

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 NURSING

TIME: 9:00 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

September 4, 2025

State Board of Nursing
July 16, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS:

Colby P. Hunsberger, DNP, RN, CNEcl, Chair
Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
Donald H. Bucher, DNP, CRNP, ACNP-BC, FAANP, Vice
Chair
Kathryn L. Capiotis, MSN, BSN, RN
Susan Hellier, PhD, DNP, FNP-BC
Brandy Hershberger, DNP, MSN, RN, CEN
Sue E. Hertzler, LPN
Linda A. Kerns, Esquire, Public Member
David Scher, MPH, MSN, RN, CEN
Tina D. Siegel, LPN

COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEYS AND LEGAL OFFICE STAFF:

Judith Pachter Schulder, Esquire, Board Counsel
Megan E. Castor, Esquire, Board Counsel
Ashley Keefer, Esquire, Board Counsel
Cathy A. Tully, Esquire, Board Counsel
Tiffanie Camarota, Esquire, Board Counsel
David Schertz, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Codi Tucker, Esquire, Board Prosecutor and Board
Prosecution Co-Liaison
T'rese Evancho, Esquire, Board Prosecutor and Board
Prosecution Co-Liaison
Kathryn Bellfy, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Garrett Rine, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Adrianne E. Doll, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Matthew Fogal, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Matthew Sniscak, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Alex Capitello, Legal Analyst, Office of Prosecution
Shemeika Chandler, Legal Assistant, Office of
Prosecution
Dana Archer, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel
Kathleen Mullen, Esquire, Executive Deputy Chief
Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel
Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
Prosecution Division
Nicolas Kahler, Law Clerk

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND BOARD STAFF:

Wendy Miller, MSN, RN, Executive Secretary

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND BOARD STAFF: (Cont.)

Cynthia K. Miller, Board Administrator
Sue Petula, PhD, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, FRE, Nursing
Education Advisor
Kelly Hoffman, MSN, RN, Nursing Education Advisor
Tracy Scheirer, PhD, MSN, RN, CMSRN, CNE, Nursing
Education Advisor
Linda Kmetz, PhD, RN, Nursing Education Advisor
Susan Bolig, MSN, RN, Nursing Practice Advisor
Dulcey Frantz, DNP, RN, RAC-C, Nursing Practice
Advisor
Leslie House, MSN, RN, Nursing Practice Advisor
Andrew LaFratte, Deputy Policy Director, Department
of State
Willow Marsh, Legislative Aide, Department of State
Kevin Knipe, MSW, LSW, CCDP Diplomate, Program
Co-Manager, Professional Health Monitoring Program
Michael Chmielewski, Director, Office of Legislative
Affairs
Danie Bendesky, Special Assistant for Strategic
Initiatives, Pennsylvania Department of State

ALSO PRESENT:

Kathleen Rundquist, MSN, RN, Director, Practical
Nursing Program, Franklin County Career and
Technology Center
Jordan Fuhrman, Government Relations Specialist,
Pennsylvania State Nurses Association
Michelle Davis, LPN, MSN, Director of Nursing,
Lincoln Technical Institute
Denise Vanacore, PhD, ANP-BC, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, Nurse
Practitioner Vice Dean and Professor, School of
Nursing & Health Sciences, Holy Family University
Elizabeth Menschner, DNP, MAS, MSN, RN, NEA-BC,
Executive Director, Pennsylvania Organization of
Nurse Leaders
Lisa Urban, MSN, RN, Director, Practical Nursing
Program, Greater Altoona Career and Technology
Center
Bailey Shafer, RN, LPN, BSN, MSN, Director, Allied
Health Program, Erie County Community College
Sandra Cohen, MSN, CRNP, CNE, Senior Associate Dean,
St. Luke's School of Nursing

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ALSO PRESENT: (Cont.)

P. Daniel Altland, Esquire, Pennsylvania Association
of Nurse Anesthetists
Marcia Landman, MSN-FNP, BSN, RN, Director, Practical
Nursing, United Career Institute
Michelle Borland, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, CN, Vice
President, Director of Nursing, Laurel College of
Technology
Beth Ann Puckett, Director of Nursing, Jersey College
- Jenkintown
Heather Haines, MSN, RN, Director, Practical Nursing
Program, Mifflin County Academy of Science and
Technology
Janet Yontas, BSN, MSN, Director, Practical Nursing
Program, Career Technology Center of Lackawanna
County
Tammy Sanfilippo, MBA, RN, Program Director,
Meadville Medical Center Institute for Healthcare
Professionals
Larissa McDonnell, DNP, RN, CCRN, CCNS, NEA-BC, MSN,
Director of Nursing Professional Development,
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Renee Gaddis, Director, Practical Nursing Program,
Penn Commercial Business/Technical School
Edie Brous, Esquire, Law Offices of Edith Brous
Mindy Guinard, EdD, Interim Director of Nursing &
Health Sciences, Wilson College
Laurie Badzek, LLM, JD, MS, RN, FNAP, FAAN,
Pennsylvania State University College of Nursing
Mary O'Connor, PhD, MSN, RN, Pennsylvania
Organization of Nurse Leaders Legislative
Committee, Professor Emeritus (Retired), PennWest
University
Joseph A. Paletta, Esquire, Paletta Law
Katie Gruber, MSW, CADC, Case Manager, Physicians'
Health Program, PA Medical Society
Aaron Shenck, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic
Association of Career Schools
Stacy Delaney, MSN, RN, Director, Practical Nursing
Program, Delaware County Technical Schools
Cynthia Rish, Rish Law Firm
Wesley Rish, Esquire, Rish Law Firm
Susan Leight, EdD, DNP Program Director, Ross and
Carol Nese College of Nursing, Penn State
University

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ALSO PRESENT: (Cont.)

Francisco Galindo, Assistant Vice President of Public Relations and Stakeholder Engagement, Lincoln Technical Institute

Jaylene Santiago, Public Relations Assistant, Lincoln Tech Institute

Michelle Dabis, Director of Nursing, Lincoln Technical Institute - Allentown

Sue Snyder, MSN, RN, Director of ADN Nursing Program, Westmoreland County Community College

Dr. Paul Currie, Dean, School of Health Professions, Culinary Arts & Hospitality, Westmoreland County Community College

Maria Pfrommer, DNP, CRNP Programs Director, Saint Joseph's University

Talonda Rogers, MSN, RN, Director, Practical Nursing Program, Chester County Intermediate Unit

Melissa Snyder, DEd, FNP, CNE, Dean, School of Nursing and Allied Health, Saint Joseph's University

Valerie Waid, BSN, MBA, RN, Chief Nurse Executive, Meadville Medical Center

Joseph Brett, Research Analyst, Professional Licensure Committee, Pennsylvania House Democratic Caucus, Pennsylvania House of Representatives

Maggie Thompson, Complete Account Executive, Assessment Technologies Institute

Michelle Wallace, EdD, MSN, RN, Sales Nurse Educator, ATI Nursing Education

Donald Dissinger, CRNP, FNPC, PMHNPBC, Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatry, Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

Mary Kay Davis, Western Governor's University

Cody Lavigne, Student, UPMC School of Nursing
Kerry

Irina

Allison Walker, Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.

1 ***

2 State Board of Nursing

3 September 4, 2025

4 ***

5 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
6 Board of Nursing was held on Thursday, September 4,
7 2025. Colby P. Hunsberger, DNP, RN, CNEcl, Chair,
8 called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

9 ***

10 Introduction of Board Members

11 [Colby P. Hunsberger, DNP, RN, CNEcl, Chair,
12 requested an introduction of Board members. A quorum
13 was present. Member David Scher was not present at
14 the commencement of the meeting.]

15 ***

16 Introduction of Board Staff

17 [Wendy Miller, MSN, RN, Executive Secretary, provided
18 an introduction of Board staff.]

19 ***

20 Introduction of Board Counsel

21 [Colby P. Hunsberger, DNP, RN, CNEcl, Chair,
22 requested an introduction of Board Counsel.]

23 ***

24 Introduction of Board Prosecution

25 [Colby P. Hunsberger, DNP, RN, CNEcl, Chair,

1 requested an introduction of Board Prosecutors.]

2 ***

3 Introduction of Attendees

4 [Cynthia K. Miller, Board Administrator, provided an
5 introduction of virtual attendees. In-person
6 attendees introduced themselves.]

7 ***

8 Adoption of Agenda

9 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

10 The Agenda is in front of you. Are
11 there any corrections?

12 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

13 Due to the inadvertent omission of
14 exhibits or transcripts, the following
15 matters are being withdrawn: 43, 52,
16 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, and 69.

17 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

18 Do we have a motion to adopt the Agenda
19 with the corrections?

20 DR. BUCHER:

21 So moved, Bucher.

22 MS. HERTZLER:

23 Second, Hertzler.

24 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

25 All those in favor? Opposed?

1 [The motion carried unanimously.]

2 ***

3 Adoption of Minutes - July 16, 2025

4 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

5 The minutes of the July 16, 2025
6 meeting are before you. Are there any
7 additions or corrections? Hearing
8 none, can I have a motion for approval?

9 MS. HERTZLER:

10 So moved, Hertzler.

11 DR. HERSHBERGER:

12 Second, Hershberger.

13 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

14 All those in favor?

15 [The motion carried unanimously.]

16 ***

17 Report of Prosecutorial Division

18 [Garrett Rine, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented
19 Agenda items, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15. Joseph A.
20 Paletta, Esquire, Paletta Law, was also in attendance
21 for Agenda Item 13].

22 ***

23 [Colby P. Hunsberger, DNP, RN, CNEcl, Chair, noted
24 Agenda items, 2, 3, 4, and 5 were VRP Consent
25 Agreements.]

[Adrianne E. Doll, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
presented Agenda item 6.]

[T'rese Evancho, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented
Agenda items 7 and 70.]

[Member David Scher MPH, MSN, RN, CEN, entered the
meeting at 9:12 a.m.]

[Matthew Fogel, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented
Agenda items 8, 9, 10, 71, and 72. He explained the
mediation process. He also explained the difference
between mediated consent agreements and standard
consent agreements.]

David Schertz, Esquire, Board Prosecutor and
Director of the Office of General Counsel's Mediation
Program, was present to answer questions on the
mediation process. Codi Tucker, Esquire, Board
Prosecutor and Board Prosecution Co-Liaison, also
explained the use of the mediation process.]

[Matthew Sniscak, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
presented Agenda item 16.]

1 Appointment - Shana M. Walter

2 [Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
3 Prosecution Division, provided an introduction of
4 herself and an announcement of her new position at
5 the Commonwealth.]

6 ***

7 Appointment - Westmoreland County Community College's

8 Proposal for a Practical Nursing Diploma Program

9 [Sue Snyder, MSN, RN, Director of Nursing Program,
10 and Dr. Paul Currie, Dean, School of Health
11 Professions, Culinary Arts & Hospitality,
12 Westmoreland County Community College, presented the
13 Board with information regarding the proposed
14 Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program at
15 Westmoreland County Community College (Westmoreland).]

16 She noted Westmoreland was approached two years
17 ago by the McKenna Foundation in Latrobe,
18 Pennsylvania to reestablish the LPN program. The
19 program was discontinued 12 years ago due to a lack
20 of enrollment. She noted the model within nursing
21 has changed, and LPNs now play a vital role in health
22 care teams. The proposed program will be held at
23 Westmoreland's Latrobe Education Center. She
24 anticipated a January 2026 start to the program with
25 an initial class of 16 students.

1 Ms. Snyder stated a job offer has been made for a
2 full-time faculty person. In addition, Westmoreland
3 has interviewed several applicants.

4 Some of the clinicals at the various sites will
5 be for medical, surgical, OB, pediatrics, home health
6 care, behavioral health, and geriatric care. Ms.
7 Snyder added Westmoreland plans on clinical
8 experience ratios of one to eight.

9 Ms. Snyder was asked if the program would use
10 simulation. She reported purchasing a Geriatric Anne
11 manikin from Laerdal. She noted the manikin can be
12 adjusted through skin changes to non-geriatric. She
13 added there will be access to the main campus for a
14 birthing simulation with a birthing mom. There is
15 also a portable newborn manikin which can be brought
16 to the Latrobe campus. She noted the program will
17 use a live actor as a suicidal patient for behavioral
18 health.

19 Chair Hunsberger asked what the current pass rate
20 was with the Associate Degree of Nursing (ADN)
21 program at Westmoreland. Ms. Snyder stated the ADN
22 program has a 96 percent passing rate.

23 When asked if she would remain the director of
24 both programs, Ms. Snyder stated the grant for the
25 program does allow for and will pay for a full-time

1 director for the LPN program. She added the college
2 was hesitant to post for a full-time director until
3 the program was approved. She will remain the
4 interim director of the LPN program until a full-time
5 director can be named.

6 Chair Hunsberger asked if the person Westmoreland
7 had made a job offer to as faculty had experience in
8 practical nursing. Ms. Snyder confirmed the
9 applicant was a practical nurse who now has a
10 master's degree in nursing. The applicant currently
11 teaches at a different college to BSN students so she
12 has experience in education. She has not taught at
13 the LPN level. Ms. Snyder added all faculty has
14 access to NurseTim for resources. Westmoreland has
15 an onboarding process for new faculty which includes
16 training, exam writing, student debriefing, and
17 clinical education. If the applicant takes the
18 position, she would also be assigned a mentor from
19 the ADN program.

20 Ms. Snyder confirmed the curriculum for the
21 program was completed.

22 Ms. Pachter Schulder asked what simulation
23 scenarios would be covered during the eight hours of
24 simulation in Medical/Surgical. Ms. Snyder provided
25 several examples including a diabetic patient, a

1 patient found on the floor, and a GI bleed. She
2 noted there is an intro to simulation which involves
3 students asking questions of a SimMan. She explained
4 the program also has access to Laerdal simulation
5 scenarios. A simulation near the end of the program
6 will involve multiple patients with similar names to
7 add an extra level of complexity to the simulation.

8 Chair Hunsberger inquired if the LPN and RN
9 students would be utilized together for simulation.
10 Ms. Snyder confirmed it was a possibility but was not
11 yet planned. She noted the ADN program involves
12 different programs like radiology, dental,
13 phlebotomy, and surgical tech for their simulations.

14 Chair Hunsberger inquired as to the Micro
15 Computer Concepts course in the planned curriculum.
16 Ms. Snyder stated the course is designed to teach
17 students the basics of computers, but the focus of
18 the course may change going forward. It currently
19 teaches students such topics as how to send an email,
20 how to send an attachment to an email, and how to use
21 Adobe.

22 Dr. Hellier asked if there was an ethics part to
23 the course, particularly related to being
24 professional on social media. Dr. Currie responded
25 there is an ethics portion to the class which is a

1 major argument for keeping the course as part of the
2 overall college curriculum. He noted students may
3 know how to use a phone but may not understand how to
4 use it in a professional setting. He added the
5 course teaches how to type a professional email as
6 well as how to use Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

7 Dr. Hellier pointed out that very distasteful
8 practices were occurring in healthcare setting with
9 phones and photographs. She added that students
10 should be taught at the beginning what not to do.

11 Ms. Snyder stated the ADN program has an entire
12 course, Introduction to the Role of Professional
13 Nurse. Ethics, professionalism and what is
14 appropriate as a licensed professional will all be
15 taught at the beginning of the NPN101 course for the
16 practical nursing program. She added Westmoreland
17 holds nursing students to the same standard that a
18 licensed person is held to for code of conduct.
19 Violations of the code of conduct can lead to
20 dismissal from the program.

21 Ms. Pachter Schulder thanked Ms. Snyder and Dr.
22 Currie for the presentation. She noted a decision
23 would be voted on at the end of the meeting following
24 Executive Session.]

25 ***

1 Regulation Updates

2 [Judith Pachter Schulder, Esquire, Board Counsel,
3 discussed drafting language for regulation 16A-5139,
4 regarding Volunteer Licenses.

5 Ms. Pachter Schulder explained that regulation
6 16A-5146, Opioid Prescription and Education and Organ
7 Donation Education, was reviewed by the Independent
8 Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) on September 18,
9 2025. There were no comments on the regulation by
10 the public or IRRC. However, due to a change to the
11 effective date from immediately to May 1, 2026, to
12 sync implementation with the State Boards of Medicine
13 and Osteopathic Medicine, the regulation cannot
14 simply be deemed approved. IRRC has to vote on the
15 change. The implementation date of May 1, 2026, will
16 also coincide with the new licensure system.

17 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted Regulation 16A-5145,
18 regarding CRNAs, would be discussed at the next Board
19 meeting. She noted the public comments for the
20 regulation had one comment in opposition with the
21 remainder being favorable comments. The Board also
22 received comments from IRRC to review.

23 Ms. Pachter Schulder stated regarding 16A-5150
24 Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNPs)
25 Prescribing and Dispensing, she continues to work on

1 the preamble and regulatory analysis form.

2 Regulation 16A-5151 regarding LPN Pronouncement
3 of Death, the Board received one opposition comment
4 with mostly favorable comments.

5 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted Regulation 16A-5152
6 regarding the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) and
7 indicated that formation of an annex will begin in
8 earnest at the beginning of 2026. There are temporary
9 regulations in place for the NLC until 2027, three
10 years from publication. She noted the Board is
11 waiting to work on the regulation to see what issues
12 arise while NLC applications were being processed.
13 She added the regulation will likely need clearer
14 language regarding background checks and proof of
15 primary state of residence.]

16 ***

17 Pennsylvania Legislative Update - No report

18 ***

19 Report of Chairperson

20 [Colby P. Hunsberger, DNP, RN, CNEcl, Chair, noted
21 due to the change of the October meeting date, the
22 September 4, 2025 meeting would be Linda Kerns last
23 meeting with the Board. He thanked her for her years
24 of service on the State Board of Nursing.]

25 ***

1 Report of Acting Commissioner - No report.

2 ***

3 Report of Committees - Probable Cause

4 [Sue E. Hertzler, LPN, reported that the Probable
5 Cause Committee moved on eight Petitions for
6 Appropriate Relief, 29 Petitions for Mental and
7 Physical Examinations, and no Petitions for Immediate
8 Temporary Suspensions. Chair Hunsberger noted
9 Kathryn Capiotis will be joining the Probable Cause
10 Committee as a replacement for Ms. Kerns.]

11 ***

12 Report of Committees - Application Review

13 [Colby P. Hunsberger, DNP, RN, CNEcl, Chair, reported
14 the committee met several times through email and
15 moved on applications submitted.

16 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted the Board has
17 guidelines on what items Counsel reviews and can act
18 upon without seeking individual determinations from
19 the Board/Application Committee. She asked if the
20 Board would entertain adding the review of the NLC
21 Uniform License Requirements (ULRs). This would
22 allow Counsel to advise applicants that they do not
23 meet the URLs without getting the Board/Application
24 Committee's individual approval. The Board agreed.]

25 ***

1 Report of Committees - Advanced Practice

2 [Donald H. Bucher, DNP, CRNP, ACNP-BC, FAANP, Vice
3 Chair, noted the Committee reviewed opioid education
4 courses to assure that requirements were being met.]

5 ***

6 Report of Committees - Dietitian-Nutritionist

7 [Donald H. Bucher, DNP, CRNP, ACNP-BC, FAANP, Vice
8 Chair, reported the Committee was requested to review
9 in what capacities LDNs should not be working if the
10 LDN has a restricted license when participating in
11 the PHMP Program. The Board currently has practice
12 site restrictions for RN and LPN in the Program. He
13 noted the Committee spoke to several LDNs in various
14 settings. It was concluded that LDNs under a
15 restricted license should not be supervisors.
16 Additional areas where they should not be working is
17 in patient homes, personal care homes, and temporary
18 or travel per diem situations. Hospitals and skilled
19 nursing facilities were seen as good places for LDNs
20 with restricted licenses due to limited access to
21 medications.

22 Ms. Evancho stated her appreciation for the
23 Committee's diligent work. She noted the information
24 would be helpful going forward for VRP Consent
25 Agreements.]

MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

Is someone willing to make a motion to
adopt the practice site restrictions
for monitored practice that were
drafted by Dr. Bucher and Ms. Capiotis?

DR. HERSHBERGER:

So moved, Hershberger.

MS. HERTZLER:

Second, Hertzler.

CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

All those in favor? Opposed?

Abstentions?

[The motion carried unanimously.]

Report of Committees - RN/PN Practice, Education and
Regulation

[It was noted the regulations meeting would occur
later in the Board meeting.]

Report of Board Members Who Attended a Meeting on
Behalf of the Board

[Colby P. Hunsberger, DNP, RN, CNEcl, Chair, reported
several Board members attended the National Council
of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Annual Meeting. He

1 noted a key takeaway was the NCLEX® exam fee, which
2 has not been raised in 25 years, may be increasing
3 soon. Also, the 2026 NCLEX® test plans were approved
4 at the meeting and will be published in December
5 2025. The difficulty rate of NCLEX® is not changing.
6 Chair Hunsberger shared that there is a push for the
7 Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) to become the entry-
8 level degree for advanced practice registered nurses.
9 He added a midwife spoke at the meeting and asked
10 that the Boards not push the DNP for midwives as it
11 would be detrimental to the profession due to the
12 shortage of midwives.]

13 ***

14 Report of Executive Secretary

15 [Wendy J. Miller, MSN, RN, Executive Secretary,
16 reported the October 31st renewal for RNs, CRNPs,
17 CNSs and CRNP Prescriptive Authority is open. She
18 recommended that licensees get their Child Abuse
19 continuing education completed prior to submitting
20 their renewals. She noted the renewal date does not
21 change where a licensee converts a single state
22 license to a multistate license. Chair Hunsberger
23 added he personally converted his single state
24 license to a multistate license in July, but he still
25 had to renew his current RN license the week prior to

1 the meeting.

2 Ms. Miller noted the Practice and Education
3 Advisors are scheduled to attend the September 16,
4 2025 meeting of the Pennsylvania Higher Education
5 Nursing Schools Association. The Nursing Education
6 Advisors are also scheduled to attend the October 17,
7 2025 meeting of the Pennsylvania Association of
8 Practical Nursing Administrators.

9 Ms. Miller noted her attendance at the 2025 NLC
10 Commission and NCSBN Annual Meetings. She noted with
11 the adoption of the new NCLEX® tests at the Annual
12 Meeting, the NCSBN Board of Directors would vote in
13 December on the new test plan with an effective date
14 of April 2026. If the NCSBN Board decides to change
15 the passing standard, it would also go into effect in
16 April 2026. She noted there was interesting
17 discussion at the meeting surrounding AI. She added
18 there were also discussions regarding the regulation
19 of education for advanced practice nurses.

20 Ms. Pachter Schulder asked if there was any
21 discussion regarding the role of the boards in
22 developing AI standards. Ms. Miller stated there was
23 not discussion on the role of the boards at NCSBN.
24 She noted discussion at the EO Summit on how
25 generative AI programs draw references from the

1 internet even if the information is incorrect. She
2 stated while AI can do amazing things, it is
3 important to note caution needs to be applied as AI
4 is still quite limited. She also noted some states
5 are considering and are passing legislation to
6 prohibit the use of the term nurse when the responder
7 is a chatbot. She stated there is concern that
8 people could become confused if they think they are
9 chatting with a nurse when they are really chatting
10 with AI if the program uses the word "nurse" in its
11 title.]

12 ***

13 [The Board recessed from 10:19 a.m. until 10:31 a.m.]

14 ***

15 Committee Meetings - RN/PN Practice, Education &
16 Regulation/Advanced Practice

17 [Judith Pachter Schulder, Esquire, Board Counsel,
18 directed the Board's attention to Regulation 16A-5151
19 regarding LPN Pronouncement of Death. The Board
20 would amend 21.145, the functions of LPNs, to add new
21 subsection (g). It authorizes an LPN to pronounce
22 death if all of the following conditions are met:
23 The LPN has to be employed by a licensed hospice in
24 the direct care of patients of the hospice; the
25 patient is in the care of the licensed hospice; the

1 patient has a valid DNR order; the LPN conducts a
2 focused assessment to identify the cessation of
3 circulatory and respirator functions; and the LPN has
4 to complete three hours of training from the hospice
5 on vital signs, post mortem care, grief and
6 circumstances requiring a coroner's investigation.
7 New subsection (h) would address when an LPN can
8 release a body specifically to a coroner or funeral
9 director after having given notice to the attending
10 physician or CRNP and notifying the family as soon as
11 practicable.

12 In Section 21.146, prohibited acts, new
13 subsection (b) would add a prohibition against
14 determining the cause of the patient's death even if
15 the LPN is legally authorized to pronounce death.

16 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted that the Board
17 received only one public comment to the exposure
18 draft about the focused assessment language. She
19 stated the focused assessment language matches what
20 the Board will have in the Nursing Education
21 requirements. She added that if the Nursing
22 Education Programs regulations, which contain
23 assessment definitions, are not finalized when these
24 regulations are ready to be published, the assessment
25 definitions will be incorporated within this

1 regulation.

2 ***

3 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

4 Does anyone have any questions before I
5 ask if there would be a motion to adopt
6 16A-5151 in proposed form?

7 DR. BUCHER:

8 So moved, Bucher.

9 DR. HERSHBERGER:

10 Second, Hershberger.

11 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

12 All those in favor? Opposed?

13 Abstentions?

14 [The motion carried unanimously.]

15 ***

16 [Judith Pachter Schulder, Esquire, Board Counsel
17 summarized the comments and changes the Board desired
18 to make to the Nursing Education Programs
19 requirements regulations, 16A-5141. She noted the
20 Board received comments stating the proposed
21 regulations would reduce innovation and flexibility,
22 and instead the Board should limit everything to
23 output measures like pass rates and job placements.
24 She added the response from the Board is that it is
25 looking at what makes programs successful, thereby

1 making nursing students successful in school during
2 examination, after graduation, and while in practice.

3 Ms. Pachter Schulder explained there were also
4 concerns about whether the proposed regulations would
5 exacerbate the nursing shortage by setting up
6 additional barriers for licensure, including
7 admission and completion requirements and additional
8 faculty and administrator qualifications. She stated
9 the Board had made changes to a number of sections to
10 address the concerns.

11 Ms. Pachter Schulder explained that Section
12 21.912 would be amended to permit a nursing program
13 to remain on provisional status for two years or the
14 length of the full-time nursing education program,
15 whichever is longer. This change means that even
16 programs that are shorter than two years will have a
17 minimum of two years on provisional status without
18 having to seek an extension from the Board.

19 The Board chose not to amend the additional
20 standards placing a RN, PN, and CRNP program on
21 provisional status in Section 21.915. She pointed
22 out that under subsection (a)(1), if a program does
23 not meet the pass rate standard, the program
24 automatically goes on provisional status. However,
25 if a program does not meet the remaining proposed

1 standards in subsection (a)(2)-(11), then Prosecution
2 has to file an Order to Show cause, and the programs
3 have an opportunity to file an Answer, provide
4 evidence at a formal hearing, and receive an
5 Adjudication and Order with the Board's findings and
6 conclusions that is appealable to Commonwealth Court
7 before the program is actually put on provisional
8 status.

9 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted the next area of
10 concern related to programmatic accreditation. The
11 Board received comments that programmatic
12 accreditation should not occur. The Board looked at
13 the seven justifications in the preamble for Section
14 21.916 and decided institutions should decide on what
15 kind of accreditation there is. Significantly,
16 programmatic accreditation helps with Title IX
17 funding which allows more people to get federal
18 financial aid. Therefore, the Board decided to not
19 make any changes to proposed section 21.916 despite
20 the comments.

21 Proposed Section 21.917 requires controlling
22 institutions to be accredited by an entity approved
23 by the United States Department of Education,
24 approved by the Board, and authorized by the
25 Pennsylvania Department of Education. The

1 institution must grant a generic master's,
2 baccalaureate, or associate degree in professional
3 nursing. She noted there were comments received that
4 stated that there is no difference between an
5 associate degree and an associate degree in
6 specialized technology (AST); however, the
7 Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) confirmed
8 that an AST is not an academic degree like a regular
9 associate's degree. Further PDE opined that an AST
10 does not confer a degree in professional nursing.

11 Ms. Pachter Schulder advised that the Board
12 decided not to amend proposed Section 21.918
13 regarding minimum student requirements despite
14 commentors objections that nursing students should
15 not have to meet the controlling institution's
16 requirements. The Board explained that the
17 controlling institute confers the degree so the
18 student should meet the institution's requirements.

19 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted that the Board had
20 significant prior discussion regarding commencement
21 requirements of math and physical sciences in
22 proposed Section 21.918(a)(1). Commentators insisted
23 that this should not be required for incoming
24 practical nursing students. Owing to the many
25 concerns, the Board determined it would not require

1 incoming students to practical nursing programs to
2 complete two math courses, one in algebra and two
3 science courses with a lab, prior to commencing the
4 program. Rather, the Board amended Section 21.942 by
5 adding in a requirement of a lab for anatomy and
6 physiology in subsection (a)(1)(i), as well as
7 requirement of algebra in the curriculum for both RN
8 and PN programs in subsection (a)(3)(iii). She noted
9 many practical nursing programs commented that this
10 curriculum is already part of their programs, so it
11 was duplicative to make it an admission standard.
12 Because programs already teach this information the
13 number of hours should not have to be increased to
14 comply with this change.

15 Regarding minimum staff requirements in 21.932,
16 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted that based upon comments,
17 the Board decided to amend paragraph (5) to require
18 nursing education programs to have access to support
19 staff even if the support staff is shared within the
20 programs of an institution.

21 Ms. Pachter Schulder remarked that for
22 administrator qualifications in 21.933, the Board
23 discussed at the prior meeting adding an exception to
24 the new requirements for PN and CRNP administrators
25 who are currently approved by the Board. She

1 reviewed the current requirements for approved PN
2 directors. The Board wanted to make sure that
3 current faculty and current directors were not timing
4 out.

5 Chair Hunsberger and Dr. Hershberger discussed
6 possible scenarios in which someone might take a
7 lapse in employment. Dr. Hershberger noted if an
8 administrator had a heart attack, for example, the
9 administrator should be able to return to the current
10 position without needing additional education. The
11 Board discussed that maternity leave, for example, is
12 different than an administrator taking leave to
13 pursue a different job opportunity. The Board
14 debated whether current administrators should be
15 granted an exception under the new regulations.
16 Considerations included if the administrator is
17 making a lateral move, if the administrator is moving
18 to a new program to advance their career but staying
19 in administrator role, and if the administrator
20 should be required to stay in their current role.
21 Ms. Wendy Miller pointed out the Board could look at
22 it from the same perspective as with CRNP licensure
23 by endorsement, where the administrator's education
24 is judged by what was required at the time they
25 completed their program and not by current

1 requirements. The Board also discussed whether to
2 put a time limit on who qualifies for the exception,
3 specifically how long an administrator could leave an
4 administrator role before returning and still falling
5 within the exception.]

6 ***

7 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
8 Professional and Occupational Affairs exited the
9 meeting at 10:54 a.m.]

10 ***

11 [Nursing Education Advisor, Tracy Scheirer, PhD, MSN,
12 RN, CMSRN, CNE, noted researching the current list of
13 PN program directors and learning that there is
14 currently only one administrator of a PA-approved PN
15 program who has a bachelor's degree, and the
16 administrators from the remainder of the PA-approved
17 PN programs are masters prepared. It was noted the
18 new regulations would require at least a masters.
19 Because all but one current PN administrators have a
20 master's degree of some kind, the Board determined
21 that it is not burdensome to require a master's
22 degree.

23 Ms. Pachter Schulder summarized the requirements
24 for CRNP administrators, which include an earned
25 doctorate degree or specific plan for or evidence

1 towards completion of the doctorate degree within
2 five years. Anyone not already approved as a CRNP
3 administrator prior to the effective date will also
4 need a graduate degree in nursing in addition to the
5 doctorate degree within five years.

6 Ms. Pachter Schulder reviewed current and
7 proposed regulations for practical nurse faculty
8 members. The proposed regulations would require
9 faculty not approved by the effective date to either
10 hold a bachelor's degree in nursing at the time the
11 faculty member is approved or obtain at least a
12 bachelor's degree in nursing within five years.

13 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted the Board will be able
14 to determine whether a faculty member falls within
15 the exception or has to complete the education
16 required in the new regulations. She explained that
17 a report can be run showing all of the approved
18 administrators and faculty for RN, PN, and CRNP
19 programs prior to the effective date.

20 Ms. Pachter Schulder explained the regulations
21 setting out the qualifications to be a CRNP faculty
22 member are not as clear as the prelicensure faculty
23 requirements. She noted CRNP faculty need to have a
24 graduate degree from an approved nurse practitioner
25 program in their area of specialization. She noted

1 that the regulations permit classes to be taught by
2 other specialists like medical doctors and CRNAs and
3 that those practitioners would likely not have
4 graduate degrees in nursing. She stated there could
5 be confusion whether medical doctors and CRNAs, for
6 example, qualify as faculty for CRNP programs.

7 Dr. Bucher noted specialists who teach a course
8 in their field are not necessarily faculty within the
9 CRNP school. He added if a pharmacist was teaching a
10 course, the Board would not be the entity approving
11 the pharmacist.

12 Ms. Pachter Schulder stated the regulation
13 language speaks only to qualifications for nurses who
14 teach and does not seem to allow for non-nurses. She
15 proposed copying language from another section which
16 essentially stated the person has a degree matching
17 the course they are teaching.

18 The Board debated what language might be used to
19 describe faculty who are qualified in their field but
20 do not have graduate nursing degrees. The Board
21 discussed creating a definition for qualified
22 faculty.

23 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted taking language for
24 qualified faculty from another section and copying
25 into the Nursing Education Programs regulation will

1 not mean anything as there will still need to be
2 explanations to understand the regulation. She added
3 faculty for clinical courses is a separate issue.

4 Dr. Hellier pointed out the language surrounding
5 clinical courses helps to protect faculty positions,
6 as a program is not permitted to use a bachelor's
7 prepared person to teach a course.

8 Dr. Hershberger asked if the regulation could
9 separate nursing education and non-nursing education.
10 She suggested courses like anatomy and physiology
11 might fall under non-nursing as it usually is not
12 taught by a nurse.

13 Dr. Hellier asked if courses in the CRNP program
14 could be split into core classes and other categories
15 with the core classes being taught by nurses. It was
16 stated the programs are already split into different
17 sections such as graduate core, advanced practice
18 core, and specialty.

19 The Board discussed that the current regulation
20 gives programs flexibility to have experts in other
21 fields teach nurse practitioners, such as a
22 pharmacist teaching advance pharmacology or an
23 ethicist teaching ethics.

24 Dr. Hellier expressed concern if the regulation
25 is made too generic to say any graduate degree,

1 programs may take advantage and start using anyone
2 with a PhD to teach CRNP courses instead of nurse
3 practitioners. She added she thinks there has to be
4 some aspect in the regulations to ensure some classes
5 are taught by nurse practitioners.

6 Chair Hunsberger asked if the language could read
7 "Faculty within a CRNP program who demonstrate
8 evidence of expertise in a particular area who are
9 not licensed as a CRNP may include Pennsylvania a
10 licensed pharmacist with an earned doctorate degree;
11 a medical doctor; doctor of osteopathic medicine;
12 nurse anesthetist with an earned doctorate degree;
13 nurse midwife with an earned master's degree." He
14 added the regulation could list out what courses they
15 would not be allowed to teach. Dr. Hellier stated
16 his list would need to be added to.

17 Dr. Hellier stated there needed to be language
18 about expertise in the area and not just language
19 about a degree to ensure the instructor is qualified
20 in the area being taught. She cited concern as
21 faculty retire and schools are not hiring new faculty
22 due to money concerns. She noted schools may become
23 creative on who can be plugged in to teach a course.

24 Ms. Pachter Schulder directed the Board to the
25 definition for interprofessional faculty which is a

1 faculty member other than a nurse who has specialized
2 knowledge, skills and abilities in the area being
3 taught and holds at least one graduate degree.

4 The Board discussed if in addition to referring
5 to interprofessional faculty, the regulation should
6 also indicate what courses could or could not be
7 taught by the interprofessional faculty member. It
8 was suggested that interprofessional faculty would
9 only be permitted to teach non-clinical courses while
10 clinical courses need to be taught by a nurse
11 practitioner.

12 Ms. Pachter Schulder reviewed possible language
13 for the regulation including clinical versus non-
14 clinical, interprofessional faculty, and different
15 degrees and certifications.]

16 ***

17 [Aaron Shenck, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic
18 Association of Career Schools, requested to give
19 input on Associate in Specialized Technology (AST)
20 degrees related to RNs. He noted that since the last
21 Board meeting, he had dialogue with the Pennsylvania
22 Department of Education (PDE). He added his
23 Association strongly disagrees with the PDE's opinion
24 of the AST being a terminal degree with issues of
25 credit transferability.

1 Mr. Shenck stated through discussions his
2 Association had a potential compromise, to which PDE
3 might agree. The potential compromise would be if
4 the Board allowed ASTs to offer RN programs provided
5 that upon program submittal, the program must
6 demonstrate either articulation agreements in place
7 or demonstrate credit transferability before the
8 program can be approved.

9 Mr. Shenck offered to draft language for the
10 compromise before the next Board meeting to provide
11 to the Board and PDE.

12 Mr. Shenck explained the difference between the
13 two kinds of associate degrees. In the Pennsylvania
14 Code, according to PDE, an academic degree requires
15 66 percent of the program be in the field of study
16 and 33 percent in other academic classes. For ASTs,
17 the degree is occupational rather than academic.
18 State law requires 70 to 80 percent of an AST to be
19 in the field of study with the remaining 20 to 30
20 percent in other areas. He argued having a larger
21 percentage of the curriculum being in the field of
22 study supports the AST degree.

23 Mr. Shenck relayed a number of bordering states
24 to Pennsylvania which allow AST degrees for RN
25 programs. He added Pennsylvania has a nursing

1 shortage and his Association thinks approving ASTs
2 for RNs would help close the shortage.

3 Dr. Bucher asked if the AST degree was for
4 practical nursing or registered nursing. Mr. Shenck
5 confirmed it is currently for LPNs, but they are
6 asking for approval for RN programs.

7 Dr. Bucher also inquired how many states
8 currently allowed ASTs for RN programs. Mr. Shenck
9 did not have exact numbers, but he stated West
10 Virginia, Ohio, and New Jersey were among the states
11 which allow it.

12 Ms. Pachter Schulder stated the number of states
13 had been discussed at the prior meeting and had been
14 thoroughly considered at that time. She noted the
15 new wrinkle in Mr. Shenck's argument was to allow
16 ASTs to offer RN Programs but make a condition of
17 approval the articulation agreement. She explained
18 the Board had two options. One option is to keep the
19 requirement for an academic degree in nursing,
20 thereby precluding ASTs from offering RN education.
21 The second option is to allow ASTs to offer RN
22 education but require articulation agreements.

23 Dr. Bucher stated fundamentally the RN degree
24 should be an academic degree.

25 Mr. Scher agreed with Dr. Bucher. He added as

1 someone who works clinically and teaches
2 academically, the RN skill set requires a combination
3 of both didactic and in practice learning. He added
4 it needs to be academic. Dr. Hellier inquired if
5 diploma schools are considered academic degrees. Ms.
6 Pachter Schulder clarified that diploma schools are
7 specifically authorized by Section 21.51(a)(2) of the
8 Board regulations. Mr. Schenk commented in the
9 hierarchy of credentials, ASTs are generally higher
10 than a diploma program. Ms. Pachter Schulder stated
11 the determination permitting hospital-based programs
12 under diploma programs was made years ago. It was
13 also noted that in order to graduate from a diploma
14 program, the student must have completed their
15 general education courses at colleges or universities
16 as an admission requirement or before graduation.

17 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted that Mr. Scher, Dr.
18 Bucher, and Ms. Capiotis also indicated not being in
19 favor of ASTs for RN programs even with articulation
20 agreements. Chair Hunsberger agreed. He added, if
21 the issue comes before the Board again, it would be
22 beneficial to have a list of schools who currently
23 offer AST RN programs and their NCLEX® pass rates as
24 well as letters from employers.

25 Chair Hunsberger stated that on Mr. Shenck's

1 Association website, there were currently three
2 schools listed which offer nursing. Mr. Shenck
3 stated there were more than three schools. Ms.
4 Pachter Schulder clarified Chair Hunsberger was
5 referring to what was allowed by the West Virginia
6 Board.

7 Ms. Pachter Schulder reiterated the Board's
8 options. She noted if Mr. Shenck returns with
9 information requested by the Board, the Board should
10 consider the information requested.

11 Dr. Hershberger asked Mr. Shenck what the
12 enrollment was for LPN programs in his Association.
13 He replied that as a representative of an Association
14 which represents multiple schools, the enrollment
15 would depend on the school.

16 Ms. Pachter Schulder noted some of the schools
17 represented have been on the Board's provisional list
18 in the past. She added there is no one on the
19 provisional list at the moment, but pass rates are
20 released in October, so it may change.

21 Dr. Bucher reiterated his stance of the RN degree
22 being an academic degree. He noted there were too
23 many "what ifs" in considering articulation
24 agreements as proposed by Mr. Shenck. He added the
25 academic degree sets students up for success in the

1 future if they want to go back to school.

2 Dr. Hershberger agreed with not moving forward
3 with ASTs offering RN education. She added the focus
4 for AST programs should be on providing quality core
5 LPNs for the workforce.

6 Dr. Hellier concurred that ASTs should not be
7 permitted to offer RN education. She noted concern
8 over the number of pathways to be a professional
9 nurse and potentially adding another way to splinter
10 the professional nurse degree.]

11 ***

12 Public Comment - None

13 ***

14 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
15 at 12:20 p.m., the Board entered into Executive
16 Session for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
17 deliberations on the matters on the Agenda under the
18 Report of Board Counsel, the Report of the
19 Prosecutorial Division, and Appointments. The Board
20 returned to Open Session at 1:36 p.m. It was stated
21 Board members who recuse themselves will be noted in
22 the motions.]

23 ***

24 MOTIONS

25 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

1 Is there a motion to adopt the VRP
2 Consent Agreements at Items 2 through
3 5?

4 DR. BUCHER:

5 So moved, Bucher.

6 MS. HERTZLER:

7 Second, Hertzler.

8 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

9 All those in favor? Any opposed?

10 Any abstentions?

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 ***

13 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

14 Is there a motion to adopt the
15 following Consent Agreements for which
16 there are no recusals: 23-51-017550,
17 23-51-011255, 24-51-012269, 24-51-
18 007198, 24-51-014003, 25-51-008038?

19 DR. BUCHER:

20 So moved, Bucher.

21 MS. HERTZLER:

22 Second, Hertzler.

23 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

24 All those in favor? Any opposed? Any
25 abstentions?

1 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondents are
2 Case No. 23-51-017550, Patsy Ann Langford, RN; Case
3 No. 23-51-011255, Eliut Lopez-Enriquez, RN, LPN; Case
4 No. 24-51-012269, Nicholas J. Rossi, RN; Case No. 24-
5 51-007198, Marie M. Kraycar, LPN; Case No. 24-51-
6 014003, Wanaukee Burke, RN; and Case No. 25-51-
7 008038, Katrina Balser, RN.]

8 ***

9 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

10 Is there a motion to adopt the
11 following Consent Agreement in Case No.
12 25-51-000415 for which members Hertzler
13 and Scher are recused?

14 DR. HERSHBERGER:

15 So moved, Hershberger.

16 MS. CAPIOTIS:

17 Second, Capiotis.

18 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

19 All those in favor? Any opposed? Any
20 abstentions?

21 [The motion carried. Ms. Hertzler and Mr. Scher were
22 recused from deliberations and voting on the motion.
23 The Respondent in Case No. 25-51-000415 is Joann Lynn
24 Davis, RN.]

25 ***

1 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

2 Is there a motion to adopt the Consent
3 Agreement in Case No. 24-51-011595 for
4 which members Hertzler and Kerns are
5 recused?

6 DR. HERSHBERGER:

7 So moved, Hershberger.

8 MS. CAPIOTIS:

9 Second, Capiotis.

10 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

11 All those in favor? Opposed?

12 Abstentions?

13 [The motion carried. Ms. Hertzler and Ms. Kerns were
14 recused from deliberations and voting on the motion.
15 The Respondent in Case No. 24-51-011595 is Denise D.
16 Furey, RN, LPN.]

17 ***

18 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

19 Is there a motion to adopt the
20 following Consent Agreements for which
21 members Hertzler, Kerns, and Scher are
22 recused? And that is 24-51-000365, 24-
23 51-016099, 25-51-005266, 25-51-005961,
24 and 25-51-005081.

25 DR. BUCHER:

1 So moved, Bucher.

2 MS. CAPIOTIS:

3 Second, Capiotis.

4 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

5 All those in favor? Any opposed?

6 Abstentions?

7 [The motion carried. Ms. Hertzler, Ms. Kerns, and
8 Mr. Scher were recused from deliberations and voting
9 on the matter. The Respondents are Case No. 25-51-
10 000365, Whitney A. Roque, LPN; Case No. 25-51-016099,
11 Candice Lynn Larkin, LPN; Case No. 25-51-005266,
12 Shannon L. Jones, RN; Case No. 25-51-005961, Pamela
13 Jean Klecha, LPN; and Case No. 25-51-005081, Elsie
14 Enid Rivera, RN.]

15 ***

16 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

17 Is there a motion to reject as too
18 lenient the Consent Agreement in 24-51-
19 016549?

20 DR. BUCHER:

21 So moved, Bucher.

22 MS. CAPIOTIS:

23 Second, Capiotis.

24 CHAIR HUNSBURGER:

25 All those in favor? Opposed?

1 Abstentions?

2 ***

3 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

4 Is there a motion to deny the
5 application of Shanie Hope Yvonne
6 Tarrant-Fryer, Case No. 25-51-003456?

7 MS. CAPIOTIS:

8 So moved, Capiotis.

9 DR. HERSHBERGER:

10 Second, Hershberger.

11 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

12 All those in favor? Opposed?

13 Abstentions?

14 [The motion carried unanimously.]

15 ***

16 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

17 Is there a motion to authorize Counsel
18 to prepare an Adjudication and Order in
19 the matter of Isaias Vargas, CRNP, RN,
20 Case No. 18-51-006337?

21 DR. BUCHER:

22 So moved, Bucher.

23 MS. CAPIOTIS:

24 Second, Capiotis.

25 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

1 All those in favor? Opposed?

2 Abstentions?

3 [The motion carried unanimously.]

4 ***

5 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

6 Is there a motion to deny the Petition
7 for Early Release in VRP 22_37486?

8 MS. CAPIOTIS:

9 So moved, Capiotis.

10 DR. BUCHER:

11 Second, Bucher.

12 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

13 All in favor? Any opposed? Any
14 abstentions?

15 [The motion carried unanimously.]

16 ***

17 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

18 Is there a motion to enter defaults, to
19 deem the facts admitted and authorize
20 Counsel to prepare Adjudications and
21 Orders in the matters of Dawn M.
22 Gardner, LPN, 22-51-004837; Meghan
23 Grace Mullen, RN, 23-51-016296; Abu
24 Bakarr Nabie, LPN, 24-51-008386;
25 Matthew Philip Post, RN, 22-51-010205;

1 Sarah Thanhauser, LPN, 22-51-009561;
2 Brittany Nicole Weidner, RN, 23-51-
3 007891; and Edward C. Shields, 24-51-
4 002880?

5 DR. BUCHER:

6 So moved, Bucher.

7 MS. HERTZLER:

8 Second, Hertzler.

9 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

10 All those in favor? Any opposed?

11 Abstentions?

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13 ***

14 VICE CHAIR BUCHER ASSUMED THE CHAIR.

15 ***

16 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

17 And now in this matter for which Dr.
18 Bucher will assume the Chair as Dr.
19 Hunsberger is recused along with
20 members Hertzler and Kerns, is there a
21 motion to enter a default, to deem the
22 facts admitted and authorize Counsel to
23 prepare an Adjudication and Order in
24 the matter of Lisa Burnsworth-Orawiec,
25 LPN, 23-51-000738?

1 MS. CAPIOTIS:

2 So moved, Capiotis.

3 DR. HERSHBERGER:

4 Second, Hershberger.

5 VICE CHAIR BUCHER:

6 All those in favor? Any opposed?

7 Abstentions?

8 [The motion carried. Dr. Hunsberger, Ms. Hertzler,
9 and Ms. Kerns were recused from deliberations and
10 voting on the matter.]

11 ***

12 CHAIR HUNSBERGER RESUMED THE CHAIR.

13 ***

14 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

15 Is there a motion to enter defaults, to
16 deem the facts admitted and authorize
17 Counsel to prepare Adjudications and
18 Orders in the matters of Judith A.
19 Lunardi, RN, 24-51-002697, and
20 Stephanie Renee Thornton, LPN, 20-51-
21 014232, in which members Hertzler and
22 Kerns are recused?

23 DR. BUCHER:

24 So moved, Bucher.

25 MS. CAPIOTIS:

1 Second, Capiotis.

2 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

3 All those in favor? Opposed?

4 Abstentions?

5 [The motion carried. Ms. Hertzler and Ms. Kerns were
6 recused from deliberations and voting on the matter.]

7 ***

8 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

9 Is there a motion to enter a default,
10 to deem the facts admitted and
11 authorize Counsel to prepare an
12 Adjudication and Order in the matter of
13 Jamie E. Provident, RN, LPN, 25-51-
14 006877, for which members Hertzler and
15 Scher are recused?

16 DR. HERSHBERGER:

17 So moved, Hershberger.

18 MS. CAPIOTIS:

19 Second, Capiotis.

20 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

21 All those in favor? Opposed?

22 Abstentions?

23 [The motion carried. Ms. Hertzler and Mr. Scher were
24 recused from deliberations and voting on the matter.]

25 ***

1 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

2 Is there a motion to adopt the
3 following Hearing Examiner's Proposal
4 for which there are no recusals, Erin
5 Jane Kustron, LPN, 21-51-007849?

6 DR. BUCHER:

7 So moved, Bucher.

8 MS. CAPIOTIS:

9 Second, Capiotis.

10 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

11 All those in favor? Opposed?

12 Abstentions?

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14 ***

15 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

16 Is there a motion to adopt the Hearing
17 Examiner's Proposals and substitute
18 Board Orders in the matters of Sayed
19 Adil, RN, 23-51-014696, and Yodi Yonas
20 Kidane, RN, LPN, 24-51-018330?

21 MS. CAPIOTIS:

22 So moved, Capiotis.

23 DR. HELLIER:

24 Second, Hellier.

1 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

2 All those in favor? Opposed?

3 Abstentions?

4 [The motion carried unanimously.]

5 ***

6 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

7 Is there a motion to adopt the Hearing
8 Examiner's Proposal in the matter of
9 Patricia M. Pedulla, LPN, 24-51-003367,
10 for which members Hertzler, Kerns, and
11 Bucher are recused?

12 MS. CAPIOTIS:

13 So moved, Capiotis.

14 DR. HERSHBERGER:

15 Second, Hershberger.

16 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

17 All those in favor? Opposed?

18 Abstentions?

19 [The motion carried. Ms. Hertzler, Ms. Kerns, and
20 Dr. Bucher were recused from deliberations and voting
21 on the motion.]

22 ***

23 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

24 Is there a motion to authorize Counsel
25 to prepare Adjudications and Orders in

1 the matters of Debra Torrone Kilkenny,
2 RN, 22-51-011688, and Kylie Hoyt
3 Roberts, LPN, 23-51-010769?

4 DR. BUCHER:

5 So moved, Bucher.

6 MS. CAPIOTIS:

7 Second, Capiotis.

8 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

9 All those in favor? Opposed?

10 Abstentions?

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 ***

13 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

14 Is there a motion to adopt the Hearing
15 Examiner's Proposal in the matter of
16 Shimesha M. Cowell, RN, 24-51-010631,
17 for which members Hertzler and Kerns
18 are recused?

19 DR. BUCHER:

20 So moved, Bucher.

21 MS. CAPIOTIS:

22 Second, Capiotis.

23 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

24 All those in favor? Opposed?

25 Abstentions?

1 [The motion carried. Ms. Hertzler and Ms. Kerns were
2 recused from deliberations and voting on the matter.]

3 ***

4 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

5 Is there a motion to adopt the Draft
6 Adjudications and Orders in the matters
7 of Marilyn G. Czopek, RN, 24-51-010709;
8 Patricia Williams Ballah, RN, 24-51-
9 005616; Misty Renee Basham, LPN, 21-51-
10 017044; Mary Jo Bross a/k/a Mary Jo
11 Meyer, RN, 24-51-004100; Maria Montoya,
12 LPN, 24-51-002714; Tilena Moon, LPN,
13 23-51-008632; and Marilouise Pipeling,
14 RN, 22-51-011175.

15 DR. BUCHER:

16 So moved, Bucher.

17 MS. HERTZLER:

18 Second, Hertzler.

19 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

20 All those in favor? Opposed?

21 Abstentions?

22 [The motion carried unanimously.]

23 ***

24 VICE CHAIR BUCHER ASSUMED THE CHAIR.

25 ***

1 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

2 Is there a motion to adopt the Draft
3 Adjudication and Order in the matter of
4 Nancy Marie Keiper, LPN, 23-51-003085,
5 for which members Hunsberger, Hertzler,
6 and Kerns are recused, and therefore,
7 the Chair swings to Dr. Bucher?

8 MS. CAPIOTIS:

9 So moved, Capiotis.

10 DR. HERSHBERGER:

11 Second, Hershberger.

12 VICE CHAIR BUCHER:

13 All those in favor? Opposed?

14 Abstentions?

15 [The motion carried. Dr. Hunsberger, Ms. Hertzler,
16 and Ms. Kerns were recused from deliberations and
17 voting on the matter.]

18 ***

19 CHAIR HUNSBERGER RESUMED THE CHAIR.

20 ***

21 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

22 Is there a motion to approve
23 Westmoreland County Community College's
24 Proposal for a Practical Nursing
25 Diploma Program for which member

1 Hershberger is recused?

2 MS. HERTZLER:

3 So moved, Hertzler.

4 MS. CAPIOTIS:

5 Second, Capiotis.

6 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

7 All those in favor? Opposed?

8 Abstentions?

9 [The motion carried. Dr. Hershberger was recused
10 from deliberations and voting on the matter.]

11 ***

12 VICE CHAIR BUCHER ASSUMED THE CHAIR.

13 ***

14 MS. PACHTER SCHULDER:

15 Now the Chair is swinging back to Dr.
16 Bucher on Meadville Medical Center's
17 request for approval for Tammy
18 Sanfilippo to serve as Interim Program
19 Director of the RN diploma program for
20 which member Hunsberger is recused?

21 Is there a motion to grant the
22 request as a program director because
23 of the emergency nature of the
24 situation of not having a program
25 director, but because Ms. Sanfilippo

1 will not obtain her MSN degree until
2 2027, the length of the interim
3 approval is until December 31, 2025?

4 MS. CAPIOTIS:

5 So moved, Capiotis.

6 DR. HERSHBERGER:

7 Second, Hershberger.

8 VICE CHAIR BUCHER:

9 All those in favor? Opposed?

10 Abstentions?

11 [The motion carried. Dr. Hunsberger was recused from
12 deliberations and voting on the matter.]

13 ***

14 CHAIR HUNSBERGER RESUMED THE CHAIR.

15 ***

16 [Judith Pachter Schulder, Esquire, Board Counsel,
17 mentioned Dr. Hellier had previously inquired as to
18 documenting pass rates for CRNPs. Ms. Wendy Miller
19 confirmed that the Practice Advisors had researched
20 her concern. They determined first-time pass rates
21 are available to programs from all five of the
22 national certification agencies. However, there is
23 not a process set up to allow the Board to receive
24 the results. Ms. Miller stated CRNP pass rates will
25 be added to the Annual Report, and the CRNP programs

1 will have to upload pass rate results they obtain
2 from the national certification organizations as
3 documentation. She noted the Board will need to
4 change the reporting period for CRNPs to conform with
5 the data reported by the certification organizations
6 who send results based on a calendar year. The
7 process will look similar to the process for pre-
8 licensure.]

9 ***

10 Adjournment

11 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

12 Having no further business, can I have
13 a motion to adjourn?

14 MS. CAPIOTIS:

15 Capiotis, so moved.

16 DR. HERSHBERGER:

17 Second.

18 CHAIR HUNSBERGER:

19 All in favor?

20 ***

21 [There being no further business, the State Board of
22 Nursing Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.]

23 ***

24

25

CERTIFICATE

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

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

Allison Walker,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF NURSING
REFERENCE INDEX

September 4, 2025

TIME	AGENDA
9:00	Public Session
9:00	Official Call to Order
9:01	Introduction of Board Members
9:02	Introduction of Attendees
9:05	Adoption of Agenda
9:06	Adoption of Minutes
9:06	Report of Prosecutorial Division
9:33	Appointment - Shana M. Walter, Esquire Deputy Chief Counsel, Prosecution Division
9:37	Appointment - Westmoreland County Community College
9:52	Regulation Update
9:59	Report of Board Chairperson
9:59	Report of Committees
10:08	Report of Board Members
10:09	Report of Executive Secretary
10:19	Recess
10:31	Committee Meetings
12:20	Executive Session
12:39	Return to Open Session
1:36	Motions
1:42	Report of Board Counsel

STATE BOARD OF NURSING
REFERENCE INDEX
(Cont.)
September 4, 2025

TIME	AGENDA
1:55	Adjournment