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

FINAL MINUTES

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE

TIME: 10:32 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2601 North Third Street
One Penn Center, Board Room C
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110
as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Tuesday, May 23, 2023
State Board of Medicine
May 23, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS:

Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs - Absent
Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair - Absent
Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair
Gerard F. Dillon, Ph.D., Public Member
Michael Ripchinski, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAFP
Walter A. Eisenhauer, MMSC, M.Ed., PA-C
Sirisha Reddy, Special Assistant, on behalf of Debra L. Bogen, M.D., FAAP, FABM, Acting Secretary of Health

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Dean F. Picarella, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel
Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Board Counsel
Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel
Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor/Board Prosecution Liaison
Mark R. Zogby, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Adam J. Williams, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Kelsey B. Ashworth, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Jonelle Harter Eshbach, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Marc Farrell, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Nichole Wray, Division Chief
Saiyad Ali, Acting Board Administrator
State Board of Medicine  
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ALSO PRESENT:

Randy Stevens, Director of Legislative Affairs, Pennsylvania Orthotic and Prosthetic Society
Susan DeSantis, PA-C, Pennsylvania Society of Physician Assistants
Wesley J. Rish, Esquire, Rish Law Office, LLC
Lisa Claypool Stevenson, Senior Associate Counsel, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Ted Mowatt, CAE, Vice President/Lobbyist, Wanner Associates
Jennifer Smeltz, Republican Executive Director, Senate Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure
Joseph Brett, Research Analyst, Professional Licensure Committee – House Democratic Caucus
Danice Blaise, M.D.
Linda K. Moore
Misha Patel, M.D., Curriculum Education Assistant, Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine
Wendy Ruderman, Staff Writer, Philadelphia Inquirer
Derek Richmond
Carlton Smith
Nicole Sidle
Livija Medne
State Board of Medicine
May 23, 2023

[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 8:45 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, and Shana M. Walter, Esquire, 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, May 23, 2023. Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. and thanked everyone for attending.

Vice Chair Yealy noted the meeting was being recorded and voluntary participation constituted consent to be recorded. He also asked everyone to silence electronic devices.]

Introduction of Board Members/Attendees
[Saiyad Ali, Acting Board Administrator, provided an
introduction of Board members and attendees.]

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Approval of minutes of the April 18, 2023 meeting

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

The first order of business is approval of the minutes from our last meeting. These were circulated in advance for any editing or corrections and have been available.

I’d be happy to entertain a motion to approve.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any conversation, dialogue, or discussion? Hearing none.

Saiyad, can we do a roll call for the vote?

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]
Report of Prosecuting Attorneys

[Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor/Board Prosecution Liaison, presented the VRP Consent Agreements for Case No. 23-49-005452 and Case No. 23-49-005727.]

MS. WALTER:

Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, the Board entered into Executive Session at 8:45 a.m. to have quasi-judicial deliberations and received advice of counsel and to discuss items on the agenda.

Number 3 on the agenda is VRP Case No. 23-49-005452, and number 4 is VRP Case No. 23-49-005727.

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to approve the VRP Agreements.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any discussion further about these?

Hearing none.
Mr. Ali, do you want to call the roll for a vote?

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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[Mark R. Zogby, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 22-49-014728.]

MS. WALTER:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to approve the Consent Agreement at number 5 on the agenda at Case No. 22-49-014728.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHUAER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any discussion? Hearing none. Can we call the roll for the vote?

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent’s name is Walter Stein, M.D.]

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[Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 22-49-018715.

Dr. Ripchinski asked what is going to happen after the criminal probation is over.

Mr. Anderson explained that the individual would be monitored during the period of probation at a quarterly rate and after the criminal probation is satisfied, they could petition the Board to be removed from probation back to full status. He further explained that they would have had to comply with the terms of the agreement and demonstrate they complied with the criminal probation.

Mr. Anderson noted the individual would have the ability for the Board to issue a full unrestricted license, along with the removal of probationary status, as long as they complied with criminal probation and the agreement and the Board would also have the ability to ask for a hearing for any sort of issues.

Mr. Anderson further explained that the
individual has been on suspension for almost 2 years and a 4-year probation period under the criminal courts and has around 16 monitoring reports to demonstrate they have been complying with all of the requirements of practice. He stated any violations or failure to comply would be a notification requirement from the monitor and then that would be a violation of the agreement and discipline would be imposed in the form of the suspension.

Dr. Ripchinski requested clarity as to whether there would be an automatic review by the Board to ensure full compliance before reissuance of any unrestricted license at the end of the probationary period.

Mr. Anderson explained that all probation monitoring reports go to the probation compliance officer during the course of the probation, so there is monitoring throughout the course of the probation to make sure that everything is being done in that fashion. He further explained that the individual has to submit a petition requesting the Board remove them from probationary status at the end of the period of probation and is where the Board would have the ability to review everything that has been done to make that decision.
Mr. Anderson also mentioned that any violations that occurred during the course of the probation is a notification that comes to prosecution for the potential filing of the petition for appropriate relief, which would result in the suspension of the license.

Ms. Walter suggested the Board return to Executive Session.]

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[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 10:51 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, and Shana M. Walter, Esquire, 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 10:56 a.m.]

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MS. WALTER:

At number 6 on the agenda at Case No. 22-49-018715, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to reject the Consent Agreement as too lenient.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:
So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any further discussion? If not, a roll call for the vote.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Report of Board Counsel – Proposed Reports from Hearing Examiner

MS. WUCINSKI:

At agenda item 7, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to adopt the Proposed Adjudication and direct Board Counsel to substitute a Final Board Order as discussed in Executive Session for Jennifer M. Bozza, Certified Nurse Midwife, Case No. 22-49-005628.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:
VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any discussion? Hearing none. Can we have a roll call for the vote.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. WUCINSKI:

At agenda item 8, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to adopt the Proposed Adjudication and Order as Final for David S. Dinello, M.D., Case No. 22-49-006167.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any further discussion? Hearing none.

Roll call for the vote.
Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Report of Board Counsel – Final Adjudications for Board Approval

MS. WUCINSKI:

Moving on to agenda items 9 and 10. I believe the Board would entertain a motion to adopt as Final the Draft Adjudications and Orders for K. Keith Jeffords, M.D., Case No. 22-49-000196 and Cecilia Olugbade-Oseyemi, M.D., Case No. 22-49-008369.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any discussion? Hearing none.

Roll call for the vote, please.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
Applications for Licensure – Allied Health Professionals

MS. WUCINSKI:

At agenda item 11, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the Application for a Licensure to Practice as a Behavior Specialist of Tiffany Burston.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any further discussion? Hearing none.

Roll call for the vote.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. WUCINSKI:

At agenda items 12 and 13, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to grant the following Applications: the Application for a license to Practice as a Behavior Specialist of Paige Murphy and the Application for a License to Practice as a Physician Assistant of Tina L. Mize.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any further discussion? Hearing none.

Roll call for the vote.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, nay on item 12 and aye on item 13; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried. Gerard Dillon opposed the motion for item 12.]

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Applications for Licensure - Unrestricted Physician and Surgeon

MS. WUCINSKI:

At agenda item 14, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the Initial Application for a license to Practice as a Physician and Surgeon of Danice Blaise, M.D.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any further discussion? Hearing none.

Roll call for the vote.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. WUCINSKI:

Agenda item 15 is tabled until the July
MS. WUCINSKI:

At agenda item 17, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to grant the Application for an Initial License to Practice as a Physician and Surgeon upon receipt of verification of practice under an institutional license with UPMC of Kiran Turaka, M.D.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any further discussion? Hearing none.

Roll call for the vote.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

Applications for Licensure - Reactivations
MS. WUCINSKI:

At agenda item 18, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the Reactivation Application to active-retired status of Richard A. Brown, M.D.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any further discussion? Hearing none.

Roll call for the vote.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. WUCINSKI:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to send a standard reentry letter to the following: agenda item 16, Anne Marie Schmidt, M.D. and agenda
DR. RIPCHINSKI:
So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:
Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:
Any further discussion? Hearing none.
Roll call for the vote.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Ratifications

MS. WUCINSKI:
I believe the Board would entertain a motion to ratify the granting of the following Applications for an Initial License to Practice as a Physician and Surgeon: Esther SV Ajjarapu, M.D.; Ankita Chauhan, M.D.; Jarunee Intrapiromkul, M.D.; Faisal Jamal, M.D.; Mujahed Dauleh, M.D.; Vinayak
DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

Any further discussion? Hearing none.

Roll call for the vote.

Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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For the Board’s Information – Meeting Dates

[Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, noted the Board meeting dates are available on the Board’s website.]

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Report of Acting Commissioner – No Report

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Report of Department of Health – No Report

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Report of Committee on Health-Related Professionals – No Report
Report of Committee on Legislation/Policy Development and Review – No Report

Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications – No Report

Report of Acting Board Administrator – No Report

Report of Board Chair/Board Vice Chair

[Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, thanked Chair Woodland and multiple members of the Board who attended the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Meeting in Minneapolis to represent the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to learn and bring back new insights and information. He mentioned there was excellent participation by Board members, leadership, and acquisition of insights about activities that are happening around the country that could make their Board even more effective.

Vice Chair Yealy noted Chair Woodland presented Board activities during the pandemic and how they adapted to the new circumstances and able to continue on with an efficient approach.

Mr. Dillon commented that it was an excellent
educational program, where all of the individual representatives in the states had an opportunity to weigh in on all FSMB recommendations and policies. He noted it to be a great opportunity to meet colleagues from around the country and other public members.

Mr. Eisenhauer mentioned that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was very well represented with Dr. Woodland, not only in his official position on the Board, and his presentation was very well received and reflected very positively on the Board's approach to the cases they handle.

Vice Chair Yealy informed everyone of multiple open positions on the State Board of Medicine. He addressed the importance of having a Board that is full based on its structure and mandates and represents everybody they serve, including those seeking licensure and the people they serve across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Vice Chair Yealy encouraged anyone who may know someone who could fill either one of the physicians or the nonphysician roles on the Board of Medicine to forward that information to the Board. He noted the Board is looking for excellence in all different forms to make sure they represent professionals and
the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from all different types of backgrounds to help make the best possible decisions.

Vice Chair Yealy recognized National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week. He stated emergency medical services providers actually interface with people, oftentimes when it is most critical in changing the trajectory of health or recovery. He thanked all of the EMS professionals and encouraged everyone to support them as much as possible.

Vice Chair Yealy commented that there would not be the level of care and recovery from acute illness and injury that exists all across the United States if it were not for those professionals.

Vice Chair Yealy addressed wellness and safety issues of licensees and healthcare professionals. He noted The Philadelphia Inquirer had an article on the front page today about safety concerns with healthcare professionals. He mentioned that both verbal and physical assaults have been changing and the Board is engaged with the executive and legislative branches to find solutions. He noted the importance of keeping people safe and allowing the people providing the care to be the best versions of themselves.
Vice Chair Yealy stated the Board of Medicine has sponsored numerous things that focus on tools to help all licensees be the best version of themselves. He noted the importance of continuing discussions with local institutions and local communities and welcomed any ideas. He stated the Board does not create legislation but can often be influential and help guide as steps are taken to resolve issues.

Vice Chair Yealy addressed material Chair Woodland wanted to share with the Board. He discussed fitness and maintenance of health before illness strikes, where efforts and resources can be the most impactful. He mentioned that the opportunity is heightened in older citizens in the community, where activity and other health maintenance activities can be quite effective in either maintaining health or preventing illness.

Vice Chair Yealy stated mental health and behavioral health issues are dominant, particularly in the young and very old, where there is more of a sense of isolation and crises. He addressed long wait times to see a professional and noted people are focusing on the issue also at the national level.

Vice Chair Yealy addressed women's health and women in childbearing ages, along with children,
noting they are not at levels that would be expected from the capability and capacities that exist across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and across the United States. He mentioned that the Board is open to finding ways to improve this issue. He noted the Board looks very carefully and cautiously at any commentary activities with the legislation and with individual licensees when that crops up.

Vice Chair Yealy addressed the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), noting it to be an infection and a constellation of illnesses that has changed and is now easily managed but not without consequences. He mentioned being in a much better place today but noted the importance of being aware of testing, treatment options, and counseling for not only direct consequences of HIV but also indirect consequences.]

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[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 11:20 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, and Shana M. Walter, Esquire, 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]
The Board returned to open session at 11:23 a.m.]

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[Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, informed everyone that the Act 53 material was not part of the official agenda and any further conversation would be withheld today but reserved for a future meeting.]

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Next Board Meeting

Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, noted the next scheduled Board meeting date is June 20.]

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Public Comment

[Danice Blaise, M.D., stated His application for an unrestricted license was provisionally denied and requested information regarding the next step.

Ms. Walter informed Dr. Blaise that he would receive a provisional denial letter in the mail that would include additional information regarding the specific reason the application was provisionally denied.]

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Adjournment

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

I’d be happy to entertain a motion to
adjourn the meeting.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

So moved.

MR. EISENHAUER:

Second.

VICE CHAIR YEALY:

I thank my partners on the Board and everyone else who attended and look forward to seeing everybody in a little over a month.

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[There being no other business, the State Board of Medicine Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.]

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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.

Derek Richmond,
Minute Clerk
Sargent’s Court Reporting Service, Inc.
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