



Board of Nursing

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

OPEN SESSION MINUTES JANUARY 29, 2025 BOARD MEETING

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

Attendance

NAME	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
Board Members			
Christine Lechlitter, BSN, MBA, NE-BC	RN, Nurse Administrator Member, Board President	X	
Rachel Jordan, DNP, CRNP, FNP-BC, ACHPN	Advanced Practice Member, Board Secretary	X	
Iskra Gillis, MSN, RN, NEA-BC	Licensed Nurse Member, LPN, RN, APRN	X	
Dawne Hayward, RN, CM/DN, CDDN	RN, Delegating Nurse Member	X	
Jacqueline Hill, PhD, RN, CNE	RN, BSN Educator Member	X	
Irene Molina, DrPH, MSN, RN, CCRN-K, CPH	RN, Associate Degree Educator Member	X	
Robin Hill, DNP, RN	RN, Practical Nurse Educator Member	X	
Dawn Pfluger, BSN, RN, CPN, CRRN, CWOCN	Acute Care Nurse Member		X
Ameera Chakravarthy, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, CNE	Advanced Practice Member	X	
Gary N. Hicks, DNP, RN, CEN, CNE	RN Clinician Member	X	
Tyler Adamson, MPH	Consumer Member		X
Board Counsel			

Michael Conti	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Katherine Cummings	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Board Staff			
Rhonda Scott	Executive Director	X	
Dr. Camile Forbes-Scott	Deputy Director	X	
Adrienne Smith	Executive Assistant	X	
Nikki Brown	Manager of Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement	X	
Patrice Burris	Enforcement Division	X	
Carolyn Bailey	Director of Licensure	X	
Monica Mentzer	Manager of Practice	X	
Dr. Elizabeth Miller	Education Consultant	X	
Mitzi Fishman	Director of Legislative Affairs	X	
Audience Members (Not all attendees are documented)			
Tijuana Griffin	Washington Adventist University	X	

Open Session

1. **Call to Order:** Hayward made a motion to go into open session. Molina seconded the Motion. The motion passed unanimously. The open session began at 9:08 a.m.

- A. Roll call and declaration of quorum: A roll call of the Board members was conducted, and a quorum of the Board was present.

- B. Board of Nursing Updates:

1. Introduction of new Board staff to include: the Director of Education, Director of Operations, two non-nurse investigators, an education consultant, and both a fiscal manager and CNA consultant to begin on 2/5/25.
 2. Executive Director Rhonda Scott and Deputy Director Camille Forbes-Scott traveled to Annapolis to testify on behalf of the Board as it relates to proposed legislative bills, including HB 611 (The Sunset Bill), where a discussion took place about the Board transitioning to its fully independent status. Positive feedback was received from the legislators about the transition along with the progress the Board has made over the last year and a half. A transition plan will be created and presented to the Board members.
 3. The Board is still in process of procuring HeadMaster as a second GNA testing vendor. The Board is simultaneously having a weekly meeting with Credentia to address GNA testing concerns and procure a facility for mass testing.

- C. Review of Open Session Minutes: None.

2. **Approval of Consent Agenda:** Jordan made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Hayward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- A. Initial Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Training Program Seeking Board Approval: None.
- B. Renewal of Approved CNA Training Programs: None.
- C. Approval of Faculty for CNA Training Programs: None.
- D. Approval of Change or Addition of Clinical Site for Approved CNA Training Programs: None.

3. Discussion of Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None.

4. Education (Dr. Sheila Green, Education Consultant)

None.

5. Legislative Affairs (Mitzi Fishman, Director of Legislative Affairs)

A. Legislative Updates

- 1. HB 19 cross-filed with SB 216: Health Occupations - Nursing – Loan Repayment, Education, and Sunset Extension (Building Opportunities for Nurses Act of 2025). The committee’s position was a Letter of Support.
- 2. SB 67: Health Occupations Boards – Notation of Veteran Status and Eligibility for Benefits. The committee’s position was a Letter of Information.
- 3. HB 367 cross-filed with SB 72: Health Occupations Boards – English Proficiency Requirements and Licensure by Endorsement for Nursing. The committee’s position was a Letter of Support.
- 4. HB 231: Constitutional Amendment – Fee or Tax Rate Increases – Yea and Nay Vote of General Assembly Required (Taxpayer Disclosure and Protection Act). The committee’s position was a Letter of Concern.
- 5. HB 218 cross-filed with SB 195: Family Law – Child Support. The committee took no position.
- 6. HB 466 cross-filed with SB 277: Health Equality for Service Members Act. The committee’s position was a Letter of Support with Amendments.
- 7. HB 602 cross-filed with SB 407: State Board of Nursing – Advanced Practice Nursing Licensure and Specialty Certification – Reciprocity Discussions (Maryland Border States Advanced Practice Nursing Act). The committee’s position was a Letter of Opposition.
- 8. HB 496: Income Tax – Credits for Nursing Program Preceptors in Area with Health Care Workforce Shortages – Alterations. The committee’s position was a Letter of Support.
 - Molina made a motion to approve the committee’s recommendations except for HB 602. Hayward seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Molina made a motion to approve the recommendation for HB 602. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed. Chakravarthy recused.

6. Direct-Entry Midwives and Electrology (Monica Mentzer, Manager, Practice)

Items 6.A through C have been reviewed for approval by the Electrology Practice Committee with a recommendation from the Committee to the Board to approve.

- A. Request for Approval of Initial Application for Electrology Licensure received by the Board from:
 - 1. Megan Tucker
 - Chakravarthy made a motion to approve the initial application for electrology licensure for Megan Tucker. J. Hill seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Notification to Open an Electrologist Practice Office, received by the Board from Carrie Renner, LE (E01481) with a request to the Board to approve an on-site survey visit by the Electrology Practice Committee licensed electrologist members
 - J. Hill made a motion to approve an on-site survey visit by the Electrology Practice Committee licensed electrologist members for Carrie Renner, LE (E01481). R. Hill seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Request to the Board to utilize the “Maryland Electrolysis Education Center, Inc.” as an alternate approved site for the Board assigned designees to administer the Electrology Clinical Examination to eligible applicants, in addition to utilizing an examiner’s own practice office
 - R. Hill made a motion to approve the utilization of the “Maryland Electrolysis Education Center, Inc” as an alternate approved site to administer the Electrology Clinical Examination. Molina seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Quarterly Reports

The following quarterly reports were provided to the Board:

A.	Education and Examination	None
B.	Certification	Jaray Richardson
C.	Licensure	Carolyn Bailey
D.	Direct Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee	Monica Mentzer
E.	Electrology	Monica Mentzer
F.	Background Review	Della Sanders
G.	Investigations Status Report	Julianne Wynter
H.	Safe Practice Committee	Rosalyn Johnson
I.	Discipline and Compliance Programs (Probation and Discipline)	Amber Havens Bernal Dedra Thompson
J.	Fiscal Management Report	None
K.	Information Technology	Michael Rogers

8. Other

- A. Proposed Delegation of Authority to Approve Forensic Nurse Examiner Education Programs. (Rhonda Scott)
 - Hicks made a motion to approve the delegation of authority to the Board's Executive Director to determine whether a Forensic Nurse Examiner Education program meets the minimum requirements for Board approval. Jordan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Removed from the CNA Advisory Committee position of RN of a Dialysis Facility (Jaray Richardson):
 - 1. Shannon Craig, RN
 - Molina made a motion to rescind the previous vote assigning Shannon Craig, RN as the CNA Advisory Committee position of RN of a Dialysis Facility. R. Hill seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Proposal to Administratively Close Cold Cases (Deb Boyd) - TABLED

Adjournment: President Christine Lechlitter walked through the written statement required by the Open Meetings Act to close an open session. The written statement is attached. At 11:26 a.m., Molina made a motion to close the open session pursuant to the statutory authority and reasons cited in the written statement. Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

January 29, 2025 Closed Session Summary

Closed Session was held from 11:26 a.m. to 3:36 p.m. at 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore MD 21215. The same Board members present for the open session were present for the closed session (unless recused from a particular matter). 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/or Gen. Prov. § 4-333. The topics actually discussed were confidential matters involving applicants for licensure/certification.

The Board voted to take the following actions during closed session:

- Review of applicants who are the subject of a complaint:
 - Take no action on a complaint involving 3 CRNP applicant(s);
 - Issue an Intent to Deny to 2 RN applicant(s);
 - Accept a Consent Order of Denial for 1 RN applicant(s);
 - Charge 1 MT applicant(s);
- Review of applicants with a criminal history:
 - License 3 LPN applicant(s);
 - License 3 RN applicant(s);
 - Certify 5 MT applicant(s);
 - Certify 6 CNA applicant(s);
 - License 2 LPN applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;
 - License 3 RN applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;
 - Certify 1 MT applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;
 - Certify 7 CNA applicant(s) and issue a Public Advisory Letter;

(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.)