attorneys
10:55	Report of Board Counsel
10:57	Applications for Licensure
11:02	Miscellaneous
11:07	Report of Board Counsel - Other
11:09	Report of Committee on Legislation - Policy Development and Review
11:20	Report of the Department of Health
11:25	Report of Vice Chair
11:27	Report of Board Chair
11:28	Public Comment
11:31	Adjournment