

BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS

OPEN SESSION MEETING VIA GOOGLE MEET

MINUTES

March 10, 2022

Location Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/ymv-ziyk-ddz?hs=224>

[Join by phone:](https://meet.google.com/ymv-ziyk-ddz?hs=224) (US) [+1 636-492-2428](tel:+16364922428) (PIN: 129875904)

The Public Meeting commenced at 1:05 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: Richard Bloch, Executive Director and Dr. Jay LeBow, MPMA member

Representing MDH: Kim Link, Secretary's Liaison to the Boards and Commissions

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 February 10, 2022 meeting

The minutes from the February 10, 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

The Board's Continuing Education requirements have been modified for the renewal cycle of 2024-2025, based on the recognized hardship and safety issues ensued by the COVID-19 pandemic. A licensee shall complete not less than fifty (50) credit hours of continuing education accrued during the two (2) year period from December 1, 2021 through December 1, 2023. ALL fifty (50) CME credit hours may be obtained in-person or online, however, twenty-five (25) CME credits must be directly related to the practice of podiatric medicine. All course work submitted to the Board must be pre-approved by the Board. The Board may not accept a submission for continuing education credit of less than half an hour duration. It is a licensee's responsibility to ensure that the offered courses by various sponsors, qualify for continuing education credit. If you have questions about whether a course will meet the continuing education requirements, please contact the Board via email at

Elizabeth.Kohlhepp@maryland.gov. Please be advised that a licensee must maintain accurate records of continuing education courses or programs for the preceding 5 years and must make the records available to the Board or its representatives upon request. Continuing education for license renewal is governed by the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 10.40.02.

Ms. Schwartz also discussed the mandatory Bias Training CME requirements that will be due for the 2024-2025 renewal cycle. There is a list of courses to fulfill the requirement listed on the Board's website at: chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/viewer.html?pdfurl=https%3A%2F%2Fhealth.maryland.gov%2Fmhhd%2FDocuments%2FMHHD-Recommended-Health-Equity-Trainings.pdf&cld=124305&chunk=true.

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 SB 311- Podiatric Physician did not receive enough votes in the Senate, therefore the Bill failed and is not going forward.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

1. HB 1455/SB 899-Health Occupations Boards– Authority Over Staffing and Infrastructure Operations

The Board discussed HB 1455/SB 899-Health Occupations Boards– Authority Over Staffing and Infrastructure Operations. The Bill has a purpose of establishing that the Secretary of Health has authority over the infrastructure operations of health occupations boards and commissions; alters the method of selecting officers of certain health occupations boards; establishes procedures for the filling of certain vacancies on a certain health occupations board; requires the Secretary of Budget and Management, in consultation with the Secretary of Health, to determine the positions for which the Secretary of Health may set compensation; prohibits certain special funds from being used to pay for infrastructure operations; and generally relating to the organization and operation of health occupations boards. Many Board's are opposed to the Bill due to its fractioning of Board functions and separation of the Boards staff. The Board's are in unity opposing the Bill.

F. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the Public Session of the Board meeting concluded at 1:33 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: _____