

**Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee  
Maryland Board of Nursing  
4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215  
Open Session Committee Meeting Minutes  
April 1, 2022**

NAME	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
<b>Committee Members</b>			
Jessica Watkins	Committee member (consumer) 1 <sup>st</sup> term appointment ended 12/31/2021, Reappointed to 2 <sup>nd</sup> term by the Board on January 26, 2022 Reappointment ends 12/31/2025	X	
Karen Webster	Committee member (LDEM) Appointment ends 12/31/2023	X	
Brittany Coffman, LDEM	Committee member (LDEM) Appointed to the Committee by the Board on January 26, 2022 Appointment (1 <sup>st</sup> term) ends 1/31/2026	X	
Jan Kriebs	Committee member (CNM) Reappointment ends 12/31/2022		X
Roxann Gordon	Committee member (CNM) Appointment ends 12/31/2024	X	
Dr. Monica Buescher, MD	Committee member (MHA Representative) Appointed to the Committee by the Board on January 26, 2022 Appointment (1 <sup>st</sup> term) ends 1/31/2026		X
Vacant (LDEM)	A replacement for Ms. Elizabeth Reiner, LDEM, LDEM position on the Committee by the Board is pending		
<b>Board Staff</b>			
Michael Conti, AAG	Board Counsel		X
Margaret Lankford, AAG	Board Counsel	X	
Monica Mentzer	Manager of Practice, Board Staff	X	
<b>Additional Board Staff</b>			
<b>Guests:</b>			

Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
1. <b>Call to Order</b>	Karen Webster, LDEM (Committee member)	Ms. Karen Webster volunteered to lead the Committee meeting today. There were 4 Committee members present meeting the requirement for a quorum. 1. Ms. Jan Kriebs; 2. Ms. Brittany Coffman; 3. Ms. Karen Webster; and 4. Ms. Jessica Watkins	At 10:07 a.m., a motion was made by Karen Webster and seconded by Jan Kriebs to call the meeting to order. The motion passed; there were none opposed and no abstentions.
2. <b>Minutes – Review and approval of the March 4, 2022 open session meeting minutes</b>	Monica Mentzer, (Board Staff)	The meeting was held by conference call and the call-in information and agenda were posted on the Board’s website.  Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee members with the March 4, 2022 open session minutes for review and discussion.  In discussion, Committee members reviewed the March 4, 2022 open session meeting minutes.  The Committee did not note any changes necessary in its discussion of the March 4, 2022 open session meeting minutes.	A motion was made to accept and approve the March 4, 2022 open session meeting minutes by Jessica Watkins. The motion was seconded by Karen Webster. There was one abstention by Ms. Jan Kriebs, who was not in attendance at the March 4, 2022 Committee meeting. There were none opposed. The motion carried to accept and approve the March 4, 2022 open session minutes.
3. <b>Committee member assignments – discussion regarding election of Committee Chairperson</b>	Margaret Lankford, AAG (Board Counsel)	Ms. Lankford advised the Committee of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, Title 8, Section 8-6c-11(f) provision for a [Committee] <i>Chair; term.</i> – The Committee shall elect a chair from among its members to a 2-year term.	After discussion, a motion was made by Brittany Coffman to elect Karen Webster as chairperson for the Committee. The motion was seconded by Jessica Watkins. There were no abstentions

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	Jan Kriebs, CNM (Committee member)	Ms. Jan Kriebs agreed with the comment from Ms. Watkins that when the Committee last selected a chairperson that the Committee members requested that the chairperson selected should be a licensed direct-entry midwife (LDEM) member of the Committee.	and none opposed. The motion carried to accept and approve the nomination of Karen Webster as Committee chairperson.
Jessica Watkins (Committee consumer member)	Ms. Watkins informed the Committee that she would need to leave the meeting from 10:30 AM for approximately 30 minutes and will return to the Committee meeting.		
Margaret Lankford, AAG (Board Counsel)	Ms. Lankford further advised to the Committee of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, Title 8, Section 8-6c-11(g)(1) The term of a member is 4 years.; 8-6c-11(g)(4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.; 8-6c-11(g)(3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.; and 8-6c-11(g)(5) A member may not served more than two consecutive full terms.		
Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)	Maryland, Health Occupations Article, Title 8, Subtitle 8-6c, Section 8-6c-11(b) <i>Membership.</i> , - specifically, Section 8-6c-11(b)(3)(ii) The Board may request an additional list of qualified individuals from		

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		<p>AIMM if the initial list is determined to be inadequate. The Board requested an additional list of potential candidates be submitted to the Board from the Association of Independent Midwives of Maryland to fill the LDEM position for Ms. Elizabeth Reiner, LDEM.</p> <p>The Board did not provide for an appointment to fill the position for an LDEM to replace Ms. Elizabeth Reiner, LDEM, whose term expired on 12/31/2021 and is no longer eligible to continue as a member of the Committee until the Board appoints a member who is an LDEM to the Committee.</p> <p>Ms. Paige Barocca, LDEM, who has resigned her position as President of AIMM and is interested in being considered as a potential candidate would need to provide an updated resume and additional documentation to the Board President (Mr. Gary Hicks) and Executive Director (Ms. Karen E.B. Evans) for the Board to reconsider her application for a Board appointment to fill the current LDEM vacancy on the Committee.</p>	
<b>4. Review of the currently approved Maryland Annual Data</b>	Karen Webster, LDEM	Ms. Webster led the review and discussion of the current approved document "Annual Data Collection form" that is posted on the	

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<p><b>Collection form and discussion of terms requiring Definitions</b></p>	<p>(Committee Chairperson)</p> <p>Jan Kriebs, CNM (Committee member)</p> <p>Jessica Watkins (Committee,</p>	<p>Maryland Board of Nursing website “Annual Data Collection form” to review and further discuss, as it is critically important to be sure the LDEM completing the Annual Data Collection form is being interpreted the same by all LDEMs completing the form.</p> <p>Ms. Kriebs provided the Committee with historical information regarding past discussion when the form was last updated (2019) and approved by the Board, and suggested that a definition of the term “client” (Question #1) as a patient for whom the LDEM assumed care and who sees the patient at the first “new” OB visit and is intending to deliver in Maryland.</p> <p>If we want only data for Maryland births, the “client” would need to be intending to birth in Maryland and that if the client receiving care by the LDEM is still pregnant and has not yet delivered within the reporting period, that the number of clients in this category should be included in the Annual Data report, as this is a signification point that currently is not included on the currently approved Annual Data Collection form.</p> <p>Ms. Watkins suggested that the information collected annually for this relatively new profession of Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives (LDEMs) in Maryland is used to</p>	<p>After further discussion of question #1 – The Committee members agreed the term “Onset of Care” needs a clear definition of the term “client” (who is considered to be a “client” by definitions) to accurately capture “How many clients did you care for as the primary caregiver?”</p> <p>Ms. Jessica Watkins agreed to send each Committee member a copy of the word document she had in her files for review.</p>

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	<p>consumer member)</p> <p>Jan Kriebs, CNM (Committee member)</p> <p>Brittany Coffman, LDEM (Committee member)</p>	<p>make policy decisions along the road and therefore, it is important to consider these two questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Do we only want data for Maryland births? And</li> <li>2. Do we want data for all of the care provided to clients who seek care by a LDEM?</li> </ol> <p>Ms. Kriebs commented that it is important to capture data for all care being provided by the LDEM in the annual report.</p> <p>Ms. Coffman commented that many clients seek co-care with a LDEM (up to 36 weeks of pregnancy) to be afforded the richness of the benefits of the midwifery model of care. Some clients prefer to have the co-care model and this is common for clients who may have had a preterm birth in the past and need to be in the hospital for the delivery.</p> <p>Ms. Coffman also commented that upon review of the current Annual Data Collection form more definitions are needed and that it is important to consider “What is the (intended) scope of this report”?</p> <p>The Committee members continued their review of each item listed on the Annual Data Collection form beginning with</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer agreed to see if the minutes from prior meetings (if available) held at the time the document was last reviewed and updated to see if the information in the Committee meeting minutes may be helpful to the Committee members.</p> <p>The Committee members will need to bring to the next meeting any further identification of the issues discussed today and to finalize any suggested additions or changes to the currently approved “Annual Data Collection form” for the document to be presented to the Practice and Education Committee for their review and to obtain a recommendation to the Board to consider approval of the suggested changes to the document.</p>

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	Margaret Lankford, AAG (Board Counsel)	<p>number 1 – through number 10 to determine which terms need definitions.</p> <p>Ms. Lankford advised the Committee that the Committee/Board has jurisdiction when an LDEM is providing for care for individuals within the State of Maryland. Ms. Lankford agreed to follow-up in consultation with Mr. Michael Conti, to see if he has any additional information/insight to clarify this the term, and to report this information to the Committee members at the next scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Lankford provided the Committee with a summary of the information reviewed at the March 4, 2022, Committee meeting regarding the remaining items on the Annual Data Collection form, as noted below:</p> <p>Items #2 – 3 on the currently approved Annual Data Collection form did not require any definitions.</p> <p>Items #4 – 7 reasons for transfers were reviewed and discussed by the Committee regarding the addition of the word “primary” reason for the transfer to make it clearer what is the primary reason for the transfer; or the LDEM may choose the option for a clinical reason as necessary for transfer of a client based on the LDEM’s clinical</p>	

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	<p>Jessica Watkins (Committee consumer member)</p>	<p>assessment of the client needing to be transferred.</p> <p>Item #8 – Ms. Jessica Watkins reminded the Committee that the Committee may want to consider clarification to capture data that the LDEM may have provided care to a client during this review period who has not yet delivered a baby during this reporting period.</p> <p>Item #9 – No changes recommended by the Committee for this item and noted it is correct as is with requesting the LDEM provide a brief description for further information for the specific codes identified of any complications resulting in the morbidity or mortality of a mother or neonate (as required in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, Title 8, Subtitle 8-6c, Section 8-6c-10. <i>Reports.</i>, specifically, 8-6c-10(a)(9)).</p> <p>An additional page (page 13 of the Annual Data Collection form) provides a place for the LDEM to have an opportunity to provide any other additional information, as the LDEM believes is necessary, to the Board in their in Annual Data Collection Report.</p>	



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<p><b>5. Reminder to complete Financial Disclosures to the State Ethics Commission</b></p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer reminded the Committee members of their obligation to complete the requirement of submitting their annual financial disclosure forms (for calendar year 2021) to the Maryland State Ethics Commission before the due date of April 30, 2022.</p> <p>Each Committee member should have received an e-mail from the State Ethics Commission to complete the requirement and if there are any questions regarding the information required to be submitted, the Committee member may contact the State Ethics Commission directly for clarification or further assistance.</p>	<p>All Committee members should submit their required 2021 Financial Disclosure Statements to the State Ethics Commission before the due date of April 30, 2022.</p>
<p><b>6. Other – Information needed</b></p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer asked the Committee members to provide notification of the current President of the Association of Independent Midwives of Maryland. It was noted by Ms. Karen Webster that the currently elected President of AIMM is Ms. Nikki (Nicole) Williams, LDEM, and the Vice President of AIMM is Ms. Rachel Cipryk, LDEM.</p>	<p>The Board may request an additional list of qualified individuals from AIMM per Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, Title 8, Subtitle 6C, Section 8-6C-11(b)(3)(ii) <i>The <b>Board</b> may request an additional list of qualified individuals from AIMM if the initial list is determined to be inadequate.</i></p>

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<b>7. Adjournment</b>	Karen Webster, LDEM (Committee Chairperson)	The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 6, 2022.	At 11:01 a.m., a motion was made by Jessica Watkins, to close the open session meeting. The motion was seconded by Jan Kriebs, CNM. The motion to adjourn the open session meeting carried; there were none opposed and no abstentions.