

BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS

OPEN SESSION MEETING VIA GOOGLE MEETS

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

January 12, 2023

Location: Google Meet meet.google.com/gdv-pqui-ywy

Join by phone: (US) +1 484-424-4697 PIN: 251509781

The Public Meeting commenced at 1:03pm, opened by the Board President, Dr. H. David Gottlieb

Roll call was initiated by the Executive Director

Board members present: Drs. Yvonne Umezurike, Aparna Duggirala, Bruce Fox and Adam Silverman

Consumer Members Present: Ms. Frona Kroopnick. Consumer Member Lynne Brecker was absent.

Board staff present: Eva Schwartz, Executive Director; Elizabeth Kohlhepp, Deputy Director; and Kiana Nicholson, Licensing Manager

Office of the Attorney General: Kristen Fon Lim, AAG, Board Counsel

Representing MPMA: Mr. Richard Bloch, Executive Director, and Dr. Jay Lebow, MPMA Member.

Guests: Richard Bloch, Esq., Executive Director and Chief Counsel, representing MPMA. Dr Jay LeBow, Director Emeritus, representing FPMB. Zakiyyah Holmes, MDH. Kiana Trent, DPM.

Dr. Gottlieb cited COMAR 10.01.14.02.B: "Except in instances when a public body expressly invites public testimony, questions, comments, or other forms of public participation, or when public participation is otherwise authorized by law, a member of the public attending an open session may not participate in the session."

A. MINUTES

1. Approval of minutes from the November 10, 2022 meeting.

- a. The meeting minutes from the November 10, 2022 public meeting were approved unanimously, as submitted.

B. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A Report was not presented by the Board President.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Schwartz announced that Laura Herrera Scott, MD, MPH, was appointed as the new Secretary of MDH. The Board is looking forward to working with Dr. Herrera Scott and her team.

Ms. Schwartz reminded the Board members to submit their financial disclosures in a timely manner. The Maryland Ethics Commission requires that financial disclosure forms be submitted annually via their website, no later than April 30, 2023.

Ms. Schwartz announced the eligibility to apply for the upcoming open position for a Maryland licensed DPM to serve on the Board. This may be a new candidate nominated by the MPMA, or a request for reappointment of the present incumbent, via nomination by MPMA. Maryland licensed podiatrists in good standing with the Board, are eligible to apply to serve on the Board, and can find the application on the Office of the Governor's website. The nomination process is statutorily required to proceed through the MPMA.

Ms. Schwartz discussed the new Workforce Commission's Sub-Committee authorized to evaluate the efficiency of the individual Boards' functions and efficiencies, to determine best practices. Ms. Schwartz mentioned that one of the issues presented by the Sub-Committee was the possible delay in issuing licenses by the Health Occupation Boards. The Board of Podiatry stated in the written response to the Workforce Sub-Committee, that podiatric licenses are and were consistently issued within 24-48 hours after **completion and approval by the Board** of the application. The Board stated with emphasis, that there never was a delay in license issuance, even during the active cyberattack on the MDH Network.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Regulation 10.40.12 Telehealth (MDH-Podiatry)

The Board reviewed the latest version of Regulation 10.40.12 Telehealth (MDH-Podiatry). Ms. Schwartz informed the Board that there were comments to address these proposed regulations relating to the authority of a Maryland licensed practitioner, performing telehealth out of State. Once the comments are submitted, the Board will review them, and respond accordingly.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of proposed regulation 10.32.02.03 regarding Investigative Interviews

The Board reviewed proposed regulation 10.32.02.03 regarding Investigative Interviews. There were some concerns concerning the regulation relating to when an attorney can

and cannot be removed from investigative interviews. The Board voted to move the discussion to the Executive meeting and obtain advice of Counsel.

2. Discussion of MDH Physical Document Storage and Transport Protocol Document

The Board was given a copy of the MDH's policy for "Physical Storage and Transport Protocol" for informational and compliance purposes.

3. NPDB December 2022 Insights Highlight

The Board was given a copy of the "National Practitioners Data Bank Insights" newsletter for informational purposes.

4. Discussion on developing a course, to provide CME credits, for effectively handling mental health patients in the office.

Ms. Schwartz proposed to the Board the idea of researching and developing a CME credit course for podiatrists concerning the handling of patients with mental health challenges. The Board voted to form a committee to research the topic and report back at the next Board meeting. The committee will be comprised of Drs. Umezurike, Duggilera, and Fox.

5. HB 25 Public Health- Healthy Maryland Program- Establishment

The Board was given a copy of HB 25- Public Health- Healthy Maryland Program- Establishment for review. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously for "No Position" on the Bill.

6. HB 19 State Board of Examiners of Psychologists- License and Registration Insurance 3 and Renewals- Electronic Means

The Board was given a copy of HB 19 State Board of Examiners of Psychologists- License and Registration Insurance and Renewals- Electronic Means for review. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously for "No Position" on the Bill.

7. HB 26 Health Occupations-Psychologist- Licensure Qualifications

The Board was given a copy of HB 26 Health Occupations-Psychologist- Licensure Qualifications for review. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously "No Position".

8. HB 103 State Board of Social Work Examiners- Temporary License to Practice Social Work

The Board was given a copy of HB 103 State Board of Social Work Examiners- Temporary License to Practice Social Work for review. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously for "No Position" on the Bill.

9. SB 13 Family Law- Custody Evaluators- Qualifications and Training

The Board was given a copy of SB 13 Family Law- Custody Evaluators- Qualifications and Training for review. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously for "No Position".

10. SB 14 Health Occupations- Clinical and Graduate Alcohol and Drug Counselors Licensure

The Board was given a copy of SB 14 Health Occupations- Clinical and Graduate Alcohol and Drug Counselors Licensure for review. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously for "No Position" on the Bill.

11. SB 78 Health Occupations- Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses- Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration and Permitting

The Board was given a copy of SB 78 Health Occupations- Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses- **Temporary Licensure**, Certification, Registration and Permitting for review. Ms. Schwartz discussed with the Board the current licensure process for feedback for any changes that may be suggested for increased efficiency in licensure issuance relating to the military personnel or respective spouses' applications, by introducing the issuance of a Temporary license. The Board did not propose any changes as licenses are already processed expeditiously, and the information about military personnel and their spouses is already incorporated in the application for license. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously for "No Position" on the Bill. Ms. Schwartz informed the Board that if the Bill passes, the Board will need to develop accompanying regulations to implement the Bill.

12. HB 82 Maryland Medical Assistance and Children's Health Insurance Programs- School-Based Behavioral Health Services- Reimbursement

The Board was given a copy of HB 82 Maryland Medical Assistance and Children's Health Insurance Programs- School-Based Behavioral Health Services- Reimbursement for review. After discussion, the Board voted unanimously for "No Position" on the Bill.

F. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the Public Session of the Board meeting concluded at 1:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Eva Schwartz, Executive Director, Signature and date__

and Elizabeth Kohlhepp, Deputy Executive Director, Signature and date__

Signature by Frona Kroopnick, Board Secretary/Treasurer:__