



# Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P. H., Secretary

## OPEN SESSION MINUTES December 13, 2023, BOARD MEETING

Held at the Maryland Board of Nursing,  
4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215,  
and VIA Conference Call

### Attendance

NAME	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
<b>Board Members</b>			
Gary Hicks, RN	RN Member (Clinician), Board President	X	
Ann Turner, MSN, APRN-CNS, CCRN CCNS	RN Member (Acute Care Nurse), Board Secretary		X
Christine Lechliter, RN	RN Member (Nurse Administrator)	X	
M. Dawne Hayward, RN	RN Member (Delegating Nurse—Supervised Group Living)	X	
Emalie Gibbons – Baker, CNM	RN Member (APRN)	X	
Susan Lyons, NP	RN Member (APRN)		X
Jacqueline J. Hill, Ph.D., RN, CNE	RN Member (Baccalaureate Nursing Educator)	X	
Robin L. Hill., DNP, RN	RN Member (Practical Nursing Educator)	X	
Heather Westerfield, DNP, RN, CNE, CMSRN	RN Member (Associate Degree Nursing Educator)	X	
VACANT	Licensed Nurse Member		
Charlene Harrod-Owuamana, LPN	LPN Member		X
Susan Steinberg	Consumer Member	X	
Audrey Cassidy	Consumer Member	X	

**December 13, 2023, Open Session Minutes**

<b>Board Counsel</b>			
Michael Conti	Assistant Attorney General	<b>X</b>	
Carla Boyd	Assistant Attorney General	<b>X</b>	
Katherine Cummings	Assistant Attorney General	<b>X</b>	
<b>Board Staff</b>			
Rhonda Scott	Executive Director	<b>X</b>	
Camille Forbes-Scott	Deputy Director		
Nikki Brown	Executive Assistant	<b>X</b>	
Lakia Jackson	Paralegal to Board Counsel	<b>X</b>	
Amber Bernal	Manager, Discipline & Compliance Programs Enforcement Division	<b>X</b>	
Michelle Powell	Enforcement Paralegal	<b>X</b>	
Mitzi Fishman	Director of Licensure	<b>X</b>	
Jennay Ghowrwal	Health Policy Analyst	<b>X</b>	
Carolyn Bailey	Manager, Renewals	<b>X</b>	
Monica Mentzer	Manager of Practice	<b>X</b>	
Shelia Green	Education Consultant	<b>X</b>	

**Call to Order:** Mr. Gary Hicks, RN, Board Chair, called the Open Session meeting to Order at 9:09 a.m.

A motion was made to commence Open Session.

Motion: Cassidy  
 Second: Hayward  
 Motion Passed unanimously.

**Board of Nursing Updates:** Rhonda Scott, Executive Director:

- Board’s customer service is improving. Google reviews show that the Board’s overall customer service rating has increased.
- Board anticipates adding 10 new investigator positions.
- Governor’s appointments office has provided updates on filling the new Board member positions.

**Open Session Meeting Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve the transcripts of the Open Session meetings for March 2023 through August 2023 as minutes.

Motion: Gibbons-Baker  
 Second: Lechliter

## December 13, 2023, Open Session Minutes

Motion Passed unanimously.

### **Consent Agenda:**

The following items were included on the Consent Agenda, with a recommendation by the Practice and Education Committee to approve all items.

1. Initial Certified Nursing Assistant Training (CNA) Programs
  - Future Care Cherrywood (CNA/GNA)
  - Future Care Chesapeake (CNA/GNA)
  - Future Care Pineview (CNA/GNA)
  
2. Certified Nursing Assistant Training (CNA) Program Renewals:
  - Allegany College of Maryland (CNA/GNA)
  - Care 'Xpert Academy (CNA/GNA)
  - Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) (CNA/GNA)
  
3. Approval for Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Training Program Faculty:
  - ItWorks-Stefanie Siniscalchi, R257120
  - Future Care Pineview
    - Barbara Coppedge, R205764
    - Carol Marks, R192040
    - Kim Meehan, R136910

A motion was made to approve all items on the Consent Agenda.

Motion: J. Hill  
Second: Lechliter  
Motion Passed unanimously.

### **Education:**

Evolution Health Academy, Miami Gardens, Florida, Associate Degree Registered Nursing and Licensed Practical Nursing programs were presented to the Board, with a recommendation by Board staff and the Practice and Education Committee to find that the programs are not substantially equivalent for the 2022 graduation year.

A motion was made to adopt the recommendations by Board staff and the Practice and Education Committee and find that Evolution Health Academy, Miami Gardens, Florida, Associate Degree Registered Nursing and Licensed Practice Nursing programs are not substantially equivalent for the 2022 graduation year.

Motion: Hayward  
Second: Steinberg

## December 13, 2023, Open Session Minutes

Motion Passed unanimously.

### **Legislative Affairs:**

Draft regulations regarding Licensed Certified Midwives were presented to the Board for review and approval and for submission to the Department/AELR for publication in the Maryland Register.

A motion was made to approve the draft regulations regarding Licensed Certified Midwives and to submit the proposed regulations to the Department/AELR for publication in the Maryland Register.

Motion: Gibbons-Baker  
Second: Steinberg  
Motion Passed unanimously.

### **Direct-Entry Midwifery:**

The following Applications for Renewal of License to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery were presented to the Board, with a recommendation for approval by the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee.

#### 1. Shanna Mastrangelo, LDEM (DEM00004)

A motion was made to approve the renewal application of Shanna Mastrangelo, LDEM (DEM00004).

Motion: R. Hill  
Second: J. Hill  
Motion Passed unanimously.

#### 2. Susan Blaum-DiNatale, LDEM (DEM00010).

A motion was made to approve the renewal application of Susan Blaum-DiNatale, LDEM (DEM00010).

Motion: J. Hill  
Second: Gibbons-Baker  
Motion Passed unanimously.

A revised “Application for Reinstatement of License to Practice Direct Entry Midwifery” was presented to the Board for review and approval, with a recommendation for approval by the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee.

A motion was made to approve the revised “Application for Reinstatement of License to Practice Direct Entry Midwifery.”

## **December 13, 2023, Open Session Minutes**

Motion: Gibbons-Baker  
Second: Hayward  
Motion Passed unanimously.

### **Other Public Business:**

Dr. B. Elias Snyder, Ph.D., NP, ACHPN, appeared before the Board telephonically to request that the Board approve medical acupuncture as within the scope of practice for Nurse Practitioners. President Hicks explained the process to clarify and propose amendments to the Board's existing regulations and invited Dr. Snyder to present any proposed regulatory revisions if he believes there is a gap in existing regulations regarding medical acupuncture.

### **Adjournment of Open Session and Entry into Closed Session:**

President Gary Hicks orally presented the written statement required by the Open Meetings Act to close an open session. **The written statement is attached.**

A motion was made to adjourn the open session and enter closed session, in accordance with the legal authority, and for the reasons, cited in the written statement.

Motion: R. Hill  
Second: J. Hill  
Motion Passed unanimously.

The Open meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m., and a brief recess was held.

### **December 13, 2023, Closed Session Summary**

Closed Session was held from 10:01 a.m. until 3:39 p.m. at 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore MD 21215. The same Board members present for the open session were present for the closed session, except that Ann Turner joined the closed session. Charlene Harrod-Owuamana and Susan Lyons remained absent. The authority for the closed session was Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-305(b)(13) in order to discuss confidential matters involving applicants for licensure/certification that are prohibited from public disclosure pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-303(f), Health Occ. §§ 1-401 *et seq.*, and Gen. Prov. § 4-333. The topics actually discussed were confidential matters involving applicants for licensure/certification.

During the closed session, the Board voted to take the following actions regarding confidential matters involving applicants:

- License two (2) Registered Nurse applicants after review of criminal history;
- Certify eleven (11) Certified Nursing Assistant applicants after review of criminal history;
- Certify nine (9) Certified Medication Technician applicants after review of criminal history;

## **December 13, 2023, Open Session Minutes**

- Certify seven (7) Certified Nursing Assistant applicants with a Public Advisory Letter after review of criminal history;
- Certify one (1) Certified Medication Technician applicant with a Public Advisory Letter after review of criminal history;
- Take no action on a complaint involving one (1) Registered Nurse applicant.

(During the closed session, the Board also performed quasi-judicial and administrative functions that are not subject to the Open Meetings Act and are therefore not summarized above.)

## Script for Closing Open Session

In a moment, I am going to ask if there is a motion to close the open session, but first I am going to walk us through the written statement that is required by the Open Meetings Act to ensure that all Board members agree with its contents.

As documented in the written statement, the statutory authority to close this open session and meet in closed session is General Provisions § 3-305(b)(13), which gives the Board the authority to close an open session “to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular matter or proceeding.” The topics to be discussed during closed session are applications for licensure and/or certification, including evaluation of criminal history record information, reviewing investigative reports and recommendations for disciplinary charges, and other disciplinary matters. The reason for discussing these topics in closed session is to discuss confidential matters that are prohibited from public disclosure by the Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article § 8-303(f), Health Occupations Article § 8-320(a), Health Occupations Article § 1-401 *et seq.*, and General Provisions Article § 4-333. In addition, the Board may also perform quasi-judicial and administrative functions involving disciplinary matters during the closed session.

Is there a motion to close this open session pursuant to the statutory authority and reasons cited in the written statement or any discussion thereof?



MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Presiding Officer's Written Statement for Closing a Meeting  
under the Open Meetings Act (Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-305)

1. **Recorded vote to close the meeting:** Date: 12/13/2023 Time: 9:36 am  
Location: Maryland Board of Nursing, 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD  
Motion to close meeting made by: J. Hill Seconded by R. Hill  
Members in favor: Lechliter, Gibbons-Baker, Hayward, Cassidy, Hicks, & Hill, Gsteinberg,  
Opposed: None Abstaining: None R. Hill,  
Absent: Turner, Owumana, Lyons Wosterfeld

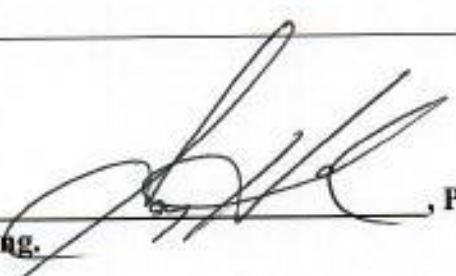
2. **Statutory authority to close session.** This meeting will be closed under Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-305(b) only:

(1)\_\_\_ "To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals"; (2)\_\_\_ "To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business"; (3)\_\_\_ "To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto"; (4)\_\_\_ "To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State"; (5)\_\_\_ "To consider the investment of public funds"; (6)\_\_\_ "To consider the marketing of public securities"; (7)\_\_\_ "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice"; (8)\_\_\_ "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation"; (9)\_\_\_ "To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations"; (10)\_\_\_ "To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans"; (11)\_\_\_ "To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination"; (12)\_\_\_ "To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct"; (13) X "To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter"; (14)\_\_\_ "Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process." (15)\_\_\_ "To discuss cybersecurity, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to: (i) security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; (ii) network security information . . . or (iii) deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices."



3. For each provision checked above, disclosure of the topic to be discussed and the Maryland State Board of Nursing's reason for discussing that topic in closed session.

Citation	Topic	Reason for closed-session discussion of topic
§ 3-305(b) (13)	Applications for licensure and/or certification	To discuss confidential matters prohibited from public disclosure by Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. sections 8-303(f), 8-320(a), 1-401 <i>et seq.</i> and General Provisions section 4-333, including the evaluation of criminal history record information, reviewing investigative reports and recommendations for disciplinary charges, and related disciplinary matters.
§ 3-305(b) ( )		
§ 3-305(b) ( )		

4. This statement is made or adopted by  , Presiding Officer, Maryland State Board of Nursing.

