

**BOARD OF PODIATRIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

**OPEN SESSION MEETING VIA GOOGLE MEET**

**Public Meeting Minutes**

**September 8, 2022**

**Location Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/vtw-whzs-ngb?hs=224>**

**[Join by phone:](#) (US) [+1 513-855-2398](tel:+15138552398) PIN: 237385945**

**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 and Ms. Lynne Brecker, RN.**

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

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

**Representing DOH: Lillian Reese, Legislation, Boards and Commissions**

**Representing MPMA: Dr. Jay LeBow, MPMA member**

**Guest: Kiana Nicholson**

**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 July 14, 2022 meeting**

The minutes from the July 14, 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**

Ms. Schwartz informed the Board that the Department is still actively working on reconnecting the network in the Board’s office building. The Department is reviewing new contracts that it has received, and we should know more soon.

Ms. Schwartz reminded the Board that the 1<sup>st</sup> installment for the 2024-2025 license renewal will begin being collected in October. An email will be sent to all practitioners once the online renewal system is open.

Additionally, it was mentioned that the 50 required CME’s are not due at this time, however they will be due

next October. For the 2024-2025 renewal cycle, all CME's are allowed to be obtained online but the CME deadline of December 1, 2023 will be strongly enforced.

#### **D. OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **1. None.**

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

#### **E. NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **1. Public Notice: CPME statement concerning the ABPM CAQ in Podiatric Surgery**

The Board reviewed the CPME statement concerning the ABPM CAQ in podiatric surgery. The Council stated that it **“does not recognize or approve any CAQs within its current policies and procedures for board recognition. CAQs are not equivalent to certification, and they cannot lead to certification in any specific content area.** Further, the Council believes it would be confusing to the public to provide a qualification in podiatric surgery when there is a surgical certification board within the profession.” After discussion, the Board voted to have hyperlinks to the APMA and CPME websites to help the general public in understanding the topic.

##### **2. Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis-Update**

The Board discussed the proposal by the Commission to study the health care workforce crisis. The Commission is requesting personal data like social security numbers, dates of birth, and education histories. This raises some concerns including who will have access to this data and what security measures they have put in place to protect it. The Board will invite Kim Link to the next Board meeting to provide more information on the topic.

##### **3. Implicit Bias- Instructions for finding accredited courses on CME Passport**

The Board was given a copy of the Instructions for finding accredited courses via CME Passport to fulfill the new mandatory Implicit Bias training. All information regarding the CME Passport will be listed on the Board's website for all licensees.

##### **4. Discussion considering promulgating regulations to address anti-discrimination laws relating to gender, race, disability, or religion**

The Board was made aware that there is no specific language in the statute for podiatrists regarding disability accommodations. However, under Maryland law, health care practices count as public accommodations, therefore the ADA Title III applies for all podiatrists and their offices. The ADA Title III requires that all health care services provide reasonable accommodations to people who are disabled. The Board tabled the discussion to implement regulations on the topic until the next legislative session will open.

##### **5. Review eligibility for issuance of Full Active Podiatric License:**

**a. Sahar Zadeh, DPM**

**b. Renee Mason, DPM**

**c. William Wolfe, DPM**

**d. Faezeh Bakhtiari-Nejad, DPM**

**e. Amar Gulati, DPM**

**f. Chris Obiarinze, DPM**

**g. Selin Sakarcan Ruggieri, DPM**

The above identified licensure candidates were approved unanimously for the issuance of a full Maryland license.

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business, the Public Session of the Board meeting concluded at 2:00 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: \_\_\_\_\_**