

**Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee  
Maryland Board of Nursing  
4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215  
Open Session Committee Meeting Minutes  
June 3, 2022**

**Approved by Committee at July 1, 2022 Meeting**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Committee Members</b>			
Jessica Watkins	Committee member (Consumer) 1 <sup>st</sup> Term ended 12/31/2021; Reappointed by the Board to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term on 1/26/2022; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term ends 12/31/2025	X	
Karen Webster	Committee member (LDEM) Current Term ends 12/31/2023	X	
Brittany Coffman, LDEM	Committee member (LDEM) Appointed by the Board on 1/26/2022; 1 <sup>st</sup> Term ends 1/31/2026	X	
Jan Kriebs	Committee member (CNM) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term ends 12/31/2022	X	
Roxann Gordon	Committee member (CNM) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term ends 12/31/2024	X	
Dr. Monica Buescher, MD	Committee member (MHA Representative) Appointed by the Board on January 26, 2022; 1 <sup>st</sup> Term ends 1/31/2026		X
Vacant (LDEM)	A replacement for this 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
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	<p>Karen Webster, LDEM (Committee Chairperson)</p> <p>Monica Mentzer, (Board Staff)</p>	<p>Ms. Karen Webster, Chairperson, requested a motion to call the meeting to order.</p> <p>There were 5 Committee members present meeting the requirement for a quorum.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Jan Kriebs;</li> <li>2. Ms. Brittany Coffman;</li> <li>3. Ms. Karen Webster;</li> <li>4. Ms. Jessica Watkins; and</li> <li>5. Roxann Gordon.</li> </ol> <p>The meeting was held via conference call and the call-in information and agenda were posted on the Board's website at least 24 hrs. in advance of the meeting.</p>	<p>At 10:06 a.m., a motion was made by Jan Kriebs and seconded by Jessica Watkins to call the meeting to order. The motion passed unanimously; there were none opposed and no abstentions.</p>
<b>2. Minutes – Review and approval of the April 1, 2022 open session meeting minutes</b>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee members with the April 1, 2022 open session minutes for review and discussion.</p> <p>In discussion, Committee members reviewed the April 1, 2022 open session meeting minutes.</p> <p>The Committee did not note any changes necessary in its discussion of the April 1, 2022 open session meeting minutes.</p>	<p>A motion was made to accept and approve the April 1, 2022 open session meeting minutes, as written and with no changes, by Jan Kriebs. The motion was seconded by Jessica Watkins. The motion passed unanimously; there were no abstentions and none opposed.</p>



Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
<p><b>4. Review of, and discussion of potential changes to the Annual Data Collection Form, required by Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. 8-6C-10</b></p>	<p>Karen Webster, LDEM (Committee Chairperson)</p> <p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p> <p>Margaret Lankford, AAG (Board Counsel)</p>	<p>Ms. Webster led the review and discussion of the current approved document "Annual Data Collection form" that is posted on the Maryland Board of Nursing website.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee members with copies of the minutes from prior Committee meetings held at the time the "Annual Data Collection" form (the "Data Form") was last reviewed and updated (May 2019), as well as the prior version of the document when it was first drafted, for review by the Committee members.</p> <p>Ms. Lankford advised the Committee regarding the most reasonable legal interpretation of the language in Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-6C-10, requiring licensed direct-entry midwives ("LDEMs") to complete the Data Form approved by the Board on an annual basis, specifically as pertains to the scope of the data to be collected by this Data Form. Ms. Lankford advised the Committee that the statute implies that the data to be collected should be regarding any and all care (including initial meeting) provided by a LDEM in Maryland related to pregnant individuals who intend to give birth outside of the hospital setting. Ms. Lankford further advised that the term "onset of care", as</p>	<p>Ms. Jessica Watkins agreed to make the suggested changes, per the Committee's discussion, to the original version of the "Annual Data Collection" form. Ms. Watkins will send each Committee member a copy of the word document with the suggested changes, as discussed at today's Committee meeting.</p> <p>At its next scheduled meeting on July 1, 2022, the Committee will be able to vote on the approval of the final version of the suggested changes to the Data Form.</p> <p>If approved by the Committee, the Data Form will need to be presented to the Board's Practice and Education Committee meeting for its review, before it may be presented to the Board at its next open session meeting (scheduled for July 27, 2022).</p>

Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
	<p data-bbox="579 402 751 581">Brittany Coffman, LDEM (Committee member)</p> <p data-bbox="579 808 751 954">Jan Kriebs, CNM (Committee member)</p>	<p data-bbox="806 220 1388 358">used in Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-6C-10(a)(1), is when any initial intake between the client and the LDEM has occurred.</p> <p data-bbox="806 402 1425 764">Ms. Coffman noted that co-care with a client seeking additional care with a direct-entry midwife happens more often and this makes the Question #1 on the Data Form, based on Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-6C-10(a)(1), tricky to interpret and apply. Ms. Coffman agreed that any care provided by a licensed direct-entry midwife in Maryland should be included as long as the intent is to birth outside of a hospital.</p> <p data-bbox="806 808 1415 1422">Ms. Kriebs provided the Committee with historical information regarding past discussion when the Data Form was last updated and approved by the Board (2019). Ms. Kriebs suggested defining the term "client" in Question #1 on the Data Form as a patient for whom the LDEM assumed care and sees at the first "new" obstetrical visit and who is intending to deliver in an out-of-hospital setting in Maryland. Ms. Kriebs noted that the first visit between the LDEM and patient may occur at 10 to 12 weeks gestation, noting that a client may experience a miscarriage (defined as loss of pregnancy prior to 20 weeks gestation) after the onset of care with a LDEM has been initiated and that all</p>	

Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
	<p>Jessica Watkins (Committee, consumer member)</p>	<p>clients experiencing a miscarriage are not necessarily transferred to another provider for additional care.</p> <p>Ms. Watkins noted that, if this statutorily required Data Form is only supposed to collect data for Maryland births, then the "client" would need to be intending to birth in Maryland. Ms. Watkins further noted that, if the client receiving care by the LDEM is still pregnant and has not yet delivered within the reporting period, then the number of clients in this category should be addressed in Question #8 on the Data Form as this is a significant piece of information that is currently not. Ms. Watkins suggested that the other option is to include language on p. 2 of the Data Form (Information Sheet) to note that the number of clients under care with a LDEM may not have delivered yet during the data collection period (July 1 through June 30 of each year).</p> <p>The Committee members continued their review of each item listed on the Data Form beginning with pg. 2 of the document, including a review of the current Information/Instructions and each individual question to determine the final changes the Committee wants to propose to the Board.</p>	

Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
	Margaret Lankford, AAG (Board Counsel)	<p>Ms. Lankford assisted the Committee by providing a summary of the information reviewed at the April 1, 2022, Committee meeting regarding the remaining items on the Data Form, as noted below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>For Questions # 2-3</b>, the Committee agreed that the terminology in these questions did not require any further definition or clarification.</li> <li>2. <b>For Questions # 4-7</b>, the Committee noted that these questions should only ask for a single, "primary" reason for the transfer, to notify the LDEM completing the form to choose only one of the listed reasons.</li> <li>3. <b>For Question # 8</b>, the Committee is considering adding clarification to this question to account for clients who entered care with the LDEM during the reporting period, but did not complete their pregnancy and deliver yet, per Ms. Watkins previous comments.</li> <li>4. <b>For Question #9</b>, the Committee agreed that the terminology in these questions did not require any further definition or clarification.</li> <li>5. In addition, page 13 of the Form provides a place for the LDEM to have an opportunity to provide any</li> </ol>	

Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
		<p>other additional information, as the LDEM believes is necessary, to the Board in their in Annual Data Collection Report.</p> <p>The final changes to the Data Form that the Committee wishes to propose are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Pg. 2 Instructions:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Cite the statutory provision requiring the Data Form: Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-6C-10;</li> <li>b. Use Bold Font that the Data Form is due on <b>October 1<sup>st</sup></b> of each calendar year;</li> <li>c. Consistently use hyphen to refer to "direct-entry" midwives; and</li> <li>d. Recognize that the data may not fully match because of miscarriages prior to 20 weeks, out-of-state births, or pregnancies continuing beyond the reporting period.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>Question #1:</b> No changes proposed at this time.</li> <li>3. <b>Questions #2-3:</b> No changes proposed at this time.</li> <li>4. <b>Questions #4-7:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Add line to Question # 4 to ask for total number of transfers; and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	



Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
5. Resource article on home births	Jan Kriebs, CNM (Committee member)	<p>b. Add language to indicate that the LDEM should only report a single, primary reason for transfer for each of these questions.</p> <p>5. <b>Question #8:</b> Add a line to ask the LDEM to report the number of clients who had not given birth as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, the end of the reporting period.</p> <p>6. <b>Question #9:</b> No changes proposed at this time.</p> <p>Ms. Kriebs provided and shared with the Committee a journal article on home births titled "Perinatal outcomes of planned home birth after cesarean and planned hospital vaginal birth after cesarean at term gestation in British Columbia, Canada: A retrospective population-based cohort study" (accepted 24 January 2021). The Committee members were provided an opportunity to discuss the findings from the study included in the journal article, as it relates to their practice.</p>	
6. Other	Karen Webster, LDEM (Committee Chairperson)	Ms. Webster asked for an update to when the Board will be able to appoint a licensed direct-entry midwife to fill the current vacancy for Ms. Elizabeth Reiner, LDEM, whose term ended on December 31, 2021.	

Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
	Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)	<p>Ms. Mentzer informed the Committee that appointment to fill the LDEM vacancy on the agenda for the May 25, 2022 open session Board meeting (which was cancelled) and the June 1, 2022 open session Board meeting. However, at the June 1, 2022 meeting, the Board tabled the item until their next open session Board meeting scheduled for June 22, 2022. On behalf of the Committee, Ms. Mentzer will request that the appointment issue be on the agenda for the open session Board meeting scheduled for June 22, 2022.</p>	
	Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)	<p>Ms. Mentzer reminded the Committee members that all Committee Expense Reports for FY 2022 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2022) must be received by the Board no later than June 22, 2022. Ms. Mentzer will provide a few extra copies of the Expense Report forms to the Committee members sent to the Committee members following today's meeting.</p>	<p>All Committee members are required to submit all Expense Forms for FY 2022 as soon as possible and must be received by the Board by June 22, 2022.</p>

Subject	Responsible Party	Action Item/Discussion	Results
7. Adjournment	Karen Webster, LDEM (Committee Chairperson)	The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 1, 2022.	At 11:50 a.m., a motion was made by Jessica Watkins, to close the open session meeting. The motion was seconded by Brittany Coffman, LDEM. The motion to adjourn the open session meeting carried; there were none opposed and no abstentions.