

Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee Open Session meeting minutes for September 6, 2024
 Approved by the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee on October 18, 2024

**Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee
 Maryland Board of Nursing
 4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215**

**Open Session Meeting Minutes
 September 6, 2024**

NAME	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
Committee Members			
Paige Barocca, LDEM	Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife Member 1 st Four-Year Term: June 22, 2022 – December 31, 2025	X	
Tess Brody, LDEM	Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife Member 1 st Four-Year Term: January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026	X	
Brittany Coffman, LDEM	Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife Member 1 st Four-Year Term: January 26, 2022 – December 31, 2025	X	
Dr. Mairi Breen Rothman, CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife Member and Chairperson 1 st Four-Year Term: January 31, 2023 – January 31, 2027	X	
Darcie Tough, CNM, MSN, RN	Certified Nurse Midwife Member – term expires December 31, 2024 (Appointment by the Board 3/27/2024 to fill vacancy Note: Vacancy because prior member resigned. A member appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed. Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-6C-11(g)(4).	X	
Dr. Ann B. Burke, M.D.	Representative of Maryland Hospital Association Member, 1 st Four-Year Term: January 31, 2022 – December 31, 2026 Note: Vacancy because prior member resigned. A member appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed. Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-6C-11(g)(4).	X	
Jessica Watkins	Consumer Member 2 nd Four-Year Term: January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2025	X	
Board Staff			
Monica Mentzer	Manager of Practice, Maryland Board of Nursing	X	
Board Counsel			
Michael Conti, AAG	Assistant Attorney General	X	

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Katherine Cummings	Assistant Attorney General		X
Guests (Members of Public), if Applicable			
Dianna Shu	Maryland Hospital Association		
Caitlin McDonough	Association of Independent Midwives of Maryland, Maryland Families for Safe Births	X	
Lauren Whiteman, MPH, CPH	Director of the Office of Children and Youth with Specific Health Care Needs, Maryland Department of Health, Newborn Screening Follow-Up Program	X	

Agenda Item (Subject)	Responsible Party	Discussion	Results
1. Call to Order	<p>Dr. Ann Burke, MD (Committee member, acting chairperson)</p> <p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p>	<p>Dr. Ann Burke volunteered to lead the meeting on behalf of Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM, Committee Chair, and requested a motion to call the September 6, 2024, Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee Open Session meeting to order.</p> <p>The following Committee members were present at the time the meeting was called to order, sufficient for a quorum:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jessica Watkins; 2. Darcie Tough, CNM; 3. Tess Brody, LDEM; 4. Brittany Coffman, LDEM; 5. Dr. Ann Burke, MD; and 6. Paige Barocca, LDEM. <p>The meeting was held via conference call and the call-in information and</p>	<p>Tess Brody, LDEM, moved and Brittany Coffman, LDEM, seconded the motion to call the September 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. There were none opposed and no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

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<p>2. Review and approval of the July 12, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes</p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p> <p>Dr. Ann Burke, MD (Committee member, acting chairperson)</p>	<p>agenda were posted on the Board’s website at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM, Committee chairperson, joined the Committee meeting after Roll Call occurred.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee with a copy of the July 12, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes for review and discussion.</p> <p>Following the Committee’s review and discussion of the July 12, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes, Dr. Ann Burke, MD, asked for the Committee to vote to approve the July 12, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes as written.</p>	<p>Tess Brody, LDEM, moved and Darcie Tough, CNM, seconded, to approve the July 12, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes as written. There were none opposed and no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

Agenda Item (Subject)	Responsible Party	Discussion	Results
<p>3. Lauren Whiteman, MPH, CPH, Director of the Office of Children and Youth with Specific Health Care Needs at the Maryland Department of Health, Newborn Screening Follow-Up Program, discussion on efforts to improve access to lab courier service for Direct-Entry Midwives</p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p> <p>Lauren Whiteman, MPH, CPH, Director of the Office of Children and Youth with Specific Health Care Needs</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer advised the Committee that Ms. Lauren Whiteman reached out by email to the Committee and is present today to speak to the Committee regarding efforts by the Maryland Department of Health to improve access to courier services for Direct-Entry Midwives, to have newborn screening blood specimens sent to the State lab for processing.</p> <p>Ms. Whiteman described the efforts by the Department of Health for Direct-Entry Midwives to have access to the courier services that pick-up specimens from each local health department and transport the specimens to the State laboratory for processing on Mondays to Fridays to ensure the specimens arrive the same day to the State lab.</p> <p>Ms. Whiteman spoke to the importance of the newborn screening specimens need to arrive within 5 days to avoid any delays with the test results or having to have the specimens that are unsatisfactory repeated by the newborn’s pediatrician, and that a concern</p>	

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	<p>Paige Barocca, LDEM (Committee member)</p>	<p>identified is that the large majority of the newborn screening specimens do not arrive at the State lab for 5-15 days, and that placing the specimens in the U.S. mail can delay the delivery of the specimens for up to 2 weeks.</p> <p>Ms. Whiteman noted that Maryland hospitals are using their own courier services or may use the local health department’s courier services, and the Department of Health is working across the board in an effort to cut down on the delays with newborn screening specimens arriving to the State laboratory for processing. Ms. Whiteman acknowledged the importance of noting the newborn’s pediatrician’s name on the specimen collected whenever possible. The State laboratory reports abnormal results the same lay as it its reported form the lab and the formal report, including routine results, is only released after all of the newborn screening results are finalized.</p> <p>Ms. Barocca spoke to the current process of having the newborn screen specimens collected at the 24-hr. visit</p>	

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<p>4. Annual Data Collection forms received for review and discussion of recommendations to the Committee’s Annual Report to the Board</p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p>	<p>and having the specimens sent by U.S. mail to the State lab. It was noted by the Committee that births occur on the weekends and holidays when the local health departments are not open.</p> <p>The Committee suggested to Ms. Whiteman that the Department of Health consider the possibility of providing for use of Fed Ex or UPS packaging instead of the U.S. mail packaging that is currently provided to deliver the specimens to the State lab in an acceptable and timely manner.</p> <p>The Committee was provided with a copy of each of the Annual Data Collection forms (assigned numbers 1 through 10, with all identifiable information from the submitter removed and each submitted form randomly assigned a number) for review.</p> <p>Each Committee member was assigned an item or items to review the results on each submitted Annual Data Collection form (#1 through #10) and following the review and tabulation of the aggregate data</p>	<p>To follow-up with today’s discussion, Ms. Whiteman agreed she will provide a contact list of the local health departments and information in writing regarding the process for Direct-Entry Midwives to partner with local health departments to access the courier services to Ms. Mentzer to share with the Committee members.</p>

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		<p>reported, to present the results of their review to the Committee.</p> <p>Tess Brody, LDEM – assigned Item #1; Brittany Coffman, LDEM – assigned Items #2 & #3 Paige Barocca, LDEM – assigned Item #4; Jessica Watkins – assigned Item #5; Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM – assigned Items #6 & #7; Dr. Ann Burke, MD – assigned Item #8.</p> <p>Mr. Conti advised the Committee that any necessary clarification of the reported results may have a notation in a footnote to describe the information as it was received and noted on the Annual Data Collection form submitted by the licensed Direct-Entry Midwife.</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer recorded the results of the reported data by each Committee member to be included in the Committee’s FY ’24 Annual Report to the Board.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer agreed to contact the submitters of two of the reviewed Annual Data Collection forms (#5 & #7) to obtain clarification on missing information.</p>
	<p>Michael Conti, AAG (Board Counsel)</p>		
	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee with a copy of the FY ’23 Annual Report to the Board to review the Committee’s recommendations for FY ’23 to the Board.</p>	

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	<p>Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee Chairperson)</p> <p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p>	<p>Review and discussion of the Committee’s FY ’24 recommendations to be included in the Committee’s Annual Report to the Board.</p> <p>Dr. Mairi Rothan, DM, CNM, suggested that Ms. Mentzer send an email to notify and thank the Direct-Entry Midwives who submitted their Annual Data Collection forms received and to the Direct-Entry Midwives who have not yet sent in their Annual Data Collection forms to send the forms in as soon as possible.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer shared the proposed email that she prepared (reviewed and approved by Dr. Forbes-Scott, Deputy Director) to send out to the licensed Direct-Entry Midwives who have not yet sent in the required Annual Data Collection form.</p>	<p>This item was tabled for further review by the Committee at its next scheduled Committee meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer will send out emails today to provide notification to each licensed Direct-Entry Midwife who has not yet submitted their FY ’24 Annual Data Collection form, including a copy of the pdf fillable Annual Data Collection form (also available on the Board’s website at the following link: https://mbon.maryland.gov/Pages/Direct-Entry-Midwife-Forms.aspx) with a request from the Committee that the licensed Direct-Entry Midwife send in the completed Annual Data Collection form as soon as possible and noting that</p>

Agenda Item (Subject)	Responsible Party	Discussion	Results
<p>5. Review of proposed changes to the approved “Information Sheet for an applicant seeking licensure to practice Direct-Entry Midwifery”</p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p> <p>Michael Conti, AAG (Board Counsel)</p> <p>Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee chairperson)</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee with a copy of the proposed changes to the document “Information Sheet for an applicant seeking licensure to practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” for review and discussion.</p> <p>Mr. Conti advised the Committee of the recommended changes to the “Information Sheet for an applicant seeking licensure to practice Direct-Entry Midwifery”, originally proposed by Ms. Carla Boyd, AAG, and prior Board Counsel, Ms. Carla Boyd, and required for consistency with the Board’s other applications and current law.</p> <p>Following the discussion of any necessary and non-substantive minor changes to the “Information Sheet for an applicant seeking licensure to practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” document, Dr. Rothman requested a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the updated “Information Sheet for an applicant seeking</p>	<p>all Annual Data Collection forms are due by October 1.</p> <p>Dr. Ann Burke, MD, moved, and Jessica Watkins seconded to accept and recommend to the Board to approve the updated “Information Sheet for an applicant seeking Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” document. There were none opposed and no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

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<p>6. Public Business</p> <p>7. Adjournment</p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p>	<p>licensure to practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” document.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer advised the Committee that the Practice and Education Committee will also be required to review the updated “Information Sheet for an applicant seeking licensure to practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” and make a recommendation to the Board for approval.</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer will present the updated “Information Sheet for an applicant seeking licensure to practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” to the Practice and Education Committee, scheduled to meet on September 13, 2024, to obtain a recommendation from the Practice and Education Committee to the Board for approval of the updated “Information Sheet for an applicant seeking licensure to practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” document.</p>
	<p>Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee chairperson)</p>	<p>Dr. Rothman asked if any members of the public present at today’s Committee meeting wanted to address the Committee</p>	<p>The public attendees at the September 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting did not have any items to address the Committee.</p>
	<p>Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee chairperson)</p>	<p>Dr. Rothman requested a motion to adjourn the September 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting.</p>	<p>Dr. Ann Burke, MD, moved, and Brittany Coffman, LDEM, seconded the motion to adjourn the September 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting at 11:49 a.m. There were none opposed and no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

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	Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)	The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, <u>October 18, 2024</u> , beginning at 10:00 a.m.	