

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

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

State Board of Medicine
January 28, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS:

Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs - Absent
Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair
Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair
Gerard F. Dillon, Ph.D., Public Member
Michael R. Ripchinski, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAFP
Walter A. Eisenhauer, MMSC, M.Ed., PA-C
Robert Bonacci, M.D., on behalf of Debra L. Bogen,
M.D., FAAP, FABM, Secretary of Health
John D. Six, M.D.
John A. Kutz, M.D., FACS
Catherine N. Udekwu, M.D. - Absent
Adanma S. Okereh, CNM, CRNP, Nurse Midwife

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel
Dana M. Archer, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel
Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Michael Marten, Counsel Division, Department of State
Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Counsel Division, Department
of State
Adam J. Williams, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Adrianne Rachelle McClendon, Esquire, Board
Prosecutor
Courtney J. Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Saiyad Ali, Board Administrator
Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State
Deena Parmelee, Legal Office Administrator 1,
Department of State
Heather Wilson, MSW, CFRE, Executive Director,
Physicians' Health Program, Foundation of the
Pennsylvania Medical Society
Carlton Smith, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
Prosecution Division
Tanya Miller, Clerical Assistant 2

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ALSO PRESENT:

Susan DeSantis, PA-C, Pennsylvania Society of
Physician Assistants
Mary Marshall, Director, Workforce & Professional
Development, The Hospital and Healthsystem
Association of Pennsylvania
Randy Stevens, Director of Legislative Affairs,
Pennsylvania Orthotic and Prosthetic Society
Ted Mowatt, CAE, Vice President/Lobbyist, Wanner
Associates
Wesley J. Rish, Esquire, Rish Law Office, LLC
Murat Yildis, University of Pennsylvania Perelman
School of Medicine
Lisa Claypool Stevenson, Senior Associate Counsel,
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Andrew LaFratte, Deputy Policy Director
Heather Swimley, Behavior Specialist
Laura Neil
Preeti Kakkar
Sara Musser
Susan Landess-Capetola
Erin Badstuebner, Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.
Atul Kakkar
Willow Marsh
Angie Armbrust
Devan Dalla

State Board of Medicine

January 28, 2025

[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 8:45 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel, and 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 Tuesday, January 28, 2025. Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Acknowledge Public

[Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, informed everyone that the meeting was being recorded, and those who continued to participate were giving their consent to be recorded.]

Approval of minutes of the December 17, 2024 meeting

1 CHAIR WOODLAND:

2 Approval of the minutes. I know Saiyad
3 sent out the minutes.

4 Do I have a motion to approve?

5 MR. DILLON:

6 So moved.

7 DR. KUTZ:

8 Second.

9 CHAIR WOODLAND:

10 Any further discussion? Any other
11 issues with the minutes of last
12 meeting? Hearing none.

13 Saiyad, could we have a roll call
14 vote on those?

15
16 Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr.
17 Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.
18 Eisenhower, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
19 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh
20 aye.

21 [The motion carried unanimously.]

22 ***

23 Introduction of Board Members/Attendees

24 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, provided
25 an introduction of Board members and attendees. A

1 quorum of Board members was present.]

2 ***

3 Appointment - Annual Prosecution Report

4 [Carlton Smith, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
5 Prosecution Division, presented the Annual
6 Prosecution Report. He reported a little over
7 120,000 active licensees for the State Board of
8 Medicine. He noted 4,194 cases were opened in 2024.
9 He reported 4,341 cases are currently open and 3,349
10 cases were closed.

11 Mr. Smith stated prosecution focuses on closing
12 more cases than they open to prevent a backlog. He
13 mentioned the Medical Care Availability and Reduction
14 of Error (MCARE) cases are included in those cases.
15 He provided an overview of MCARE cases, where
16 professionals are obligated to notify the Board or
17 prosecution of being sued in court.

18 Mr. Smith noted the average age to close a case
19 was 320 days in 2024 and 308 days in 2023. He
20 addressed factors that determine how long it takes to
21 close a case and the process. He reported hiring
22 more in-house doctors to consult on cases in 2024,
23 which lessened the amount billed and decreased the
24 length of time it takes to close a case.

25 Mr. Smith addressed discipline and noted 22

1 fines, 25 reprimands, 5 revocations, 16 suspensions,
2 and and a considerable number of voluntary
3 surrenders.

4 Mr. Smith addressed cases without discipline and
5 reported a little over 2,100 Z02 prosecution not
6 warranted cases, where prosecution looks at whether
7 they have the evidence and documentation to prove the
8 case. He reported around 2,300 Z02 cases in 2023.

9 Chair Woodland referred to the Public Citizen
10 Report stating that Pennsylvania did not have as many
11 cases as other states, where the extent of the ones
12 evaluated are prosecution not warranted. He noted
13 the number cannot be generated and about 50 percent
14 of the cases were found to be prosecution not
15 warranted. He believed Public Citizen was
16 questioning the number of cases opened, and the Board
17 can only open cases reported to it.

18 Mr. Smith noted being aware of that but believed
19 the Citizen did not have accurate numbers because
20 they would not have all of the information in terms
21 of everything prosecuted. He noted some of the cases
22 come from the Board but mostly from the public. He
23 believed the Board will continue to see a large
24 number of cases fall by the wayside in terms of
25 prosecution not warranted.

1 Mr. Smith reported 263 warning letters, where
2 prosecution also looks at whether they can prove the
3 case and severity of the violation. He referred to
4 Z16 administrative closings, noting he was not sure
5 of all of the types of cases represented and offered
6 to get back to the Board. He noted they are
7 typically cases opened in error but seem like a
8 fairly high number.

9 Mr. Smith referred to Z04 withdrawal of
10 complaints and Z08 violation corrected, where it may
11 be a recordkeeping-type issue, here the licensee is
12 allowed to correct the error. He also noted 14 Unit
13 1 VRP cases and 18 discharges.

14 Dr. Yealy noted the importance of recognizing the
15 contemporaneous and the high-fidelity data when
16 public reports come out that open up questions about
17 the functioning of the Department of State and the
18 Board of Medicine.

19 Chair Woodland commented that the Board is
20 committed to protecting the citizens of the
21 Commonwealth and also noted the importance of being
22 upfront and transparent when an organization like the
23 Public Citizen criticizes their work.

24 Mr. Dillon asked whether there has ever been any
25 effort, on behalf of the Commonwealth, to look at

1 people who have repeat discipline over a period of
2 time to give some sense of the effectiveness of the
3 disciplines themselves.

4 Mr. Smith stated prosecution has historical
5 records of a licensee's discipline over time but do
6 not have a statistical measurement of how many times
7 someone has come back repeatedly in their case
8 management system. He reported the case management
9 is being rebuilt to capture more types of activity.

10 Mr. Dillon suggested that be added to the list of
11 potential improvements, noting other boards may also
12 be interested in expanding discipline categories.

13 Chair Woodland thanked Mr. Smith for the
14 presentation, given the Public Citizen Report and
15 noted the importance of correcting some of that
16 information, since the Board received some national
17 attention.

18 ***

19 Report of Prosecuting Attorneys

20 [Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Acting Senior Board
21 Prosecutor and Prosecution Liaison, presented the
22 Consent Agreement for VRP Case No. 24-49-019113.]

23 ***

24 [Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel,
25 noted the Board entered into Executive Session this

1 morning to receive advice of counsel and conduct
2 quasi-judicial deliberations.]

3 ***

4 MS. WALTER:

5 Number 4 on the agenda is Case No. 24-
6 49-019113.

7 I believe the Board would entertain
8 a motion to accept the VRP Agreement.

9 MR. DILLON:

10 So moved.

11 DR. KUTZ:

12 Second.

13 CHAIR WOODLAND:

14 Any further discussion on this issue?
15 Hearing none.

16 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
17 please?

18
19 Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr.
20 Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.
21 Eisenhower, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
22 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh
23 aye.

24 [The motion carried unanimously.]

25 ***

1 [Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
2 informed Board members that item 5 was removed from
3 the agenda but will be presented at another meeting.

4 Mr. Anderson presented the Consent Agreement for
5 Case No. 23-49-004239.]

6 ***

7 MS. WALTER:

8 I believe the Board would entertain a
9 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
10 at number 6 on the agenda, Case No. 23-
11 49-004239.

12 MR. DILLON:

13 So moved.

14 DR. KUTZ:

15 Second.

16 CHAIR WOODLAND:

17 Any further discussion? Hearing none.

18 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
19 please?

20
21 Dr. Woodland, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Mr.
22 Eisenhower, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
23 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh
24 aye.

25 [The motion carried. Donald Yealy and Michael

1 Ripchinski recused themselves from deliberations and
2 voting on the motion. The Respondent's name is Jay
3 S. Copeland, M.D.]

4 ***

5 [Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
6 presented the Consent Agreements for Case No. 24-49-
7 018794.]

8 MS. WALTER:

9 I believe the Board would entertain a
10 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
11 at number 7, Case No. 24-49-018794.

12 MR. DILLON:

13 So moved.

14 DR. KUTZ:

15 Second.

16 CHAIR WOODLAND:

17 Any further discussion on this item?

18 There are no recusals on this item.

19 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
20 please?

21

22 Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr.
23 Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.
24 Eisenhauer, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
25 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh

1 aye.

2 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
3 name is Benjamin Frizner, M.D.]

4 ***

5 [Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
6 presented the Consent Agreements for Case No. 22-49-
7 010398.]

8 MS. WALTER:

9 I believe the Board would entertain a
10 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
11 at number 8 on the agenda, Case No. 22-
12 49-010398.

13 MR. DILLON:

14 So moved.

15 DR. KUTZ:

16 Second.

17 CHAIR WOODLAND:

18 Any further discussion on this item?

19 Hearing none.

20 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
21 please?

22
23 Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr.
24 Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.
25 Eisenhauer, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.

1 Eisenhauer, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
2 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh
3 aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
5 name is Dave Shelton Atteberry, M.D.]

6 ***

7 [Courtney J. Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
8 presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 22-49-
9 003098.]

10 MS. WALTER:

11 I believe the Board would entertain a
12 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
13 at number 11, Case No. 22-49-003098.

14 MR. DILLON:

15 So moved.

16 DR. KUTZ:

17 Second.

18 CHAIR WOODLAND:

19 Any further discussion? Hearing none.

20 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
21 please?

22
23 Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr.
24 Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.
25 Eisenhauer, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.

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

6 [The motion carried unanimously.]

7 ***

8 MS. ARCHER:

9 I believe the Board would entertain a
10 motion to direct Board Counsel to draft
11 the Final Adjudication and Order
12 consistent with the discussions in
13 Executive Session for Kjerstin Klein,
14 Case No. 24-49-003509.

15 MR. DILLON:

16 So moved.

17 DR. KUTZ:

18 Second.

19 CHAIR WOODLAND:

20 Any further discussion on this item?

21 Hearing none.

22 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
23 please?

24

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

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

5 [The motion carried unanimously.]

6 ***

7 MS. ARCHER:

8 I believe the Board would entertain a
9 motion to adopt the Proposed
10 Adjudication in part and substitute the
11 Final Board Order as discussed in
12 Executive Session for Orlando Ross
13 Davis, M.D., Case No. 23-49-013982.

14 MR. DILLON:

15 So moved.

16 DR. KUTZ:

17 Second.

18 CHAIR WOODLAND:

19 Any further discussion on item 14?

20 Hearing none.

21 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
22 please?

23

24 Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr.
25 Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.

1 Eisenhauer, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
2 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh
3 aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously.]

5 ***

6 Report of Board Counsel - Other

7 MS. ARCHER:

8 I believe the Board would entertain a
9 motion to direct Board Counsel to issue
10 an order denying the Petition for
11 Reinstatement and Request for Hearing
12 of Milad Ishak Shaker, M.D., Case No.
13 24-49-018885.

14 MR. DILLON:

15 So moved.

16 DR. KUTZ:

17 Second.

18 CHAIR WOODLAND:

19 Any further discussion on this?

20 Hearing none.

21 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
22 please?

23

24 Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr.
25 Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.

1 Eisenhauer, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
2 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh
3 aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously.]

5 ***

6 Applications for Licensure - Allied Health
7 Professionals

8 MS. ARCHER:

9 I believe the Board would entertain a
10 motion to grant the Application for a
11 License to Practice as a Behavior
12 Specialist of Stacy Bowman.

13 DR. RIPCHINSKI:

14 So moved.

15 DR. KUTZ:

16 Second.

17 CHAIR WOODLAND:

18 Any further discussion? Hearing none.

19 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
20 please?

21

22 Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr.
23 Dillon, nay; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.
24 Eisenhauer, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
25 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh

1 aye.

2 [The motion carried. Gerard Dillon opposed the
3 motion.]

4 ***

5 Applications for Licensure - Unrestricted Physicians
6 and Surgeons

7 MS. ARCHER:

8 At agenda items 20 through 22, I
9 believe the Board would entertain a
10 motion to grant the following Initial
11 Applications for a License to Practice
12 as a Physician and Surgeon: Manish
13 Kumar Choudhary, M.D.; Ahmed Elsabbagh,
14 M.D.; Atul Kakkar, M.D.

15 MR. DILLON:

16 So moved.

17 DR. KUTZ:

18 Second.

19 CHAIR WOODLAND:

20 Any further discussion on items 20, 21,
21 or 22? Hearing none.

22 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
23 please?

24

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

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

5 [The motion carried unanimously.]

6 ***

7 Applications for Licensure - Reactivations

8 MS. ARCHER:

9 At agenda item 23, I believe the Board
10 would entertain a motion to grant the
11 following Reactivation Applications:
12 the Reactivation Application to
13 Practice as an Athletic Trainer for
14 Kevin Michael Conley; agenda item 25,
15 the Reactivation Application to
16 Practice as a Respiratory Therapist of
17 William Edward Ilgefritz.

18 MR. DILLON:

19 So moved.

20 DR. KUTZ:

21 Second.

22 CHAIR WOODLAND:

23 Any further discussion on items 23 or
24 25? Hearing none.

25 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,

1 please?

2

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

8 [The motion carried unanimously.]

9

10 MS. ARCHER:

11 For agenda item 24 and 26 through 29,
12 I believe the Board would entertain a
13 motion to table the following
14 Reactivation Applications to allow the
15 Applicants to complete a reentry
16 evaluation: Wendy Baxter, Respiratory
17 Therapist; Barbara Matthews, M.D.;
18 Elizabeth Ann Jamme, M.D.; Juan Maya,
19 M.D.; Kenneth Messner, M.D.

20 MR. DILLON:

21 So moved.

22 DR. KUTZ:

23 Second.

24 CHAIR WOODLAND:

25 Any further discussion on items 24, 26,

1 27, 28, and 29? Hearing none.

2 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
3 please?

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

10 [The motion carried unanimously.]

11 ***

12 Applications for Licensure - Volunteer

13 MS. ARCHER:

14 Item 30 on the agenda. I believe the
15 Board would entertain a motion to
16 provisionally deny the Application for
17 a Volunteer License for David Byler,
18 M.D.

19 MR. DILLON:

20 So moved.

21 DR. KUTZ:

22 Second.

23 CHAIR WOODLAND:

24 Any further discussion on item 30?

25 Hearing and seeing none.

Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr.
Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.
Eisenhauer, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr.
Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh
aye.

* * *

MS. ARCHER:

MR. DILLON:

DR. KUTZ:

CHAIR WOODLAND:

Hearing none.

1 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
2 please?

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

9 [The motion carried unanimously.]

10 ***

11 Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report
12 [Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel,
13 provided a Regulatory Status Report reflecting the
14 regulations in various stages of the process.]

15 ***

16 Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report -
17 16A-4962 - Opioid Treatment Programs - Final
18 [Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel,
19 noted 16A-4962 regarding the opioid treatment
20 programs regulation was published as final.]

21 ***

22 Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report -
23 FYI - House Bill 76 - Right to Practice Medicine,
24 Surgery, and Medically Related Acts
25 [Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel,

1 referred to House Bill 76 regarding the right to
2 practice medicine, surgery, and medically-related
3 acts for the Board's review.

4 Susan DeSantis, PA-C, Pennsylvania Society of
5 Physician Assistants, informed Board members that
6 House Bill 76 is up for a vote on Monday by the
7 Professional Licensure Committee. She mentioned
8 recently meeting with Representative Venkat to
9 discuss the bill and raise concerns about the bill.

10 Ms. DeSantis provided an overview of the bill,
11 noting it was introduced in 2024 and went through the
12 House but did not make it through the Senate. She
13 explained the bill would allow a physician assistant
14 (PA) licensed under one board to be able to have a
15 written agreement under either board. She provided a
16 scenario.

17 Ms. DeSantis expressed concern that the PA in her
18 scenario, working under a medical doctor with a
19 doctor of osteopathic medicine primary would be
20 practicing under the Osteopathic Board because that
21 is the board the written agreement was under. She
22 noted if an issue was raised that she would then be
23 disciplined by the Medical Board. She noted it to be
24 found confusing because there was enough difference
25 between the Medical Practice Act, the Osteopathic

1 Act, and the regulations.

2 Chair Woodland commented that one of the nuances
3 in their state is the legacy Osteopathic Board and
4 Medical Board and noted trying to resolve some of the
5 items over the years.

6 Ms. Walter explained that it is with the
7 legislature at the current time and thanked Ms.
8 DeSantis for keeping updated on acts and legislation
9 affecting the Board.

10 Mr. Dillon also expressed concern that it is
11 confusing and would require much thought in terms of
12 striking that balance between the two boards.

13 Chair Woodland commented on considering this over
14 the years for multiple issues to make sure the boards
15 are somewhat equivalent in not only the information
16 provided but also the judgments rendered.]

17 ***

18 Report of Department of Health

19 [Robert Bonacci, M.D., on behalf of Debra Bogen,
20 Secretary of Health, informed Board members that
21 respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) activity and COVID-
22 related emergency department visits have been
23 elevated but are decreasing. He encouraged
24 clinicians to discuss influenza, RSV, and COVID
25 vaccination status with their patients and offer

1 those vaccinations.

2 Dr. Bonacci also encouraged patients and family
3 members to receive their vaccines for respiratory
4 virus season. He reported a high respiratory virus
5 activity level in terms of the highly pathogenic
6 avian influenza. He noted Pennsylvania had its first
7 case among the poultry population in Pennsylvania but
8 did not believe any cases have been diagnosed among
9 the population of cows across the state.

10 Dr. Bonacci referred to the Health Alert Network
11 (HAN) and noted an alert on December 18, 2024,
12 regarding hospitals and behavioral health providers
13 reporting severe and worsening presentations among
14 people who use drugs in Philadelphia. He expressed
15 concern with the adulterated drug supply with other
16 substances, not just fentanyl or other opioid-
17 containing drugs.

18 Dr. Bonacci also noted the Department of Health
19 released a health advisory on January 13, 2025,
20 regarding resources for health care professionals on
21 health effects of environmental exposures. He
22 mentioned that HAN details some of the training
23 resources available for health care providers
24 interested in receiving more information concerning
25 education and awareness.

1 Dr. Yealy stated clinical practices have been
2 seeing adulterants in opioids continue to evolve with
3 a panoply of other things. He commented that it
4 looks like the xylazine peak has been reached and
5 means things will be different. He noted the
6 importance of being vigilant in not only the
7 immediate care but also the long-term management of
8 people. He mentioned that it is a difficult problem
9 to resolve because those who supply this are
10 incredibly resourceful.

11 Chair Woodland asked whether Dr. Bonacci had any
12 special announcements on how everyone can stay
13 healthy and manage themselves during the Super Bowl
14 because of the stress, poor diet, and alcohol
15 consumption.]

16 ***

17 Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report

18 ***

19 Report of Committee on Health-Related Professionals -
20 No Report

21 ***

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

24 [Michael R. Ripchinski, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAFP,
25 provided a follow-up of comments made at the December

1 meeting. He informed Board members that the December
2 2024 issue of the Journal of Medical Regulation
3 contained a briefing from the Oregon Medical Board
4 recently adopting a statement of philosophy on IV
5 hydration therapy.

6 Dr. Ripchinski noted prior Board discussion at
7 the last meeting in reference to Vermont but reported
8 Oregon also has put out a statement of philosophy,
9 where IV hydration therapy is considered within the
10 scope of practice of medicine in Oregon. He also
11 noted the statement specifically stressed that any
12 medications added to IV hydration need to adhere to
13 applicable laws within that state.

14 Dr. Ripchinski stated licensees functioning as
15 medical directors over IV hydration therapy clinics
16 must avoid issuing standing orders that allow
17 untrained or unqualified personnel to practice
18 medicine or operate outside of their scope of
19 practice.

20 Dr. Ripchinski noted licensees must also ensure
21 that any person or business engaged in dispensing,
22 delivery, or distribution of compounded drugs in
23 Oregon possess the required Oregon Board of Pharmacy
24 oversight and the requirements related to the same.
25 He reminded licensees in the Commonwealth to be aware

1 of additional regulations thought about in other
2 states regarding IV hydration therapy.

3 Dr. Ripchinski referred to Oregon's comment
4 regarding licensees operating as medical directors
5 for IV hydration locations. He advised licensees in
6 the Commonwealth serving as medical directors of
7 these locations to understand their standing order
8 policies and rules and regulations regarding their
9 locations within the Commonwealth.

10 Dr. Ripchinski believed it is important for the
11 Board of Medicine in Pennsylvania and all of their
12 members to take this into account as locations
13 continue to grow across the Commonwealth and to
14 consider a statement of policy or at least working
15 with legislators around any opportunities that may
16 exist for future legislative acts and/or regulations.

17 Chair Woodland also noted the importance of
18 licensees understanding their role in the
19 Commonwealth as they become more aware of what is
20 happening with the hydration clinics, Botox clinics,
21 and other use of illicit drugs. He reported college
22 kids are now doing ketamine balloons as part of the
23 party thing.

24 Mr. Dillon stated he would be in support of
25 broadcasting a public statement, along the same lines

1 as Vermont and Oregon, reminding licensees and the
2 public what they consider to be the rules from the
3 Board's perspective.

4 Chair Woodland commented that it is a wide-open
5 field for all of the states and has been discussed
6 many times at the Federation of State Medical Boards.
7 He agreed that guidance is going to be big moving
8 forward.]

9 ***

10 Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications - No
11 Report

12 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, reported it to be
13 common for people across the Commonwealth to believe
14 entry into practice is restricted to only people who
15 have done United States-based training and reported
16 that to not be the case. He commented that the
17 Committee on Licensure Qualifications uses a
18 combination of both structure and flexibility to make
19 sure the citizens of Commonwealth receive the best
20 possible care by providers who are well qualified.

21 Dr. Yealy explained that the committee looks at
22 many applications that do not require retraining in
23 the U.S. or only recognize U.S. training. He
24 mentioned that there is a clear set of guidelines and
25 pathways the committee deals with directly and then

1 works with the overall Board.]

2 ***

3 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

4 ***

5 For the Board's Information/Discussion - Upcoming
6 2024-2025 Board Meeting Dates

7 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, noted
8 the next scheduled Board meeting date is March 5.]

9 ***

10 Miscellaneous - FSMB Annual Meeting - April 24-26,
11 2025

12 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair,
13 announced the Federation of State Medical Boards
14 Annual Meeting will be held April 24-26, 2025, in
15 Seattle, WA.]

16 MS. ARCHER:

17 I believe the Board would entertain a
18 motion to send two Board members to the
19 FSMB Annual Meeting, along with the
20 registration fee for Dr. Woodland and
21 one additional Board staff.

22 MR. DILLON:

23 So moved.

24 DR. KUTZ:

25 Second.

1 CHAIR WOODLAND:

2 The bulk of my traveling fee is covered
3 by the FSMB because of my role with the
4 FSMB as a Board of Directors' member
5 representing the state of Pennsylvania.
6 The only thing that is not covered was
7 the registration fee.

8 Any other comments? Hearing none.
9 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
10 please?

11

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

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18

19 Miscellaneous - KSTAR Physician Assessment/Evaluation
20 Programs

21 [Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel,
22 informed Board members that Knowledge, Skills,
23 Training, Assessment and Research (KSTAR) will be
24 invited to provide a presentation on their
25 reevaluation reentry program at a future meeting.

1 Chair Woodland reported KSTAR provides physician
2 reentry programs, and the Board is constantly looking
3 for resources for citizens who need a reentry program
4 to facilitate their process in reentry.]

5 ***

6 Report of Board Chair

7 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair,
8 addressed the inauguration of President Donald Trump,
9 who became the 47th President of the United States,
10 on January 20, 2025. He referred to Washington's
11 first inauguration in 1789, noting March 4 became the
12 official date for the start of the administration,
13 which the Twentieth Amendment moved to January to be
14 closer to the start of new Congress.

15 Chair Woodland reported William Henry Harrison
16 was the only president who died of a health-related
17 issue 30 days after his inauguration in cold weather,
18 leading some to now believe another illness like
19 typhoid fever or flu may have killed this president.

20 Chair Woodland addressed the National Health
21 Observances for January and February, including
22 Cervical Cancer Awareness, Glaucoma Awareness, and
23 Maternal Health Awareness Day. He noted the
24 importance of reviewing the effect of vaccines to
25 reduce the risk of not only cervical cancers but also

1 anorectal cancers and oral and pharyngeal cancers as
2 well.

3 Chair Woodland stated the National Eye Institute
4 observes National Glaucoma Awareness Month every
5 January to raise awareness of glaucoma, which is the
6 leading cause of vision loss and blindness in the
7 United States.

8 Chair Woodland noted Maternal Health Awareness
9 Day and Maternal Health Awareness Month looks to
10 highlight the importance of the health outcomes for
11 mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding,
12 and postpartum. He mentioned this year's emphasis is
13 on no kids at stake. He noted the American College
14 of Obstetricians and Gynecologists works with all the
15 states to represent Maternal Health Awareness Day on
16 January 23, 2025.

17 Chair Woodland announced FSMB has a call for
18 abstracts, highlighting they are applying for an
19 abstract from Pennsylvania concerning continuing
20 medical education and mandatory continuing medical
21 education. He noted the Black Maternal Health Caucus
22 has brought forth the issue of potentially putting
23 forward mandatory cultural sensitivity training to
24 influence maternal health in the state of
25 Pennsylvania.

1 Chair Woodland looking at the continuing medical
2 education requirements in other states and how many
3 other states require cultural sensitivity training,
4 and he would present that information to the Board of
5 Medicine.

6 Chair Woodland reported burnout rates represent
7 about 50% of all healthcare workers with pharmacy
8 professionals having the highest burnout.

9 Chair Woodland noted the American Medical
10 Association (AMA) looked at major stressors for
11 physicians and is looking at the issue of prior
12 authorizations, where more than three-quarters of
13 physicians reported patients abandoned treatment
14 because of their inability to get prior
15 authorization.

16 Chair Woodland also noted the AMA released their
17 June survey, where 95% of physicians reported the
18 prior authorizations processes either somewhat or
19 significantly increases physician burnout.

20 Chair Woodland mentioned that the Association of
21 American Medical Colleges (AAMC) issued a policy and
22 advocacy statements regarding the change in the
23 administration and President Trump's executive
24 actions that will affect academic institutions in the
25 state.]

Report of Vice Chair - No Report

For the Board's Information/Discussion - Old
Business/New Business - Election of Officers for
2025

CHAIR WOODLAND:

I would like to begin by nominating Dr.
Don Yealy for the position of Chair of
the State Board of Medicine.

MR. DILLON:

I second the motion.

CHAIR WOODLAND:

Any other nomination for that position?
Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
please?

Dr. Woodland, aye; Dr. Yealy, recuse;
Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye;
Mr. Eisenhower, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye;
Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Ms. Okereh
aye.

[The motion carried. Donald Yealy recused himself
from deliberations and voting on the motion.]

1 CHAIR WOODLAND:

2 I would like to nominate Dr. Michael
3 Ripchinski for Vice Chair of the State
4 Board of Medicine of Pennsylvania.

5 MR. DILLON:

6 Second.

7 CHAIR WOODLAND:

8 Any other nomination? Hearing none.
9 Saiyad, could we have a roll call,
10 please?

11

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

17 [The motion carried. Michael Ripchinski recused
18 himself from deliberations and voting on the motion.]

19 ***

20 Report of Board Chair

21 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, informed
22 Board members that it has been a pleasure to serve as
23 the Chair of the State Board of Medicine. He
24 addressed the launch of hybrid meetings, the
25 importance of being stewards of upholding standards

1 on evidence-based information sharing and
2 transparency of truthful and untruthful information,
3 workforce shortages, corporatization of medicine, and
4 mandatory continuing medical education cultural
5 competency.

6 Chair Woodland mentioned being proud of the work
7 the State Board of Medicine has done over the years.

8 Dr. Yealy thanked Chair Woodland for using a
9 combination of passion, compassion, clarity, and
10 dedication to the members on the Board and people
11 they serve across the Commonwealth.]

12 ***

13 Adjournment

14 CHAIR WOODLAND:

15 I call for adjournment of this meeting.
16 We'll see you all on March 4. Thank
17 you so much for being here. It's been
18 my pleasure.

19 ***

20 [There being no other business, the State Board of
21 Medicine Meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.]

22 ***

23

24

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.



Erin Badstuebner,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE
REFERENCE INDEX

January 28, 2025

TIME	AGENDA
8:45	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:30	Official Call to Order
10:30	Acknowledge Public - Turn Off Electronic Devices
10:32	Approval of Minutes
10:33	Introduction of Board Members/Attendees
10:37	Appointment - Annual Prosecution Report
11:01	Report of Prosecuting Attorneys
11:20	Report of Board Counsel
11:24	Applications for Licensure
11:29	Ratifications
11:30	Report of Board Counsel (cont.)
11:35	Report of Department of Health
11:40	Report of Committee on Legislation and Policy Development and Review
11:45	Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications
11:46	For the Board's Information/Discussion
11:47	Miscellaneous
11:50	Report of Board Chair
11:57	For the Board's Information/Discussion
12:00	Report of Board Chair (cont.)
12:06	Adjournment