

Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee Open Session meeting minutes for January 3, 2025
 Approved by the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee on March 7, 2025

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

**Open Session Meeting Minutes
 January 3, 2025**

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). The Board reappointed Ms. Darcie Tough, CNM, to the Committee for a full 4-year term that will expire on December 31, 2028	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	

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Rhonda Scott, Executive Director	Maryland Board of Nursing	X	
Board Counsel			
Michael Conti, AAG	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Katherine Cummings	Assistant Attorney General		X
Guests (Members of Public), if Applicable			

Agenda Item (Subject)	Responsible Party	Discussion	Results
1. Call to Order	Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee member, Chairperson)	Dr Rothman, DM, CNM, and Committee Chairperson called the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee Open Session meeting to order. The following Committee members were present at the time the meeting was called to order, sufficient for a quorum: 1. Tess Brody, LDEM; 2. Dr Ann Burke, MD; 3. Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM; 4. Paige Barocca, LDEM; 5. Darcie Tough, CNM; and 6. Jessica Watkins;	Dr. Rothman, DM, CNM, and Committee Chairperson, called the January 3, 2025, Open Session Committee meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.
	Monica Mentzer (Board staff)	The meeting was held via conference call and the call-in information and agenda were posted on the Board's website at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.	

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<p>2. Board of Nursing updates from Ms. Rhonda Scott, Executive Director</p>	<p>Rhonda Scott, Executive Director, Maryland Board of Nursing</p>	<p>Ms. Rhonda Scott, Executive Director, provided the Committee with updates from the Maryland Board of Nursing, and provided an opportunity for the Committee members to ask any questions regarding the updates.</p> <p>Ms. Scott reported to the Committee that either she or Dr. Camille Forbes-Scott, Deputy Director, would be providing Board updates on a quarterly basis to the Committee and that the Board will be hiring an Administrative Officer I to provide administrative support and assistance to the Practice Department.</p>	<p>.</p>
<p>3. Review and approval of the December 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes</p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p> <p>Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee member, Chairperson)</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee with a copy of the December 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes for review and discussion.</p> <p>Following the Committee’s review and discussion of the December 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes, Dr. Rothman, DM, CNM, asked for a motion to vote to approve the December 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes, as written. Ms. Paige Barocca, LDEM, abstained from the vote as she did not have access to the December 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes.</p>	<p>Tess Brody, LDEM, motioned, and Jessica Watkins seconded, to approve the December 6, 2024, Open Session Committee meeting minutes, as written. There were none opposed and one abstention. The motion passed.</p>

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<p>4. Committee assignments</p> <p>- Review and discussion of Code of Maryland Regulations (“COMAR”), including but not limited to: COMAR 10.64.01.14 Committee Duties., and Md. Code Ann.,</p>	<p>Brittany Coffman, LDEM (Committee member)</p> <p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p> <p>Michael Conti, AAG (Board Counsel)</p>	<p>Brittany Coffman, LDEM, joined the Committee meeting after the Roll Call and December 6, 2024, Open Session Committee minutes were reviewed and approved by the Committee.</p> <p>The Committee members reviewed their scheduled appointment expiration dates and discussed the members whose terms will end on December 31, 2025:</p> <p>Brittany Coffman, LDEM (LDEM member) – eligible for reappointment by the Board to a second term;</p> <p>Paige Barocca, LDEM (LDEM member) – Eligible for reappointment by the Board to a second term; and</p> <p>Jessica Watkins (Consumer member) – Ineligible for another term, will complete her second 4-year term on 12/31/2025.</p> <p>Mr. Conti, AAG, provided the Committee with a review of the Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations, Title 8, Subtitle 8-6C, § 8-6C-11, that speak to the qualifications of the Committee members, appointed by the Board, including § 8-6C-11(b)(3)(ii) and § 8-6C-11(e)(1)-(4).</p> <p>Following the review of the statutory requirements for the consumer member, the Committee</p>	

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<p>Health Occupations , Title 8, § 8-6C-12 Committee Powers and Duties</p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p>	<p>discussed the consumer member qualifications, pursuant to Md. Ann. Code, Health Occupations, § 8-6C-11(e)(1)-(4).</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer requested the Committee review Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations , Title 8, § 8-6C-12 Committee Powers and Duties., including § 8-6C-12(5) and § 8-6C-12(7).</p>	<p>The Committee members will attempt to seek potential candidates for a member of the public who meets the criteria for the consumer member. If interested, a potential candidate for the consumer member may submit a letter of interest to the Board regarding the Board’s consideration for a Board-appointed position on the Committee appointment to replace Ms. Jessica Watkins, who will be completing her reappointment to a second full 4-year term as the consumer member on the Committee on December 31, 2025.</p>

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	<p>Michael Conti, AAG (Board Counsel)</p> <p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p> <p>Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee)</p>	<p>Mr. Conti, AAG, explained the process for the review of all regulatory proposals, including the review of proposed regulations by the Board of Nursing, Department of Health approval, and the AELR Committee (Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, & Legislature Review), as the authoritative Committee that reviews all regulation proposals. There is a 30-day comment period that provides an opportunity for the public to comment on any regulatory proposals.</p> <p>Mr. Conti suggested to the Committee that the Committee schedule a time to go through each section of the Nurse Practice Act, COMAR 10.64.01 “Practice of Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives” to determine if the Committee has any recommendations to the Board to amend the current regulations.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee members with instructions on how to access the Maryland Nurse Practice Act and Maryland Board of Nursing, Code of Maryland Regulations, from the Maryland Board of Nursing website.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the idea of having a sub-Committee to begin the review process of COMAR 10.64.01. Dr. Rothman, DM, CNM, asked if there were any Committee members who would agree to work with her on the sub-</p>	<p>A sub-Committee, consisting of three Committee members: Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM; Paige Barocca,</p>

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<p>5. Quarterly Report to the Board for the 2nd Quarter FY '25 (October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024)</p>	<p>member, Chairperson)</p>	<p>Committee. Ms. Paige Barocca, LDEM, and Ms. Brittany Coffman, LDEM, volunteered to work with Dr. Rothman to form a sub-Committee to review COMAR 10.64.01. The sub-Committee will provide a report to the Committee at a future scheduled Committee and the topic will be placed on the Committee Open Session meeting agenda.</p>	<p>LDEM; and Brittany Coffman. LDEM; will review the current COMAR regulations for any proposed amendments to the current regulations and will share the information with the Committee at a future Open Session Committee meeting.</p>
	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee with a copy of the proposed Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee, Quarterly Report to the Board, for the 2nd Quarter FY '25, for review and discussion.</p>	
	<p>Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee member, Chairperson)</p>	<p>Following a review of the Quarterly Report, Ms. Rothman requested the Committee vote to approve the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee, Quarterly Report to the Board, for the 2nd Quarter FY '25, with minor typographical changes as discussed. to be presented by Ms. Mentzer, to the Board at its January 29, 2025, Open Session Board meeting.</p>	<p>Darcie Tough, CNM, moved, and Dr. Ann Burke, MD, seconded the motion to approve the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee, Quarterly Report to the Board, for the 2nd Quarter FY '25, with minor changes as discussed. There were none opposed and no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.</p>

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6. Public Business	Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee member, Chairperson)	Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM, asked if any members of the public present at today's Committee meeting wanted to address the Committee	<p>Ms. Mentzer will make the changes to the document reviewed by the Committee and will present the Quarterly Report to the Board, for the 2nd Quarter FY '25, to the Board on January 29, 2025, at the Board's Open Session Board meeting.</p> <p>There were no members from the public in attendance on January 3, 2025, to present any items to the Committee.</p>
7. Adjournment	Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM (Committee member, Chairperson)	Dr. Mairi Rothman, DM, CNM, requested a motion to adjourn the January 3, 2025, Open Session Committee meeting.	Brittany Coffman, LDEM, moved, and Tess Brody, LDEM, seconded, to adjourn the January 3, 2025, Open Session Committee meeting at 11:17 a.m. There were none opposed and no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.

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	Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)	The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 7, 2025, beginning at 10:00 a.m.	