

BOARD OF MEDICINE

Open Session Minutes

March 26, 2025

8:47 AM – 1:30 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting virtually is listed below:

Join by Web:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m7f823658b3b1e1556a59c90709042b04>

Join by Phone:

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

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

Access Code:

231 554 06881

BOARD MISSION STATEMENT:

“To **protect** and enhance the health, safety, and well-being of District of Columbia residents by **promoting** evidence-based best practices in health regulation, high standards of quality care and implementing policies that **prevent** adverse events.”

The Open Session Minutes continues on the next page with the ‘Board Meeting Participants’.

BOARD MEETING PARTICIPANTS:

BOARD MEMBERS:	
Andrea Anderson, MD (AA)	
Bernard Arons, MD (BA)	
Harry Barbee, Ph. D (HB)	
Konrad Dawson, MD (KD)	Arrived at 8:55 AM
Carolyn Gorman, MD (CG)	Absent
Daanish Jones (DJ)	Absent
Amr Madkour, MD (AM)	Absent
Mariam Michael, MD (MM)	Absent
Padmaja Pavuluri, DO (PP)	
Anasia Phillips (AP)	
William Strudwick, MD (WS)	
VACANT (Department of Health DOH Designee)	
VACANT (Physician Member)	
VACANT (PA Assistant Member)	
VACANT (PA Assistant Member)	
BOARD STAFF:	
Sithembile Chithenga MD, MPH– Executive Director	Absent
Vito DelVento, DVM, MS – Executive Director	
Chiquita Badgett – Health Licensing Specialist	
Ashley Callaham – Health Licensing Specialist	
Cynymon Colebrook – Health Licensing Specialist	
Sabrina Gillison – Health Licensing Specialist	
Mary Harris – Health Licensing Specialist	
Raihannah Muhammad - Health Licensing Specialist	
Kim Quickley – Health Licensing Specialist	
Lisa Robinson – Compliance Coordinator	
Emilia Moran – Investigator	
LEGAL STAFF:	
Suzanne Fenzel, Esq. – Board Attorney Advisor	
Ajay Gohil, Esq. – Board Attorney Advisor	
DC HEALTH STAFF:	
Matteo Lieb, Director of Office of Government Affairs	Arrived at 8:59 AM
PUBLIC MEMBERS:	
Jackie Heins, Local Attorney	

The Open Session Minutes continues on the next page with the ‘Call to Order’.

CALL TO ORDER		
OS-25-03-01	<u>INTRODUCTIONS</u>	
ALL	<p>A. BOARD MEMBERS</p> <p>B. BOARD STAFF</p>	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, CONSENT AGENDA, BOARD POLICIES, AND STAFF REPORTS		
OS-25-03-02	<u>BOARD/DEPARTMENT REPORT</u>	SC
ALL	<p>A. BOARD CHAIR’S REPORT</p> <p>The Board Chair, Dr. Anderson, presented a PowerPoint presentation that included highlights from the Tri Regulators Symposium. The Board Chair attended the conference with attorneys Suzanne Fenzel and Ajay Gohil.</p> <p>The Board Chair, Dr. Anderson, testified during the District of Columbia Board Performance Oversight Hearings, where she highlighted the DC Board of Medicine wins: a decrease in processing times for applications, noted the number of licensees, and the work of the hardworking health licensing specialists.</p> <p>The Board Chair, Dr. Anderson, attended the FSMB Hill Advocacy Day where she advocated on the Hill with other Board members for passage of the SHARE Act which would facilitate the criminal background checks for IMLC applicants.</p> <p>B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT</p> <p>i. DC Health Updates</p> <p>The Executive Director, Dr. Vito DelVento reported the Performance Hearings held last month were successful.</p> <p>The Executive Director reported that on behalf of Senior Deputy Director, Sam Hurley, there are some budgetary challenges in the District relating to the federal impact. DC Health is currently under a hiring</p>	

and travel freeze and cannot fill any vacancies at this time.

ii. **Advisory Committees**

The Executive Director advised that there are no updates.

iii. **Board Vacancies/MOTA Update**

The Executive Director advised that there are no updates.

iv. **Licensure Census**

The Executive Director provided an update on the current licensure census in the District of Columbia.

BOARD OF MEDICINE	16,919
ACUPUNCTURIST	136
ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT	138
MEDICAL TRAINING LICENSE I(A)	1127
MEDICAL TRAINING LICENSE I(B)	329
MEDICAL TRAINING LICENSE II	25
MEDICAL TRAINING REGISTRANT	302
MEDICINE AND SURGERY	12331
NATUROPATH PHYSICIAN	64
OSTEOPATHY AND SURGERY	868
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT	1247
POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNICIAN	2
POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGIST	60
SURGICAL ASSISTANT	106
CHINESE HERBOLOGY	30
ATHLETIC TRAINER	148
TRAUMA TECHNOLOGIST	4

C. **BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

The Board Attorney, Suzanne Fenzel, reported that Dr. Ndubuisi Okafor, was convicted in District Court for unlawful distribution of a controlled substance. Lisa Robinson, Compliance Specialist testified in the trial. The Board will address this case during the next Board meeting.

D. **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATION'S REPORT**

The Director of Office Government Affairs, Matteo Lieb, provided the following updates.

DC Health FY 24 Performance Oversight Hearing

DC Health recently had its performance oversight hearing in the Committee on Health for Fiscal Year 2024.

The first part of the hearing was held on February 24th, 2025. That hearing featured public witnesses and included representatives from community members, advocates, and stakeholders. That hearing can be watched at the following [link](#).

Representatives from DC Health then testified to the Committee on February 26th, 2025. Testimony was provided by Director Bennett and other members of leadership and subject matter experts. Councilmembers asked questions of DC Health on a variety of topics including the agency’s reorganization, school health, the launch of new programs, and the agency’s response to emergency situations. That hearing can be watched at the following [link](#).

Board Performance Oversight Hearing

On March 5th, the Committee on Health held a Performance Oversight for the following health professional licensing boards:

- Board of Medicine
- Board of Dentistry
- Board of Pharmacy
- Board of Psychology

The hearing featured testimony from public witnesses as well as from Chairpersons of the boards. Discussions covered board vacancies, regulatory processes, complaint trends, and fine structures. The hearing can be watched at the following [link](#).

Certificate of Need Improvement Amendment Act

Councilmember Henderson introduced the *Certificate of Need Improvement Amendment Act of 2025* ([B26-0025](#)) on January 6, 2025.

- The legislation reforms the Certificate of Need (CON) process, while also establishing a new registration program for certain health facilities (including private clinics).

	<p>The legislation was marked up out of the Committee on Health and passed on first reading in the Committee of the Whole. It now undergoes a second reading.</p> <p>PrEP DC Act of 2025</p> <p>Councilmember Parker introduced the <i>PrEP DC Act of 2025</i> (B26-0159) on February 28, 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The legislation creates safeguards for equitable and affordable access to HIV prevention treatment by prohibiting health insurers from using prescription information as a condition of eligibility or in premium rates, restricting or imposing setting delays in the distribution of antiretroviral prescription drugs, and from imposing a deductible, coinsurance, copayment, or other cost-sharing requirement for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) or post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) to prevent HIV and AIDS infection. <p>The legislation has been referred to the Committee on Business and Economic Development with comments from the Committee on Health, but no hearing has been scheduled.</p>	
<p>OS-25-03-03</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p><u>OPEN SESSION MINUTES</u></p> <p>Board Action: Consideration of the Open Session minutes from the February 26, 2025, meeting.</p> <p>Background: The Open Session Minutes are a record of the Board’s past meeting(s), describing the events, list of attendees; a statement of the issues considered and related responses or decisions of the Board.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Arons to approve Open Session Minutes. Second by Dr. Strudwick.</p> <p>Vote: Ms. Phillips, Dr. Arons, Dr. Barbee, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Dawson, Dr. Strudwick, and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Motion Passed.</p>	<p>MH/SC</p>
<p>OS-25-03-04</p>	<p><u>OPEN CONSENT AGENDA</u></p>	<p>SG/SC</p>

ALL	<p>Board Action: Consideration of the current open Consent Agenda items for purposes of review and/or ratification of Board actions taken since the last Board meeting.</p> <p>Background: The Open Consent Agenda is a record of the decisions and/or actions taken by the Board or its staff since the last meeting of the Board.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Dr. Arons to approve Open Consent Agenda. Second by Dr. Strudwick.</p> <p>Vote: Ms. Phillips, Dr. Arons, Dr. Barbee, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Dawson, Dr. Strudwick, and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Motion Passed.</p>	
OS-25-03-05 ALL	<p><u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u></p> <p>Background: To provide the public with the opportunity to comment on or provide feedback to the Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Public Comments 	

The Open Session Minutes continues on the next page with ‘Motion to Close’

MOTION TO CLOSE

<p>OS-25-03-06</p> <p>ALL</p>	<p><u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u></p> <p>Board Action: To go into closed session to discuss confidential matters as permitted in DC Official Code § 2-575(b).</p> <p>Background: 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>Motion: Motion made by Ms. Phillips to close the Open Session Meeting. Second by Dr. Strudwick.</p> <p>Vote: Ms. Phillips, Dr. Arons, Dr. Barbee, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Dawson, Dr. Strudwick, and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Motion Passed.</p>
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The Open Session Minutes continues on the next page with 'Motion to Adjourn'. The next Board meeting is In Person and will be held on **April 30, 2025.**

MOTION TO ADJOURN

OS-25-03-07 ALL	<p><u>MOTION TO ADJOURN</u></p> <p>Board Action: To adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>Background: At the end of every meeting, a motion to adjourn must be made in open session to close out the business of the Board.</p> <p>Motion: Motion made by Ms. Phillips to adjourn the Open Session meeting at 1:30 PM. Second by Dr. Strudwick.</p> <p>Vote: Ms. Phillips, Dr. Arons, Dr. Barbee, Dr. Pavuluri, Dr. Dawson, Dr. Strudwick, and Dr. Anderson voted in favor of the motion. Motion Passed.</p>
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This ends the Open Session Minutes.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov. 3 DCMR § 10409.2