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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: 10:32 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, April 16, 2024

State Board of Medicine
April 16, 2024

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BOARD MEMBERS:

- Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs
- Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair
- 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, Department of Health
- John D. Six, M.D.
- John A. Kutz, M.D., FACS
- Benjamin S. Abella, M.D., MPhil
- Catherine N. Udekwu, M.D.

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

- Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel
- Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel
- Jacqueline A. Wolfgang, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
- Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor and Prosecution Liaison
- Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
- Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
- Kelsey B. Ashworth, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
- Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
- CJ Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
- Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
- Saiyad Ali, Board Administrator
- Carolyn A. DeLaurentis, Esquire, Executive Deputy Chief Counsel, Department of State
- Cynthia K. Montgomery, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel, Counsel Division, Department of State
- Michael McDonald, Policy Director, Department of State
- Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Deputy Policy Director, Department of State
- Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State

State Board of Medicine
April 16, 2024

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ALSO PRESENT:

- Andrea Wandling, Human Resources Manager,
Pennsylvania Association of Community Health
Centers
- Angie Armbrust, Senior Associate, McNees-Winter
Group LLC
- Liliana Fisher, Esquire, CGA Law Firm
- Mary Marshall, Director, Workforce & Professional
Development, The Hospital and Healthsystem
Association of Pennsylvania
- Susan DeSantis, PA-C, Pennsylvania Society of
Physician Assistants
- Wesley J. Rish, Esquire, Rish Law Office, LLC
- Dinno Francis Mendiola, M.D., University of Miami,
Miller School of Medicine
- R. Perry Monastero, Ed.D., Coordinator, The Trevor
Project
- Mitchell Robert Kho, M.D.
- Joseph Henry Yanta, M.D.
- Mangesh Harendra Kanvinde, M.D.
- Christina Edwards
- Ian Weeber, Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.
- Fabian Köninger, M.D.
- Tanya Miller
- Randy Stevens, M.D.
- Tanner Mobley, The Trevor Project

1 State Board of Medicine

2 April 16, 2024

3 ***

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

12 ***

13 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
14 Board of Medicine was held on Tuesday, April 16,
15 2024. Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair,
16 called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

17 ***

18 Acknowledge Public - Turn Off Electronic Devices
19 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, informed
20 everyone that the meeting was being recorded, and
21 those who continued to participate were giving their
22 consent to be recorded. He also requested everyone
23 silence electronic devices.]

24 ***

25 Introduction of Board Members/Attendees

1 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, provided
2 an introduction of Board members and attendees.]

3 ***

4 Approval of minutes of the March 5, 2024 meeting

5 CHAIR WOODLAND:

6 The next item is approval of the
7 minutes. Do I have a motion to
8 approve?

9 DR. KUTZ:

10 So moved.

11 MR. DILLON:

12 Second.

13 CHAIR WOODLAND:

14 Any further discussion. I know the
15 minutes were circulated. I know that
16 people gave feedback, so I appreciate
17 everybody reading them ahead of time.

18 Any further discussion on the
19 minutes? Hearing none. Saiyad, could
20 we have a roll call, please?

21

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

1 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.
2 [The motion carried unanimously.]

3 ***

4 Report of Prosecuting Attorneys

5 [Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Senior Board
6 Prosecutor and Board Prosecution Liaison, presented
7 the VRP Consent Agreements for Case No. 24-49-002785
8 and Case No. 24-49-002952.]

9 MS. WALTER:

10 Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the
11 Sunshine Act, the Board entered into
12 quasi-judicial deliberations at 8:45 a.m.
13 and also received the advice of counsel
14 on the matters that are on the agenda.

15 I believe the Board would entertain
16 a motion to approve the VRP Agreements at
17 items 3 and 4 on the agenda, Case No. 24-
18 49-002785 and Case No. 24-49-002952.

19 DR. KUTZ:

20 So moved.

21 MR. DILLON:

22 Second.

23 CHAIR WOODLAND:

24 Any further discussion on these two
25 items? Hearing none. Saiyad, could we

1 have a roll call, please?

2

3 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
4 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
5 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
6 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
7 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

8 [The motion carried unanimously.]

9

10 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, exited
11 the meeting at 10:41 a.m. for recusal purposes.]

12

13 VICE CHAIR YEALY ASSUMED THE CHAIR

14

15 [Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
16 presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 22-49-
17 007184.]

18 MS. WALTER:

19 I believe the Board would entertain a
20 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
21 at number 5 on the agenda at Case No. 22-
22 49-007184, noting Dr. Woodland is
23 recused.

24 DR. KUTZ:

25 So moved.

1 MR. DILLON:

2 Second.

3 VICE CHAIR YEALY:

4 Any further discussion before we vote?

5 Seeing none. Let's do a roll call

6 vote, please.

7

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

9 Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr.

10 Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.

11 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Abella,

12 aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

13 [The motion carried. Mark Woodland recused himself
14 from deliberations and voting on the motion. The
15 name for number 5 is Mitchell Robert Kho, M.D.]

16 ***

17 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair,
18 reentered the meeting at 10:44 a.m.]

19 ***

20 CHAIR WOODLAND RESUMED THE CHAIR

21 ***

22 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, exited the
23 meeting at 10:44 a.m. for recusal purposes.]

24 ***

25 [Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,

1 presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 24-49-
2 001279.]

3 MS. WALTER:

4 I believe the Board would entertain a
5 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
6 at number 6 on the agenda at Case No. 24-
7 49-001279, noting Dr. Yealy is recused.

8 DR. KUTZ:

9 So moved.

10 MR. DILLON:

11 Second.

12 CHAIR WOODLAND:

13 Any further discussion on this case?
14 Hearing none. Saiyad, could we have
15 the roll call, please?

16
17 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
18 Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye;
19 Mr. Eisenhower, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye;
20 Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr.
21 Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

22 [The motion carried. Donald Yealy recused himself
23 from deliberations and voting on the motion. The
24 name for number 6 is Joseph Henry Yanta, M.D.]

25

1 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, reentered the
2 meeting at 10:47 a.m.]

3 ***

4 [Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
5 presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 24-49-
6 000292.]

7 MS. WALTER:

8 I believe the Board would entertain a
9 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
10 at number 7 at Case No. 24-49-000292.

11 DR. KUTZ:

12 So moved.

13 MR. DILLON:

14 Second.

15 CHAIR WOODLAND:

16 Any further discussion on this item?
17 Hearing and seeing none. Saiyad, could
18 we have a roll call, please?

19
20 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
21 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
22 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
23 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
24 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

25 [The motion carried unanimously. The name for number

1 7 is Mangesh Harendra Kanvinde, M.D.]

2

3 [Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
4 presented the Consent Agreement for Case Nos. 18-49-
5 02823 & 20-49-013895.]

6 MS. WALTER:

7 I believe the Board would entertain a
8 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
9 at number 8 at Case Nos. 18-49-02923 &
10 20-49-013895.

11 DR. KUTZ:

12 So moved.

13 MR. DILLON:

14 Second.

15 CHAIR WOODLAND:

16 Any further discussion on this case?
17 Hearing none. Saiyad, could we have a
18 roll call, please?

19

20 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
21 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
22 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
23 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
24 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

25 [The motion carried unanimously. The name for number

1 8 is Bertram Lee Johnson, M.D.]

2 ***

3 Report of Board Counsel - Final Adjudications for
4 Board Approval

5 MS. WALTER:

6 I believe the Board would entertain a
7 motion to adopt as Final the Draft
8 Adjudication and Order for Danice Blaise,
9 M.D., Case No. 23-49-007946.

10 DR. KUTZ:

11 So moved.

12 MR. DILLON:

13 Second.

14 CHAIR WOODLAND:

15 Any further discussion? Hearing no
16 further discussion. Saiyad, could we
17 have a roll call, please?

18
19 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
20 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
21 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
22 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
23 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

24 [The motion carried unanimously.]

25 ***

1 Report of Board Counsel - Other

2 MS. WUCINSKI:

3 Agenda item 14. I believe the Board
4 would entertain a motion to grant an
5 Unrestricted License to Practice Medicine
6 and Surgery to Akhilesh Reddy, M.D.

7 DR. KUTZ:

8 So moved.

9 MR. DILLON:

10 Second.

11 CHAIR WOODLAND:

12 Any further discussion on this one?
13 The one thing I will note is that the
14 reentry course was well done and very
15 meaningful for us considering this
16 situation. So we really appreciate it.
17 Any other further discussion? Hearing
18 none. Saiyad, could we have a roll
19 call, please?

20
21 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
22 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
23 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
24 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
25 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

1 [The motion carried unanimously.]

2 ***

3 MS. WUCINSKI:

4 Agenda item 15 is tabled to allow Board
5 staff to obtain additional information
6 from Kathryn Shaw, M.D., regarding her
7 completion of reentry.

8 ***

9 Applications for Licensure - Allied Health

10 Professionals

11 MS. WUCINSKI:

12 Agenda items 16 and 17. I believe the
13 Board would entertain a motion to
14 provisionally deny the following
15 Applications to Practice as a Behavior
16 Specialist: Adrianna Bokalo and Emily
17 Owens.

18 DR. KUTZ:

19 So moved.

20 MR. DILLON:

21 Second.

22 CHAIR WOODLAND:

23 Any further discussion on either of
24 these cases? Hearing no discussion.
25 Saiyad, could we have a roll call vote,

1 please?

2

3 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
4 Dr. Yealy, aye or 16 and nay for 17;
5 Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye;
6 Mr. Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye;
7 Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr.
8 Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

9 [The motion carried. Donald Yealy opposed the motion
10 for item 17.]

11

12 MS. WUCINSKI:

13 I believe the Board would entertain a
14 motion to table agenda item 18 to allow
15 Susan Renee Sautner complete a reentry
16 program.

17 DR. KUTZ:

18 So moved.

19 MR. DILLON:

20 Second.

21 CHAIR WOODLAND:

22 Any further discussion on this one? We
23 do have a reentry option for
24 respiratory therapy, which is great.
25 Hearing nothing else. Saiyad, could we

1 have a roll call vote, please?

2

3 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
4 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
5 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
6 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
7 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

8 [The motion carried unanimously.]

9

10 Applications for Licensure - Graduate Medical Trainee

11 MS. WUCINSKI:

12 I believe the Board would entertain a
13 motion to direct L.S., M.D., to enroll in
14 the VRP for a minimum period of one year.

15 DR. KUTZ:

16 So moved.

17 MR. DILLON:

18 Second.

19 CHAIR WOODLAND:

20 Any further discussion on item 19?

21 Hearing none. Saiyad, could we have a
22 roll call vote, please?

23

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

1 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
2 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
3 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously.]

5 ***

6 Applications for Licensure - Unrestricted Physician
7 and Surgeon

8 MS. WUCINSKI:

9 I believe the Board would entertain a
10 motion to table agenda item 20 to invite
11 Isma Ali, M.D., to apply for an
12 Institutional License, noting Dr.
13 Ripchinski is recused.

14 DR. KUTZ:

15 So moved.

16 MR. DILLON:

17 Second.

18 CHAIR WOODLAND:

19 Any further discussion? Hearing none.
20 Saiyad, could we have a roll call vote,
21 please?

22

23 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
24 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Mr.
25 Eisenhauer, aye; Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr.

1 Six, aye; Dr. Kutz, aye; Dr. Abella,
2 aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

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

5 ***

6 MS. WUCINSKI:

7 I believe the Board would entertain a
8 motion to grant the following Licenses to
9 Practice as a Physician and Surgeon:
10 Agenda item 21, Mohammad Dairi, M.D.;
11 agenda item 22, Dane Floberg, M.D.;
12 agenda item 24, Lokesh Khanna, M.D.

13 DR. KUTZ:

14 So moved.

15 MR. DILLON:

16 Second.

17 CHAIR WOODLAND:

18 Any further discussion on any one of
19 them? Hearing none. Saiyad, could we
20 have a roll call vote, please?

21

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

1 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

2 [The motion carried unanimously.]

3 ***

4 MS. WUCINSKI:

5 I believe the Board would entertain a
6 motion to table agenda items 23, 25, 26,
7 and 27 and advise the following
8 Applicants to Apply for an Institutional
9 License: Fnu Jeevika, M.D.; Japinder
10 Khosa, M.D.; Fabian Nikolaus Koeninger,
11 M.D.; Joao Arthur Trein, M.D.

12 DR. KUTZ:

13 So moved.

14 MR. DILLON:

15 Second.

16 CHAIR WOODLAND:

17 Any further discussion on any one of
18 these? Hearing none. Saiyad, could we
19 have a roll call vote, please?

20
21 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
22 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
23 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
24 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
25 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

1 [The motion carried unanimously.]

2 ***

3 Applications for Licensure - Reactivations

4 MS. WUCINSKI:

5 Agenda item 28 is tabled to allow Board
6 staff to obtain additional information
7 from David Bruce Evans, M.D., regarding
8 the Reactivation Application.

9 ***

10 MS. WUCINSKI:

11 I believe the Board would entertain a
12 motion to table agenda item 29 and send a
13 Standard Reentry Letter to Katherine
14 Margo, M.D.

15 DR. KUTZ:

16 So moved.

17 MR. DILLON:

18 Second.

19 CHAIR WOODLAND:

20 Any further discussion? Hearing none.
21 Saiyad, could we have a roll call vote,
22 please?

23

24 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;

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

1 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
2 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
3 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously.]

5 ***

6 Ratifications

7 MS. WUCINSKI:

8 I believe the Board would entertain a
9 motion to Ratify the granting of the
10 following Applications for a License to
11 Practice as a Physician and Surgeon:

12 Omotay Fasan, M.D.; Dinno Francis

13 Mendiola, M.D.; Ivo Petoe, M.D.; Ramak

14 Roohipourmoallai, M.D.

15 DR. KUTZ:

16 So moved.

17 MR. DILLON:

18 Second.

19 CHAIR WOODLAND:

20 Any further discussion on any of these?
21 Hearing none. Saiyad, could we have a
22 roll call vote, please?

23

24 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;

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

1 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
2 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
3 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously.]

5 ***

6 Miscellaneous - Kjerstin Klein Request for
7 Reconsideration

8 MS. WUCINSKI:

9 Agenda item 35. I believe the Board
10 would entertain a motion to deny the
11 Reconsideration Request of Kjerstin Klein
12 regarding her Application to Practice as
13 an Athletic Trainer.

14 DR. KUTZ:

15 So moved.

16 MR. DILLON:

17 Second.

18 CHAIR WOODLAND:

19 Any further discussion on this item?
20 Hearing none. Saiyad, could we have a
21 roll call vote, please?

22

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

1 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
2 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

3 [The motion carried unanimously.]

4 ***

5 Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report
6 [Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel,
7 provided a Regulatory Status Report for the Board's
8 review.

9 Chair Woodland commented that bills are still
10 working their way through the legislative process,
11 such as the telemedicine initiative, Interstate
12 Medical Licensure Compact, and some other bills
13 discussed over the last few years, including the
14 midwifery update bill.

15 Ms. Wucinski addressed House Bill 2178 regarding
16 implicit bias and cultural competence continuing
17 education requirements. She referred to the
18 cosponsorship memoranda noting that the legislation
19 was created to ensure healthcare providers are
20 providing inclusive care.

21 Ms. Wucinski explained that all health-related
22 boards within the Department of State would have to
23 complete implicit bias training as part of each
24 profession's continuing education requirements with
25 the goal to help marginalize communities to feel more

1 connected and supported by providers while healthcare
2 grows, not only to acknowledge but nurture and honor
3 differences among individuals in their health.

4 Ms. Wucinski informed Board members that Ms.
5 Walter and she would reach out to Board members for
6 their position on the bill if the Board were asked to
7 complete a bill analysis.

8 Acting Commissioner Claggett stated Chair
9 Woodland and he met with Representative Cephas to
10 discuss the bill and noted being in full support of
11 requiring folks to take the training.

12 Chair Woodland commented on asking licensees as
13 far as mandatory training but believed explicit bias
14 courses are really pertinent. He mentioned that many
15 institutions have annual mandatory training,
16 including Reading Hospital/Tower Health.

17 Chair Woodland noted it to be part of a larger
18 constellation of what is called the Momnibus
19 movement, where the Black Maternal Health Caucus is
20 putting forth ideas looking at inequities in
21 healthcare to create a more equitable healthcare
22 space.

23 Dr. Yealy noted implicit bias training to be a
24 good idea but also mentioned the importance of
25 keeping track of the total amount that individual

1 practitioners and groups have to go through, whether
2 it is at the Commonwealth level, individual level, or
3 at healthcare systems and facilities. He also
4 mentioned the importance of making sure people
5 practicing through their efforts have the best
6 training and frequency and to be thoughtful of the
7 total overall training burden.

8 Chair Woodland commented that individuals do get
9 education (.edu) fatigue but also noted the
10 importance of raising awareness to bias for the
11 clinical learning environment as a whole.

12 Ms. Walter noted House Bill 2200 requires
13 criminal background checks for state and federal
14 healthcare practitioners under the Bureau of
15 Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA).

16 Chair Woodland asked whether criminal background
17 checks would occur every two years with renewal or
18 only with the initial license.

19 Ms. Walter explained that the background check
20 would occur with initial licensure and not during
21 renewal. She further explained that licensees are
22 required separate and apart from House Bill 2200 to
23 report criminal convictions within 30 days.]

24 ***

25 Report of Board Counsel - BPOA Statement of Policy

1 Against Conversion Therapy

2 [Jacqueline A. Wolfgang, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel,
3 noted the statement of policy sets forth guidelines
4 that should be considered by licensees regarding
5 conversion therapy on minors.

6 Ms. Wolfgang noted the Shapiro Administration and
7 Department of State are strongly committed to
8 protecting the rights and well-being of lesbian, gay,
9 bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning,
10 intersex, asexual/aromantic/agender (LGBTQIA+)
11 Pennsylvanians, especially young members of those
12 communities.

13 Ms. Wolfgang stated Governor Shapiro is calling
14 on the licensing boards to adopt statements of policy
15 clarifying that the practice of conversion therapy
16 may constitute a disciplinable offense.

17 Ms. Wolfgang referred to Executive Order 2022-02,
18 which was adopted by Governor Wolf to protect
19 Pennsylvanians from conversion therapy and supporting
20 LGBTQIA+ Pennsylvanians.

21 Ms. Wolfgang noted Executive Order 2022-02
22 specifically indicates that conversion therapy has
23 been rejected by the scientific, medical, and
24 educational communities, and numerous professional
25 organizations have denounced conversion therapy due

1 to its lack of scientific validation and negative and
2 dangerous impact on the health and well-being of
3 LGBTQIA+ persons and communities, along with the
4 specific harm it causes to the mental health of
5 LGBTQIA+ children.

6 Ms. Wolfgang stated all agencies of the
7 Governor's jurisdictions were directed to protect
8 Pennsylvanians, including children and youth, from
9 conversion therapy under the Executive Order. She
10 noted the Executive Order specifically directs the
11 Department of State to discourage the practice and
12 inform the public of mechanisms to report licensed
13 professionals who cause harm to patients as a result
14 of practicing conversion therapy.

15 Ms. Wolfgang also stated a recent report by a
16 national research and advocacy organization found
17 that conversion therapy is practiced by licensed
18 professionals across the country, including
19 Pennsylvania.

20 Ms. Wolfgang provided information regarding the
21 role of a statement of policy as compared to a
22 regulation. She explained that a statement of policy
23 is a guidance document and basically an announcement
24 to the public of a policy an agency intends to
25 implement in future adjudications. She noted it also

1 serves as a notice to licensees.

2 Ms. Wolfgang explained that any agency applying
3 the statement of policy in a particular situation
4 must be prepared to support the policy as if the
5 statement of policy had never been issued. She
6 mentioned that a statement of policy is not a rule to
7 be used in adjudication or a case. She explained
8 that a regulation establishes a standard of conduct
9 which has a force of law, whereas a statement of
10 policy does not create that binding norm.

11 Ms. Wolfgang explained that the conversion
12 therapy statement of policy provides guidelines that
13 should be considered by licensees to ensure
14 compliance with the practice act and the Board's
15 regulations. She noted the statement of policy
16 explains that being lesbian; gay; bisexual;
17 transgender; queer; questioning; intersex; or asexual
18 is not a disease, disorder, illness, deficiency, or
19 shortcoming.

20 Ms. Wolfgang explained that the statement of
21 policy also announces that a licensee who uses
22 conversion therapy on a minor may be subject to
23 discipline by the Board. She requested the Board
24 adopt the statement of policy.

25 Chair Woodland addressed his experience with

1 conversion therapy as a 16-year-old gay man, noting
2 it to be a very dark moment in his life. He believed
3 conversion therapy set him back a few years as far as
4 general acceptance as an adolescent. He noted the
5 importance of raising awareness and applauded the
6 Governor for bringing it to their attention. He also
7 noted being wholeheartedly in support of the policy
8 statement.

9 Dr. Abella thanked Dr. Woodland for sharing those
10 heartfelt remarks. He noted the importance of having
11 open discussions and applauded the Board for
12 considering the statement of policy.]

13 MS. WUCINSKI:

14 I believe the Board would entertain a
15 motion to approve the statement of policy
16 regarding conversion therapy for 16A-4961
17 and to direct regulatory counsel to take
18 the necessary steps to publish the
19 statement of policy in the *Pennsylvania*
20 *Bulletin*.

21 DR. KUTZ:

22 So moved.

23 MR. DILLON:

24 Second.

25 CHAIR WOODLAND:

1 On the annex and face sheet, my degrees
2 are not listed correctly. Saiyad will
3 have to correct that; otherwise, it's
4 moving forward.

5 Saiyad, could we have a roll call
6 vote, please?

7
8 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Woodland, aye;
9 Dr. Yealy, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr.
10 Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Eisenhauer, aye;
11 Ms. Reddy, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Kutz,
12 aye; Dr. Abella, aye; Dr. Udekwu, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14 ***

15 Report of Department of Health

16 [Sirisha Reddy, Special Assistant, on behalf of Debra
17 L. Bogen, M.D., Department of Health, reported an
18 increase in global and domestic measles cases. She
19 stated the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
20 (CDC) and Pennsylvania Department of Health issued
21 health advisories in March.

22 Ms. Reddy noted the CDC updates the number of
23 measles cases every Friday, and reported 121 measles
24 cases as of April 12, 2024, in 18 jurisdictions,
25 including Pennsylvania. She mentioned that 82% of

1 cases occurred in unvaccinated individuals.

2 Ms. Reddy also reported measles to be highly
3 contagious and transmitted by direct contact with
4 infectious droplets or by airborne spread. She noted
5 the virus can remain infectious in the air and on
6 surfaces for up to 2 hours after an infected person
7 leaves the area, and one person infected with measles
8 can infect 9 out of 10 unvaccinated individuals.

9 Ms. Reddy noted the best defense is to get both
10 doses of the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)
11 vaccination, especially if traveling internationally.

12 Ms. Reddy provided an update concerning
13 congenital syphilis, which is a sexually transmitted
14 disease that occurs when a pregnant individual with
15 syphilis passes the infection on to the baby during
16 pregnancy. She reported an increase in both the
17 state and nationwide due to the large number of
18 pregnant individuals not engaged in prenatal care.

19 Ms. Reddy explained that 65% of reported cases in
20 Pennsylvania were identified in pregnant individuals
21 not engaged in prenatal care. She mentioned that the
22 Department of Health is focused on educational
23 outreach to remind healthcare professionals about the
24 importance of testing patients for syphilis,
25 especially during pregnancy.

1 Ms. Reddy announced that the Department of Health
2 has posted the 2024 Maternal Mortality Review
3 Commission Report on its website. She reported 107
4 identified maternal deaths in 2020, and mental health
5 conditions, including substance abuse, was the
6 leading cause of death. She noted recommendations
7 were also listed in the report.

8 Chair Woodland commented that vaccines work. He
9 stated pregnancy is an unprotected health condition
10 and noted the importance of checking for sexually
11 transmitted diseases.

12 Chair Woodland referred to the 2024 Maternal
13 Mortality Review Commission Report, stating that
14 obstetrical causes related to maternal mortality
15 represents a small portion of maternal mortalities.

16 Chair Woodland mentioned examining the maternal
17 mortality, not only for the antenatal and perinatal
18 period but also for the 12 months after birth, where
19 more mental illness and substance-related issues are
20 being observed. He noted the importance of those
21 issues being reported to the maternal mortality
22 reports.

23 Chair Woodland addressed the importance of
24 postpartum compliance and follow up after giving
25 birth to help identify people at risk for depression,

1 psychiatric disorders, and substance use. He
2 suggested having someone provide the Board with an
3 update on the Maternal Mortality Review Commission
4 Report.]

5 ***

6 Report of Board Chair
7 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair,
8 acknowledged National Health Observances for April,
9 including National Minority Health Month, Alcohol
10 Awareness Month, and National Public Health Week. He
11 stated alcohol substance use disorder is becoming a
12 little more prevalent. He mentioned the importance
13 of bringing alcohol and cannabis use forward,
14 especially since cannabis is now legal for medical
15 use, emphasizing the fact that it can become
16 addictive and problematic.

17 Chair Woodland stated the U.S. Department of
18 Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health
19 celebrates National Minority Health Month as a chance
20 to highlight the importance of improving the health
21 of racial methods in minority communities and
22 reducing health disparities. He mentioned that it
23 builds awareness, encourages access, and explores the
24 importance of the social determinants of health. He
25 noted the origin of National Minority Health Month

1 was the 1915 establishment of National Negro Health
2 Week by Booker T. Washington.

3 Chair Woodland reported that National Minority
4 Health Month received support from the U.S. Congress
5 in 2002 with the concurrent resolution that a
6 National Minority Health and Health Disparities Month
7 should be established to promote educational efforts
8 on health problems currently facing minorities and
9 other populations experiencing health disparities.

10 Chair Woodland stated the resolution encouraged
11 all health organizations and Americans to conduct
12 appropriate programs and activities to promote
13 healthy behavior and care. He provided the website
14 in his report for everyone to review.

15 Chair Woodland noted Alcohol Awareness Month is
16 to help raise awareness for people to understand the
17 health effects of alcohol use and misuse and to
18 encourage everyone to make healthier choices. He
19 mentioned that the National Institute on Alcohol
20 Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) has a variety of
21 evidence-based products for health professionals and
22 community leaders and also provided the website for
23 everyone to review.

24 Chair Woodland noted Public Health Week was April
25 1 through 7 with the opinion this year on protecting,

1 connecting, and thriving. He stated the focus is on
2 the interconnectedness of health and community
3 wellbeing. He noted daily themes were civic
4 engagement, healthy neighborhoods, climate change,
5 new tools and innovations, reproductive and sexual
6 health, emergency preparedness, and future of public
7 health.

8 Chair Woodland addressed new tools and
9 innovations, noting there is a lot being put forward
10 about the use of smart watches and connectivity or
11 healthcare devices in homes. He referred to Dr.
12 Abella's presentation on the importance of
13 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the automated
14 external defibrillator (AED). He asked Dr. Abella
15 and Dr. Yealy to provide a brief update at a future
16 meeting.

17 Chair Woodland stated the future of public health
18 is about teaming up with others to end racism and
19 advocate for community wellbeing to make sure
20 every person has access to support and care.

21 Chair Woodland addressed PA Black Maternal Health
22 Week. He referred to the presentations about the
23 Pennsylvania Omnibus bill, which is a package of
24 legislation that was established in 2018 to
25 addresses maternal mortality issues. He noted it

1 also included the Pennsylvania Maternal Mortality
2 Review Committee. He stated the PA Black Maternal
3 Health Caucus advocates for investments in maternal
4 health and passage of Pennsylvania's Momnibus.

5 Chair Woodland noted Momnibus would provide
6 opportunities to improve maternal healthcare outcomes
7 in Pennsylvania by requiring health insurance and
8 Medicaid to cover home monitoring blood pressure
9 devices for pregnant and postpartum enrollees. He
10 also noted cardiovascular disease is one of the major
11 impacts on maternal health and maternal mortality.

12 Chair Woodland addressed the Pennsylvania Health
13 Equity Summit, where the Department of Health
14 partnered with the Harrisburg University of Science
15 and Technology to address health activities. He
16 referred to maternity equitable care focusing on race
17 and ethnicity and gender inequities. He mentioned
18 pointing out at the Pennsylvania Health Equity Summit
19 maternity is reimbursed at much lower rates than
20 other healthcare interventions, like cardiology and
21 orthopedics. He noted anesthesiologists make more
22 from their impact on maternity care than an
23 obstetrician does for their entire 12 months of care.
24 He commented that the two-day event fostered
25 solutions and raised awareness about health equity in

1 different communities.

2 Ms. Reddy also attended the Pennsylvania Health
3 Equity Summit and offered to share slides with the
4 Board.

5 Chair Woodland informed everyone that the
6 Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Annual
7 Meeting was in Nashville. He noted the theme to be
8 the science of sound decisions. He reported the
9 keynote speaker is Cass Sunstein, who is currently a
10 professor at Harvard and founder and director of the
11 Program on Behavioral Economics and Public Policy.

12 Chair Woodland noted Mr. Dillon is the Board
13 delegate this year and will be participating in their
14 vote. He noted reports on the positions and training
15 recommendations and guidelines, looking at issues
16 that boards address regarding physicians in training,
17 as well as presenting guidelines and recommendations
18 for expediting licenses. He also noted working hard
19 with the Ethics and Professionalism Committee on
20 artificial intelligence (AI) in medicine and
21 professional recommendations and guidelines.

22 Chair Woodland informed everyone that his term is
23 up at the FSMB but would be running for reelection.
24 He highlighted that the Association of American
25 Medical Colleges (AAMC) came out with a recent report

1 about the complexities of the physician supply and
2 demand projections from 2021 to 2036. He noted the
3 summary of key findings is in his report. He noted
4 the shortage is still projected to be there but not
5 as high as projected.

6 Chair Woodland mentioned it not only focused on
7 primary care but also surgical subspecialties,
8 especially where training is changing and cases are
9 going down because of better medical care. He noted
10 references to websites are available in his report.

11 Mr. Dillon noted one of the other topics that is
12 going to be discussed at the federation is
13 investigation of pathways for expediting
14 international medical graduates and whether or not
15 there is a way for the states to collectively find
16 alternate routes for physicians who are trained
17 outside the U.S.

18 Chair Woodland commented on the current system
19 for the evaluation of international medical graduates
20 who do not have training and testing in the
21 traditional pathways, and it will be interesting to
22 see how the recommendations compare to current
23 pathways.]

24 ***

25 Report of Vice Chair

1 [Donald M. Yealy, M.D., Vice Chair, wished Chair
2 Woodland well in the FSMB election. He noted looking
3 forward to learning more about how things are done in
4 other places to continue on the current path or maybe
5 improve the trajectory. He agreed with Chair
6 Woodland as far as having an appropriate structure
7 regarding nontraditional candidates but also
8 appropriate flexibility in understanding the value of
9 individual pathways seeking licensure.

10 Dr. Yealy recognized that maternal mortality does
11 not mean mortality related to gestation and delivery,
12 noting it to be a bigger issue than that. He stated
13 it is an important personal, societal, and
14 interpersonal event when new life is brought into the
15 world. He mentioned that it triggers many wonderful
16 events and maybe a few that deserve attention.

17 Chair Woodland referred to a presentation from
18 one of the nurses at Reading Hospital, whose mother
19 died two months after she was born, noting it to be
20 quite an impactful on a family and the individual who
21 was born by that mother. He offered to have her
22 return to the Board to share her story.

23 Chair Woodland thanked Dr. Yealy for the hope on
24 the election, noting the election is not just for him
25 but the entire Commonwealth and the state of

1 Pennsylvania to keep them in the national spotlight.]

2 ***

3 Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report

4 ***

5 Report of Committee on Health-Related Professionals -
6 No Report

7 ***

8 Report of Committee on Legislation/Policy Development
9 and Review - No Report

10 ***

11 Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications - No
12 Report

13 ***

14 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

15 ***

16 Public Comments

17 [Dinno Francis Mendiola, M.D., University of Miami,
18 Miller School of Medicine, experienced technical
19 difficulties.

20 Acting Commissioner Claggett suggested Dr.
21 Mendiola put his question in chat.

22 Christina Edwards asked whether the Board voted
23 on licensure for a behavior specialist. She also
24 requested a response to her Board appeal.

25 Ms. Walter informed Ms. Edwards that the

1 application was not on the agenda and will be heard
2 by a hearing examiner.

3 Chair Woodland read Dr. Mendiola's question,
4 noting a lot of areas in Pennsylvania lost their
5 Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) and
6 Medically Underserved Area (MUA) status in January
7 2024, and asked whether the Department of Health has
8 updated that status.

9 Ms. Reddy explained that the Department of
10 Health's Primary Care Office is working with
11 the Health Resources and Services
12 Administration (HRSA) on updating that but did not
13 believe results would be available until the fall.]

14

15 For the Board's Information/Discussion - Old

16 Business/New Business - Upcoming 2024 and 2025

17 Meeting Dates

18 [Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG, Chair, referred
19 to the upcoming Board meeting dates available on the
20 Board's agenda. He noted the next Board meeting will
21 again be hybrid on May 21 and welcomed everyone to
22 attend in person.

23 Chair Woodland thanked everyone for their
24 activity on the Board and all of the staff for their
25 contributions.]

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Adjournment

CHAIR WOODLAND:

Motion to adjourn.

DR. KUTZ:

So moved.

MR. DILLON:

Second.

CHAIR WOODLAND:

Take care everybody.

[There being no other business, the State Board of
Medicine Meeting adjourned at 11:44 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.

Ian Weeber

Ian Weeber,
Minute Clerk
Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE
REFERENCE INDEX

April 16, 2024

	TIME	AGENDA
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8	8:45	Executive Session
9	10:30	Return to Open Session
10		
11	10:32	Official Call to Order
12		
13	10:32	Acknowledge Public - Turn Off
14		Electronic Devices
15		
16	10:32	Introduction of Board Members/Attendees
17		
18	10:36	Approval of Minutes
19		
20	10:37	Report of Prosecuting Attorneys
21		
22	10:52	Report of Board Counsel
23		
24	10:54	Applications for Licensure
25		
26	11:02	Ratifications
27		
28	11:03	Miscellaneous
29		
30	11:04	Report of Board Counsel (cont.)
31		
32	11:20	Report of Department of Health
33		
34	11:24	Report of Board Chair
35		
36	11:36	Report of Vice Chair
37		
38	11:40	Public Comment
39		
40	11:43	For the Board's Information/Discussion
41		
42	11:44	Adjournment
43		
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