

**BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS
OPEN SESSION MEETING VIA GOOGLE MEET
MINUTES
February 10, 2022**

Location Google Meet: <http://meet.google.com/hwh-ajtv-sif>

[Join by phone:](#) (US) +1 414-909-7557 PIN: 350 725 762#

The Public Meeting commenced at 1:06 PM, opened by the Board President, Dr. Adam Silverman.

Roll call was initiated by the Executive Director.

Board members present: Drs. Gottlieb, Umezurike, Silverman, Fox, and Duggirala.

Consumer Members present: Ms. Frona Kroopnick. Ms. Lynne Brecker, RN was absent.

Board staff present: Eva Schwartz, Executive Director, and Elizabeth Kohlhepp, Deputy Executive Director

Office of the Attorney General: Rhonda Edwards, AAG, Board Counsel

Representing MPMA: Dr. Jay LeBow, MPMA member

Representing MDH: Lillian Reese, Legislation

Dr. Silverman 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 January 13, 2022 meeting

The minutes from the January 13, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously, as submitted.

B. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Silverman had nothing to report at this time.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT-Budget Hearings in Budget and Taxation

Ms. Schwartz discussed the Budget hearings for this legislative session with the Board. During the hearings, the presenting analyst tried to suggest that Board's were not meeting their criteria regarding processing of complaints marking them at 87% instead of the required 95% annually. However, Ms. Schwartz pointed out that it was in fact only one of the last five years that was marked at 87%, the other four were within the requirements. Additionally, the one year that was marked low was not due to a Board issue.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

1. SB 311/HB 790 -Podiatric Physician Bill Hearings: EHEA 2/10/22, HGO 2/15/22

The Board was made aware that the hearing for SB 0311 will be held on 2/10 at 1:00PM in EHEA (Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs). Additionally, the hearing for HB 790 will be held on 2/15 at 1:30PM in HGA (House Governmental Affairs).

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. SB 899-Health Occupations Boards– Authority Over Staffing and Infrastructure Operations

The Board discussed SB 899- Health Occupations Boards- Authority Over Staffing and Infrastructure Operations. The Board, along with the other Boards, wrote a letter in opposition to express its concerns and reservations regarding the proposed Bill to include how the Bill transfers authority from the Boards to the Secretary and creates changes in the Board Officers Election process. The Board was made aware that the Senate Hearing in EHEA will be held on Tuesday on 2/22/2022.

2. HB 407- Health Occupations- Health Care Staffing Shortage Emergency- Declaration and Licensing and Practice Requirements

The Board reviewed HB 407- Health Occupations- Health Care Staffing Shortage Emergency- Declaration and Licensing and Practice Requirements. The Bill would authorize the Secretary of Health to declare a health care staffing shortage emergency in the State; require each health occupations board to establish processes for the issuance of initial licenses, temporary licenses, and temporary practice letters on an expedited basis during a health care staffing shortage emergency; etc. The Board had no position on the Bill.

3. SB 385- Health - Disclosure of Medical Records - Penalty

The Board reviewed SB 385 - Health - Disclosure of Medical Records – Penalty. The Bill alters the penalty for the knowing refusal by a health care provider to disclose a medical record within 21 working days after the date a person in interest requests the disclosure; and alter the definition of "medical record" to include certain electronic data or information. The Board took no position on the Bill.

4. SB 159- Health Occupations - Authorized Prescribers - Reporting of Financial Gratuities or Incentives

The Board reviewed SB 159 Health Occupations - Authorized Prescribers - Reporting of Financial Gratuities or Incentives. The Bill will require each authorized prescriber who receives a financial gratuity or incentive from a pharmaceutical distributor or manufacturer to file a financial disclosure form with the health occupations board that licenses the authorized prescriber within 30 days after the financial gratuity or incentive is received by the authorized prescriber; and applying the Act prospectively. The Bills Hearing in the EHEA is scheduled for 2/10 at 1:00PM. The Board took no position on the Bill.

5. SB 440/HB 625- Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland- Establishment

The Board reviewed SB 440/HB 625- Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland- Establishment. The Bill establishes the Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland to examine certain areas related to health care workforce shortages in the State, including the extent of the workforce shortage, short-term solutions to the workforce shortage, future health care workforce needs, and the relationship between the Maryland Department of Health and the health occupations boards; and require the Commission to report its findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly by December 31 each year. The Board took no position on the Bill.

6. Review eligibility for issuance of Full Active Podiatric License:

a. Hesam Naenifard, DPM

The above identified licensure candidate was approved unanimously for the issuance of a full Maryland license.

7. Topics Quarterly Newsletter Winter 2021-Gordon Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander, LLC

The Board received a copy of Topics Quarterly Newsletter Winter 2021 from Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander, LLC for informational purposes.

F. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the Public Session of the Board meeting concluded at 1:55 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: _____