

BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE

March 10, 2025

9:00 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

MEETING MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting

The Board will have a hybrid in-person and virtual meetings schedule. Please see the hybrid schedule in the Meetings Dates section of the agenda.

In-person meetings will be at 2201 Shannon Pl, SE, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20020. Information on how to access virtual Board meetings is listed below:

This meeting is available on the web:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=maec57db79fcb5dde89fd5696ac94248a>

Meeting number: 2312 056 2107

Password: NtapEPJv447

Join by video system

Dial 23120562107@dcnet.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone

+1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

Access code: 231 205 62107

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL	
OS-0310-01	<p>Call to order at 9:09 am</p> <p><u>Introduction:</u></p> <p>A. Board Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betty Akpan, Presiding Board Member- Present • Carla Seals, Board Member- Present <p>B. Board Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ericka Walker, Executive Director- Present • Tiguist Zerihun- Health Licensing Specialist-Present • Emilia Moran, Investigator- Present <p>C. Legal Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joanne Drozdoski, Board Attorney - present <p>D. Public Attendance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward Palmer, Director of Respiratory Therapy at Medstar Washington Hospital – Present • Guillermo Herrera, ECMO and VAD Program Manager at Children’s National Hospital - present
OS-0310-02	<p><u>Acceptance of Meeting Agenda:</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u></p> <p>Acceptance of March 10, 2025, Open Session Meeting Agenda.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u></p> <p>A motion was made to accept March 10, 2025, Open Session Meeting Agenda, by Carla Seals, and seconded by Betty Akpan.</p> <p>Carla Seals, and Betty Akpan, all voted in favor of the motion.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>
OS-0310-03	<p><u>Open Session Meeting Minutes:</u></p> <p><u>Board Action:</u></p> <p>Consideration of the Open Session minutes from December 9, 2024, meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u></p> <p>A motion was made to accept the Open Session minutes from December 9, 2024,</p>

by Carla Seals, and seconded by Betty Akpan.

Carla Seals and Betty Akpan, all voted in favor of the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

OS-0310-04	<p><u>Executive Directors Report:</u></p> <p>Ms. Ericka Walker gave updates on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census: <u>775</u> Licensed Respiratory Care Practitioners • Renewal: The renewal for board of Respiratory Care has closed on February 28th, 2025. • Licensure Expiration Date: In June of 2024, the director for DC Health, Dr. Ayanna Benett moved the expiration date for licensure to be correlated with licensees’ birthdays. So, the license will expire on the last day of the month of the licensee’s birthday. During these changes, some licenses will have a three-year period, and some less than two years but not less than a year. • Engagement with Respiratory Care Therapy Educational Programs: Ms. Ericka spoke briefly about our next mission to collaborate with schools and educational programs to help students obtain their Respiratory Care licenses in the district. • The Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA) recruits talented and interested individuals from all eight Wards to serve on District Boards. Link to apply to serve on a Board: https://mota.dc.gov/page/boards-vacancies-or-available-seat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We currently have three vacancy for respiratory care practitioner, consumer member, and a physician. • Board Meeting Scheduled <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ June 9, 2025 (Virtual) ➤ September 8, 2025 (In-Person & Virtual) ➤ December 8, 2025 (Virtual) 	
OS-0310-05	<p><u>Board Attorney’s Report:</u></p> <p>Board attorney Joanne Drozdoski simply stated that we have quorum and briefly went over the requirements for LGBTQ and public health CEU across all boards.</p>	
OS-0310-06	<p><u>Board Chair’s Report:</u></p> <p>Presiding board member Betty Akpan stated an upcoming conference for Respiratory Care therapists who wish to obtain continuing</p>	

	<p>education hours:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory Therapy: 8th Annual Spring Tune-Up By the Bay at LHAAMC 	
CONSENT AGENDA		
OS-0310-07	<p><u>Board Action:</u></p> <p>Consideration of the application(s) approved and the items for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board Actions taken since the last meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Debora Sorillo 2. Sueheldy Reyes 3. Michael Guiterez 4. Robyn Douglas 5. Kharya Harden 6. Matthieu Forh 7. Brittany Shriver 8. Mickle Zhebrak 9. Adewunmi Olufolajimi 10. Reginald Pearson 11. Megan Andes 12. Ebenezer Mienza 13. Ndidikanma Nwokoro 14. Cara Mccranor 15. Jennifer Huber 16. Wasiu Ibrahim 17. Christina Ambooken 18. Tomas Soriano Jr 19. Patricia Mason 20. Wyatt Brickner 21. Levi Tourville 	

	<p>22. Alexander Anisimov</p> <p>23. Leah Johnson Hofheimer</p> <p>24. Stephanie Hitchcock</p> <p>25. Rachris Bautista</p> <p>26. Merrick Barker</p> <p>27. Vanessa Pineiro</p> <p><u>Motion:</u></p> <p>A motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda by Carla Seals and seconded by Betty Akpan.</p> <p>Carla Seals and Betty Akpan all voted in favor of the motion.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>	
COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC		
<p>OS- 0310-08</p>	<p>Edward Palmer, Director of Respiratory Therapy at Medstar Washington Hospital inquired about the continuing education time frame requirement having that some licensees have less than two years to obtain them, he also asked the board if there will be any modification regarding the LGBTQ and public health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Walker informed the public that DC Health is currently working to address the continuing education requirement for all health licensing boards and all things are taken into consideration. DC Health will notify all licensees upon decision making. • She also stated that the LGBTQ and public health CEU requirements are required by the DC council, and these get updated every five years by the DC Health director. <p>Guillermo Herrera, ECMO and VAD Program Manager at Children’s National Hospital asked the board if a respiratory care therapist can perform hemodialysis in the inpatient rather than in ICU environments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Ericka Walker and board attorney both informed the public, currently that is not within the scope of practice for respiratory care therapists. 	

CLOSING	
OS-0310-09	<p><u>Board Action:</u></p> <p>To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p><u>Background:</u></p> <p>Pursuant to DC Official Code § 2-575(b), the Board will move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting to discuss the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To consult with an attorney to obtain legal advice and to preserve the attorney-client privilege between an attorney and a public body, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4)(a); 2. Preparation, administration, or grading of scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examinations pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(6); 3. To discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to section § 2-575(b)(9); 4. To plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigation of alleged criminal or civil misconduct or violations of law or regulations, if disclosure to the public would harm the investigation pursuant to section § 2-575(b) (14). <p><u>Motion:</u></p> <p>A motion was made to go into a close session meeting by Carla Seals and seconded by Betty Akpan.</p> <p>Carla Seals and Betty Akpan all voted in favor of the motion.</p> <p>The motion passed unanimously.</p>
	Roll Call Vote
	<p>This concludes the Public Open Session of the meeting. The Board will now move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the reasons set forth in the motion.</p>

This ends the Board of Respiratory Care Open Session Meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for **June 9, 2025 (Virtual)**.

**DC Health
2201 Shannon Place SE
Washington, DC 20020**

The Open Meetings Act governs this meeting. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.