



Arizona Medical Board

1740 W. Adams St, Suite 4000 • Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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Telephone (480) 551-2700 • Fax (480) 551-2705 • In-State Toll Free (877) 255-2212

FINAL MINUTES FOR SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Held on Wednesday, July 9, 2025

1740 W. Adams St., Phoenix, Arizona

Board Members

Gary R. Figge, M.D., Chair
Bruce A. Bethancourt, M.D., F.A.C.P., Vice-Chair
Laura Dorrell, M.S.N., R.N., Secretary
Katie S. Artz, M.D., M.S.
Jodi A. Bain, M.A., J.D., LL.M.
David C. Beyer, M.D., F.A.C.R., F.A.S.T.R.O.
R. Screven Farmer, M.D.
James M. Gillard, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.E.P., F.A.A.E.M.
Gail Guerrero-Tucker, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.F.P., D.A.B.F.M.
Lois E. Krahn, M.D.
Jessyca Leach

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Figge called the meeting to order at: 5:14 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

The following Board members were present: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

ALSO PRESENT

The following Board staff participated in the meeting: Raquel Rivera, Interim Executive Director; Claude Deschamps, M.D., Chief Medical Consultant; Nicole Samaradellis, Investigations Manager; and Michelle Robles, Board Operations Manager. Carrie Smith, Assistant Attorney General ("AAG") also participated in the meeting.

C. PUBLIC STATEMENTS REGARDING MATTERS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Individuals who addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting appear beneath the case.

D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Review, Discussion and Possible Recommendations Regarding Joint Educational Meeting with DO Board

Ms. Rivera reported that she continues to work with the DO Board Executive Director on the Joint Educational Meeting with our Boards. Last week at our JLRC meeting, we discussed Item G and it was requested that in addition to the topics of med spas, PA supervision, and AI's incorporation into clinical practice, that we add some education on the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) and International Medical Graduates (IMGs). Ms. Rivera reported that there was a good presentation at the FSMB this year titled IMG 101 presented by the ECFMG. The presenters have tentatively agreed to present during the joint meeting but dates need to be coordinated with the DO Board. Ms. Rivera noted that she provided the AMB Calendar and would like some dates in September or October that would work for the Board and requested the Board's

preference for in-person, virtual, or both to be flexible with Board member scheduling. Fridays reported working best for DO Board staff.

Board members spoke in favor of a virtual meeting.

- Review, Discussion and Consideration of FSMB Board Member Training Webinars

Ms. Rivera reported that she wanted to highlight the FSMB Free Board Member Training webinars scheduled for 7/21 and 8/20 related to discipline, board member roles, and effective governance and ethics. Ms. Rivera request Board member's feedback from the courses. Ms. Rivera noted that once new Board members are appointed she plans to include these webinars as part of the New Board Member Orientation.

- Recognition of Dr. Krahn's Service on USMLE Composite Committee

Ms. Rivera acknowledged Dr. Krahn's participation in the USMLE Composite Committee and provided the Board with her Volunteer Spotlight. The composite committee was established by the FSMB and NBME to provide oversight and direction of the USMLE. The Composite Committee is responsible for approval of examination objectives and blueprints; test formats and changes in test length; score reporting policies; test administration policies; and policies for examination security and integrity, irregular behavior, score validity and anomalous performance. Additionally, Dr. Krahn was nominated by the FSMB to serve on the Accreditation Review Committee for the Accreditation Counsel for CME, which is great as the Board starts to evaluate services to simplify CME maintenance and auditing compliance. Ms. Rivera thanked Dr. Krahn for her service and representation of the Arizona Medical Board in these important roles within the FSMB.

- Consideration and Discussion Regarding Petition to the Governor's Regulatory Review Council

Ms. Rivera reported that on 5/29/25 she was notified by GRRC of a Petition filed by a licensee for consideration at the 6/24/25 GRRC Study Session to determine if a hearing was warranted. The Petition and her response were submitted to GRRC on 6/12/25. The Petition and the Board's response was considered on 6/24/25. GRRC counsel staff opined that the matter was outside the scope of their review. On 7/1/25, GRRC voted and denied the Petition for review.

Ms. Rivera provided an update to the Board with regard to the FSMB Grant we applied for. The FSMB approved funding in the amount of \$35, 235 to address our IT needs such as updating our websites and License verification pages for all license types, increasing the Board's Data Sharing Capability, updating the Board meeting website, and Licensing Portability (IMLCC compact) tracking and reporting. Ms. Rivera noted that the one project that didn't get funded, for unlicensed practitioners, she plans to request through our aim funding.

E. CHAIR'S REPORT

- Appointment of New Review Committee B Chair

Dr. Figge recommended Dr. Beyer as chair.

Dr. Beyer accepted the new role but noted that he would need to appear virtually for the August meeting.

- Acknowledgement of Board Members' Service

Dr. Figge noted that we have 11 out of 12 positions filled and have several people whose terms have expired, and are continuing to serve. We have 2 members who were appointed and not confirmed by the Senate, which were told they're not going to be confirmed. This means their appointment ends after 12 months, and they can't come to meetings

afterwards. Dr. Figge thank those people for serving and thanked Dr. Guerrero-Tucker and Ms. Leach for serving. Dr. Guerrero Tucker has let us know that she'll not be able to be at August meeting so this will be her last meeting. Dr. Krahn commented that the service that Dr. Guerrero-Tucker provided has been very impressive, and it's incredibly important that we have a member who has a primary care perspective, as well as a rural primary care perspective. Dr. Krahn stated that our public members are incredibly valuable, and that the amount of work involved for a public member is greater than for a physician member. Dr. Figge further noted that we only have 11 out of 12 positions, and 7 out of those 11 that we have serving are not Senate approved current and appointed positions. If everybody that's not required to be here because they're appointed and confirmed by the Senate left, we would have four members on the board right now and could not meet. Dr. Figge opined that it is important for the public to hear that we need action. We need to get this board back on track where we have active, appointed, confirmed members, and don't have to worry about a quorum for every meeting.

F. LEGAL ADVISOR'S REPORT

- Update and Discussion on *Dworkin v. Arizona Medical Board*, LC2024-000429

Mr. Hargraves provided an update to the Board and noted that there was a hearing before the judge last month and the judge has directed the parties to meet and confer. Mr. Hargraves requested that the Board go into executive session for the purpose of legal advice and ad to discuss the Board's position, and to instruct counsel regarding the Board's position and settlement discussions to resolve that pending matter.

MOVED: Dr. Beyer moved for the Board to enter into Executive Session to obtain legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(4) to discuss the Board's position regarding settlement discussions.

SECOND: Dr. Artz.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach. The following Board members were absent: Dr. Figge and Ms. Bain.

VOTE: 9-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 2-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:39 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:45 p.m.

No legal action was taken by the Board during Executive Session.

MOTION: Dr. Krahn moved for Mr. Hargraves to proceed as instructed in executive session.

SECOND: Dr. Beyer.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach. The following Board members were absent: Dr. Figge and Ms. Bain.

VOTE: 9-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 2-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

G. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF FSMB DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ADVISORY COMMISSION ON ADDITIONAL LICENSING MODELS

Ms. Rivera reported that recent trends show a shift towards easing licensure pathways for IMGs in the US, with several states enacting or considering legislation to bypass traditional residency requirements including proposed legislation the last year in Arizona. Ms. Rivera provided the Board with the FSMB State-by-State Overview of Enacted and Proposed Additional Licensure Pathways for reference.

Ms. Rivera reported that SB1395 changed the requirement from successfully complete to be enrolled in an approved 24 month hospital internship, residency, or clinical fellowship in addition to the 12 month requirement for basic licensure as outlined under A.R.S. 32-1422 to successfully complete an approved internship, residency, or fellowship program, for a total of 36 months of training unless the applicant completed a 5th pathway or served as an assistant professor for 36 months. The Board submitted a neutral position to this bill. SB1395 was signed by the Governor on May 7, 2025. SB 1108 was proposed this session and did not pass; however, it would have authorized the Board to grant a provisional license to an international medical licensee who has a medical doctorate or substantially similar degree from an international medical program in good standing; completed a residency or substantially similar PGT; “basic fluency” in English; practiced at least 60 months (five years) within the last six years in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Ireland, Ireland, Israel, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, the UK, or any additional country added by the Board; practiced for at least five years after completing the residency or training program; an offer of employment at any health care provider serving a population less than 1 million; shall convert to a full license after 4 years. HB 2148 also did not pass but would have established a program to grant provisional licenses to foreign medical graduates and nurses, allowing them to practice under supervision in designated healthcare shortage areas in Arizona. Applicants must have completed relevant medical or nursing education outside the U.S., demonstrate legal presence, pass an English-language proficiency test, and undergo a background check. Following successful completion of supervised practice and examinations, these professionals may obtain full licensure, with a requirement to work in underserved areas for two to four years. The Arizona medical and nursing boards would have to provide orientation, training, and support services to facilitate their integration into the state’s healthcare system.

Ms. Rivera noted that on June 9, 2025, she forwarded the Board members the email from the FSMB requesting feedback on the draft recommendations from the Advisory Commission on Additional Licensing Models (ACALM) related to the assessment and supervision of ITPs during their provisional licensure period before they become eligible for a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine. Ms. Rivera provided the Board with the draft guidance document for review and consideration. Ms. Rivera noted that she would like to provide the Board’s feedback to the FSMB.

Dr. Bethancourt commented that most of the recommendations that are coming forth is that these physicians would go into rural communities. He expressed interest in hearing from the physicians in the rural communities about the qualifications, based on his experience working with physicians in rural communities. They have to be very strong or stronger than those in the in the urban communities. Dr. Guerrero-Tucker commented that you always hear about sending nurse practitioners, PAs and IMGs or Visa Waiver physicians out to rural areas because of the need for practitioners, however, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker opined that just sending bodies out there does not work. Dr. Bethancourt opined that it isn’t the Board’s job but the legislators need to go out and find out what these communities need.

Ms. Rivera inquired about Dr. Guerrero-Tucker’s opinion on the supervisor position.

Dr. Guerrero-Tucker explained that her practice has received letters from people looking for sponsor, and as a group it was decided that of the practice could not provide the necessary level of supervision. For a private practice, with limited space, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker stated that it’s hard to make space for someone who cannot practice without supervision. Dr. Krahn commented that there’s this concept that there is this unlimited supply of preceptors. People are very busy and to do precepting well, it takes a lot of time, and you have to have a sense of the return on the investment.

Dr. Bethancourt stated that he understands the need, but they need to be wise about this. Dr. Guerrero-Tucker noted that there are a lot of rural outpatient residency programs popping up in the State. They’re community-based programs and that is a really good place to put people like this, because then they get the benefit of going through with the residents.

Ms. Rivera stated that she has noted the Board's comments. Ms. Rivera further stated that these proposed legislations put a lot of onuses on the Board and a lot of extra duties the Board would have to take on if the legislation were passed.

Dr. Krahn commented that the budget of the Board needs to reflect that and you can't have a tight budget with no money to cover this expanded responsibility.

H. DISCUSSION REGARDING DEBRIEFING ON BOARD PROCESSES

There was no discussion.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- March 5, 2025 Summary Action Executive Session Minutes
- May 7, 2025 Special Teleconference, including Executive Session Minutes

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to approve the March 5, 2025 Executive Session minutes and the May 7, 2025 Special Teleconference minutes; including Executive Session.

SECOND: Dr. Krahn.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach. The following Board members were absent: Dr. Figge and Ms. Bain.

VOTE: 9-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 2-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

LEGAL MATTERS

J. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SETTLEMENT OFFER IN LIEU OF FORMAL HEARING

1. MD-20-0004A, MD-21-0043A, MD-21-0201A, MD-21-0593A, MD-21-0716A, MICHAEL L. HAM, M.D., LIC. #26357

Dr. Ham participated virtually with counsel Cynthia Patane. AAG Seth Hargraves participated on behalf of the State and AAG Lynette Evans participated as the Board's Independent Legal Advisor.

Ms. Patane addressed the Board and requested consideration of their settlement proposal that would allow Dr. Ham to return to practice with a Letter of Reprimand and continuing education requirements. Ms. Patane discussed Dr. Ham's felony conviction noting that the criminal case started in 2018 and culminated in 2019 with a 78-count indictment. Ms. Patane noted that the State dismissed 77 of the 78 counts and amended one count to solicitation to commit forgery, which is a class 6 felony that Dr. Ham pled guilty to in 2023. Ms. Patane stated that Dr. Ham's conviction was set aside in 2024. Ms. Patane reported that Dr. Ham takes responsibility for directing staff to document exams resulting in improper recordkeeping. Ms. Patane explained that Dr. Ham was unable to furnish medical records due to losing server access and he acknowledged he should have had a back-up plan. Ms. Patane outlined factors that support Dr. Ham's return to practice noting the lack of patient harm identified. Ms. Patane reported that Dr. Ham had completed CME to maintain licensure and was willing to take additional CME in ethics and medical recordkeeping. Ms. Patane requested that the Board accept the settlement proposal to allow Dr. Ham to return to practice upon completion of additional CME.

Mr. Hargraves addressed the Board and summarized that the matter involved 5 separate cases, including the case initiated in January 2020 as a result of the criminal charges. Mr. Hargraves noted that Dr. Ham had been under a full practice restriction since January 2020. Mr. Hargraves clarified that Dr. Ham pled guilty to a total of 3 counts for conspiracy to commit forgery, forgery, and solicitation to commit forgery. Mr. Hargraves further noted that the court entered a judgment finding Dr. Ham guilty of all 3 counts; however, they deferred sentencing on 2 counts and sentenced him solely on the solicitation to commit forgery charge. Mr. Hargraves confirmed that the conviction was set aside by the court in

July 2024. Mr. Hargraves provided a summary of the 5 case findings. Mr. Hargraves stated that the State did not take a position on the settlement proposal.

Ms. Patane noted that the criminal conviction was for 1 count only citing that the other 2 counts were held in abeyance, then dismissed. Ms. Patane maintained that there was no patient or financial harm.

During deliberations, Dr. Gillard noted the five-year gap in practice and stated that a competency evaluation should be passed prior to consideration of lifting Dr. Ham's practice restriction.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to offer a counter-proposal for a Letter of Reprimand, probation to complete CME as offered by Dr. Ham, with the additional requirement that Dr. Ham successfully complete a competency evaluation prior to lifting the current practice restriction.

SECOND: Dr. Krahn.

Dr. Figge questioned whether the requirement for a competency evaluation would be considered a counter proposal. Dr. Guerrero-Tucker supported the need for a competency evaluation. Dr. Beyer noted that there had been a lack of responsiveness to providing medical records and stated that Dr. Ham had not been forthcoming at various stages. Dr. Beyer stated that there was an outrageous pattern of practice and questioned whether the conduct rose to a Decree of Censure instead of a Letter of Reprimand.

Dr. Gillard maintained his support of the Board's counter proposal with the additional requirement that Dr. Ham complete a competency evaluation. Dr. Gillard explained that the practice restriction should remain in place until Dr. Ham completes and passes the competency evaluation. Dr. Gillard requested that Dr. Ham be provided with the Board's counter proposal and respond within 5 days. Ms. Patane confirmed they were agreeable to the counter proposal.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn, and Ms. Dorrell. The following Board member voted against the motion: Ms. Leach

VOTE:10-yay, 1-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Hargraves inquired if the Board would like to see the final order.

Ms. Evans stated that she does not have an issue with it but would defer to the staff's normal process. Ms. Smith informed the Board that given the consent agreements inclusion of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it would be best if Board staff could draft the consent agreement and bring it back to the Board for final approval at the next meeting. All parties agreed to have the final order scheduled for a future meeting.

K. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SUMMARY ACTION

1. MD-25-0657A, SCOTT M. BRANNAN, M.D., LIC. #45866
Dr. Brannan was not present.

Ms. Downy summarized that the Board initiated this case after receiving notification that Dr. Brannon may be unsafe to practice. During the course of the investigation concerns were identified about Dr. Brannon's use of controlled medications. Board Staff noted that in case MD-17-1099A, the Board expressed concerns about Dr. Brandon's use of these same medications, and on October 7, 2022 issued him a decree of censure with probation that included PHP terms. Dr. Brandon requested termination of his PHP monitoring, and it was terminated on December 13, 2023. Given the information thus far obtained about his current situation, Board Staff offered him an inactive with cause agreement. Dr. Brannan

has not signed the inactive with cause agreement, nor has he responded to Board Staff's request for contact. Staff at his practice reported not seeing him for weeks. Board Staff is unable to leave a voicemail on Dr. Brandon's phone number of record because the voicemail is full. Per A.R.S. § 32-1452(F), if a physician completes a PHP Agreement and then commits unprofessional conduct in violation of A.R.S. § 32-1452(F) and they do not inactivate their license, the Board shall summarily suspend their license. Therefore, this case is before the Board today to consider the summary suspension of Dr. Brandon's medical license.

Dr. Krahn noted that she was the presenting Board member for the 2022 matter that resulted in the Decree of Censure.

MOTION: Dr. Krahn moved to summarily suspend Dr. Brannan's license pending the outcome of a formal hearing in this matter based on A.R.S. § 32-1452(F) and a finding that the public health safety and welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

SECOND: Dr. Farmer.

Dr. Gillard spoke in favor of the motion given that there are serious concerns regarding this physician's ability to safely practice.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

CONSENT AGENDA

L. CASES RECOMMENDED FOR DISMISSAL

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to dismiss item numbers 1 and 2.

SECOND: Ms. Leach.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

1. MD-24-0644A, EHAB S.A. ABDALLAH, M.D., LIC. #49965
Counsel David Cohen addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting on behalf of the physician.

RESOLUTION: Dismissed.

2. MD-23-0210A, STEVEN P. GALASKY, M.D., LIC. #13631
Dr. Galasky addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

RESOLUTION: Dismissed.

M. CASES RECOMMENDED FOR ADVISORY LETTERS

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to issue an Advisory Letter in item numbers 2-10.

SECOND: Dr. Krahn.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

1. MD-24-0804A, MARK I. GIMBEL, M.D., LIC. #42219
C.R. addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

Dr. Beyer commented that this medical issue did not ultimately contribute to the patient's demise but it was a poorly done colostomy. Dr. Beyer questioned whether this deserves a

Letter of Reprimand or CME. Dr. Gillard commented that the bladder cancer had already spread through the pelvis prior to this. It was a diverting colostomy that was done and it seems like it was a very complicated problem, with a lot of core morbidities. Dr. Beyer reiterated that the Colostomy was necessary and wasn't done right. Dr. Artz opined that this was an honest mistake, and he had to admit it and then fixed it. Dr. Artz stated that it didn't lead to the patient's demise and viewed it as a complication. Dr. Artz spoke in favor of an advisory letter.

MOTION: Dr. Beyer moved to issue an Advisory Letter for failing to properly perform a colostomy. The violation is a minor or technical violation that is not of sufficient merit to warrant disciplinary action.

SECOND: Dr. Artz.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

2. MD-24-0151A, JUN ZHONG, M.D., LIC. #55623

Counsel Collin Bell addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting on behalf of the physician.

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for ineffective communication in a mental health setting, for failing to properly evaluate a patient for bipolar disorder, for failing to document or discuss risks and benefits of medicine, and for inadequate documentation. While there is insufficient evidence to support disciplinary action, the board believes that continuation of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

3. MD-23-0807A, MILES W. HOWARD, M.D., LIC. #21113

Dr. Howard addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for failing to obtain and/or document adequate informed consent. While there is insufficient evidence to support disciplinary action, the board believes that continuation of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

4. MD-24-0854A, RAHUL N. DOSHI, M.D., LIC. #28456

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for failing to timely report a misdemeanor charge. While there is insufficient evidence to support disciplinary action, the board believes that continuation of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

5. MD-23-0130A, CLIFFORD T. WANG, M.D., LIC. #53434

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for action taken by other state boards. While the licensee has demonstrated substantial compliance through rehabilitation or remediation that has mitigated the need for disciplinary action, the board believes that repetition of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

6. MD-23-0769A, PRITI R. PATEL, M.D., LIC. #58079

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for inadequate evaluation, monitoring, and documentation of patients prescribed controlled substances. While the licensee has demonstrated substantial compliance through rehabilitation or remediation that has mitigated the need for disciplinary action, the board believes that repetition of the

activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

7. MD-23-0854A, MANOJ MAKHIJA, M.D., LIC. #33083

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for non-compliance with CSPMP mandatory use requirements. While the licensee has demonstrated substantial compliance through rehabilitation or remediation that has mitigated the need for disciplinary action, the board believes that repetition of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

8. MD-23-0554A, TROY L. POTTHOFF, M.D., LIC. #56097

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for having actions taken by other state boards. While the licensee has demonstrated substantial compliance through rehabilitation or remediation that has mitigated the need for disciplinary action, the board believes that repetition of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

9. MD-23-0838A, WAEL H. MILYANI, M.D., LIC. #55466

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for action taken by another state. While the licensee has demonstrated substantial compliance through rehabilitation or remediation that has mitigated the need for disciplinary action, the board believes that repetition of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

10. MD-24-0499A, WILLIAM C. YOUNG, M.D., LIC. #27781

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for action taken by the Michigan Board of Medicine. While there is insufficient evidence to support disciplinary action, the board believes that continuation of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

N. CASES RECOMMENDED FOR ADVISORY LETTERS WITH NON-DISCIPLINARY CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION ORDERS

1. MD-24-0582A, NAIYER IMAM, M.D., LIC. #31992

Dr. Gillard noted that in cases number 1 and 2 there was a malpractice case, which has already been reported to the NPDB. Dr. Gillard opined that CME is not going to do anything since to the physician is unlikely to miss this again. Dr. Gillard noted that one physician has already completed CME and the other has already signed up for a CME course. Dr. Gillard agreed with issued just the Advisory Letter.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to issue an Advisory Letter only in items 1 and 2.

SECOND: Dr. Artz.

Dr. Beyer expressed concern that the course that Dr. Liu is scheduled to take is a significant course, and although they may not miss it again CME is appropriate.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Gillard and Dr. Guerrero-Tucker. The following Board members voted against the motion: Dr. Farmer, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach,

VOTE: 7-yay, 4-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for failing to identify and report abnormal trabeculation and soft tissue mass calcifications of the right femur on an x-ray. While the licensee has demonstrated substantial compliance through rehabilitation or remediation that has mitigated the need for disciplinary action, the board believes

that repetition of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

2. MD-24-0553A, JASON Y. LIU, M.D., LIC. #27423

RESOLUTION: Advisory Letter for failing to identify and report abnormal trabeculation and soft tissue mass calcifications of the right femur on an x-ray. While there is insufficient evidence to support disciplinary action, the board believes that continuation of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee.

3. MD-23-0859A, ERNESTINA P. DE OLIVARES, M.D., LIC. #31109

Counsel David Toone addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

Dr. Krahn opined that the physician's counsel made valid points and that the issues may not be egregious enough for the recommended CME. Dr. Krahn opined that a second outside Medical Consultant Review would be beneficial.

MOTION: D. Krahn moved to return the case for further investigation to obtain a second MC review.

SECOND: Dr. Gillard.

Dr. Gillard suggested that it may not need to go back for further investigation but to modify the CME recommendation. Dr. Farmer opined that a second review would be helpful. Dr. Krahn commented that the Board relies on MCs for the standard of care and another opinion would be helpful.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

4. MD-24-0951A, RUPINDER S. SEKHON, M.D., LIC. #70416

Dr. Sekhon addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to Advisory Letter and Order for Non-Disciplinary CME for failing to properly assess, evaluate, or treat a patient for type 1 diabetes and for inadequate documentation. While there is insufficient evidence to support disciplinary action, the board believes that continuation of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further board action against the licensee. Within six months, complete no less than 10 hours of Board staff pre-approved Category I CME in an intensive, virtual course regarding medical recordkeeping. The CME hours shall be in addition to the hours required for license renewal.

SECOND: Dr. Bethancourt.

Dr. Guerrero-Tucker commented that it looked like most of the issues were regarding the medical recordkeeping and communication not the treatment of diabetes. Dr. Guerrero-Tucker opined that the CME for the treatment and management of diabetes is not needed.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

O. REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DISMISSALS

MOTION: Dr. Beyer moved to uphold the dismissal in item numbers 2 and 3.

SECOND: Dr. Artz.

Dr. Krahn commented regarding item number 2 and that we heard from a family member concerning the rationale for this patient to be in hospice. Dr. Krahn opined that it is hard with the information available to us to review the circumstances and that this complaint against Dr. Singh does not

address the core issue that the family member raised. Dr. Krahn further opined that there may be other places for that question to be explored, and spoke in favor of the dismissal of the complaint against Dr. Singh. Dr. Figge noted that this physician was the Hospice physician. He had nothing to do with her going to Hospice. Dr. Guerrero-Tucker noted that the primary care doctor made the referral to Hospice. So, there was a comment made that the PCP made the referral. There was a tracking mechanism for how that patient got to hospice. Dr. Guerrero-Tucker agreed that this is not addressing the complainant's concerns, but that is a legal investigation and has nothing to do with this physician.

Ms. Smith advised that Board staff can refer the case to DHS or Adult Protective Services.

Dr. Beyer commented that whenever somebody goes on Hospice, for whatever reason, it's a sad situation, and there's always a lot of complicated things going on. Dr. Beyer noted that we have already acknowledged that the care that this patient received while in hospice was appropriate. Hospice is a place for people who are likely to be dying in the very near future, and it sounds like the primary care physician recognized that. That's where this patient was and the PCP made the referral. Dr. Beyer opined that this was not an inappropriate referral.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

1. THIS CASE HAS BEEN PULLED FROM THE AGENDA.
2. MD-24-0280A, SUKHJIT SINGH, M.D., LIC. #33338
W.W. addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

RESOLUTION: Dismissal upheld.

3. MD-24-0424A, BENAJMIN S. METELITS, M.D., LIC. #51761
Dr. Metelits addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

RESOLUTION: Dismissal upheld.

P. PROPOSED CONSENT AGREEMENTS (Disciplinary)

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to accept the consent agreement in item numbers 1 and 2.

SECOND: Dr. Krahn.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0(Dr. Figge recused from #1)-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

1. MD-23-1029A, STUART I. MELCER, M.D., LIC. #19652
Dr. Figge recused.

RESOLUTION: Consent Agreement for a Letter of Reprimand.

2. MD-23-0245A, STEPHEN A. SHILLER, M.D., LIC. #50950

RESOLUTION: Consent Agreement for a Letter of Reprimand.

Q. LICENSE APPLICATIONS

i. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY LICENSE APPLICATION, OR TAKE OTHER ACTION

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to approve the license in item numbers 1 and 3-7.

SECOND: Dr. Artz.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

**VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.
MOTION PASSED.**

1. MD-25-0081A, BAHRAM HORMOZDI, M.D., LIC. #N/A

RESOLUTION: License granted.

2. MD-25-0054A, DAVID S. GRAUMAN, M.D., LIC. #N/A

Dr. Gillard commented that the physician is lifetime Board certified in internal medicine, finished his residency in 1972 and has been practicing full time until it expired in January of this year. Dr. Gillard stated that the physician has independently practiced for many years and has only been out practice for six months. Dr. Gillard stated that he does not see any reason not to license but expressed some concern regarding what had been going on over the years since the physician stated that he was able to serve with little or no supplies.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to approve the license.

SECOND: Ms. Leach.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion:

The following Board member was absent:

VOTE: 0-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

3. MD-24-0532A, CHARLES A. MICK, M.D., LIC. #N/A

RESOLUTION: License granted.

4. MD-24-1222A, ANDREW W. OSIASON, M.D., LIC. #N/A

RESOLUTION: License granted.

5. MD-25-0268A, DENNIS L. CLARK, M.D., LIC. #N/A

RESOLUTION: License granted.

6. MD-25-0269A, CARLOS A. RIVERA, M.D., LIC. #N/A

RESOLUTION: License granted.

7. MD-25-0336A, GEORGE RAPPARD, M.D., LIC. #N/A

RESOLUTION: License granted.

ii. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 32-1426(B) AND R4-16-201(F), OR TAKE OTHER ACTION

1. JERRY BLOW, M.D., LIC. # N/A

Dr. Gillard noted that he has been in practice in the VA since 2014 and has letters of recommendation from past employment. He has a South Dakota license with no actions.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to approve licensure by endorsement.

SECOND: Dr. Bethancourt.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

2. SARAH M. H. E. ELHOMOSANY, M.D., LIC. # N/A

Dr. Elhomosany addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

Dr. Gillard opined that enough information was not provided. Dr. Gillard noted there was training in Egypt and 24 months of training in the US but wished to see letters of recommendation. Dr. Gillard noted that the University of Arizona Banner is offering a positions. Dr. Gillard inquired if the Board received anything from them since they went over the credentials of this position.

Board staff informed the Board that from 2022-2024 Dr. Elhomosany was practicing under a fellowship, a non-accredited fellowship at Children's Hospital in Washington, DC. Board staff confirmed that they did submit letters of recommendation.

Dr. Gillard inquired about granting the license under equivalency instead of endorsement.

Ms. Smith stated that Board has been categorizing equivalency as a different agenda topic, but opined that the Board does have the ability to grant the license it under this agenda topic.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to grant the license by equivalency.

SECOND: Dr. Bethancourt.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

iii. **REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPLICANT'S REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENT**

1. MARK E. HOWSHAR, M.D., LIC. # N/A

Dr. Gillard noted that the physician is Board certified in radiology and has multiple state licenses. He is unable to get records for a 2001 malpractice payment.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to grant the waiver request and grant the license.

SECOND: Dr. Bethancourt.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

iv. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE OR DENY LICENSE APPLICATION, OR TAKE OTHER ACTION WITH STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

1. MD-24-0194A, BONNIE L. CHEN, M.D., LIC. #N/A

Dr. Chen addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Krahn moved to offer Dr. Chen the opportunity to withdraw her license application in lieu of a formal license denial. If not withdrawn, deny the license based on A.R.S. § 32-1422 (A)(3)(4)(5)(7) and (C).

SECOND: Dr. Beyer.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion:

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

2. THIS CASE HAS BEEN PULLED FROM THE AGENDA.

*****END OF CONSENT AGENDA*****

OTHER BUSINESS

R. REQUEST FOR TERMINATION OF BOARD ORDER

1. MD-22-0947A, HARMEET S. GILL, M.D., LIC. #23965
Dr. Gillard noted the positive information in the case file.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to grant the request.

SECOND: Dr. Bethancourt.

Dr. Beyer expressed concern when a physician is requesting an early termination after just two years.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero, Dr. Krahn, and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

2. MD-23-0460A, MD-23-0777A, WENHUI CAI, M.D., LIC. #40751

Dr. Gillard noted that the physician successfully completed CPEP's PIP course. There were some issues with chart reviews, but apparently that was improved, and our chief medical consultant reviewed the PIP material and feels that the requirements were satisfied.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to grant the request for termination of the November 7, 2024 Board Order.

SECOND: Dr. Beyer.

Dr. Krahn commented that in reviewing the chart reviews there were numerous issues raised. Dr. Krahn opined that it is premature for this order to be terminated and that this physician would benefit from additional chart reviews. Dr. Krahn spoke against the motion.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Dr. Beyer and Dr. Gillard. The following Board members voted against the motion: Ms. Bain, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Krahn, Ms. Leach and Dr. Guerrero-Tucker.

VOTE: 6-yay, 5-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

3. MD-20-0380A, MARK C. OKAFOR M.D., LIC. #56541

Dr. Okafor and counsel Michael Raine addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting. M.M. addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

Dr. Gillard noted that the physician has completed all the requirements and that the request is just slightly early.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to grant the request for termination of the May 7, 2024 Board Order.

SECOND: Dr. Beyer.

Dr. Beyer commented that the physician met the terms of probation and that there is no point to continue probation. Dr. Beyer further commented that the Board is not rescinding the probation because it is hard for him to get privileges, it is because he completed the terms of the Order.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero, Dr. Krahn, and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

S. APPEAL OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION OR TAKE OTHER ACTION

1. MD-22-0964A, DAVID P. BROWN, M.D., LIC. #33003

M.P. addressed the Board during the Public Statements portion of the meeting.

Dr. Gillard stated that he did listen to the audio, it was a 911 call. The physician did not identify himself as the complainant's physician. He had taken care of the complainant's ex-wife and the kids. He identified himself as a family physician. We had a physician here that was not acting as a physician. He was fed some information, and he made the call but during the call he backed off. Dr. Gillard spoke in support of the executive director's dismissal.

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved to deny the appeal.

SECOND: Dr. Krahn.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Figge, Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Ms. Bain, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

VOTE: 11-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

T. GENERAL CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No individuals addressed the Board during the General Call to the Public.

U. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dr. Gillard moved for adjournment.

SECOND: Dr. Farmer

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Dr. Bethancourt, Ms. Dorrell, Dr. Artz, Dr. Beyer, Dr. Farmer, Dr. Gillard, Dr. Guerrero-Tucker, Dr. Krahn and Ms. Leach.

The following Board members were absent: Dr. Figge and Ms. Bain.

VOTE: 9-yay, 2-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, -absent.

MOTION PASSED.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.



Raquel Rivera

Raquel Rivera, Executive Director