



DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSING REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION

3 Capitol Hill, Conference Room 401, Providence, RI 02908

June 12, 2017

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Lynn Blanchette
Jessica Brier
Wendy Chicoine
Maria Ducharme (*left at 11 :45*)
Joan Flynn
Gillian Grant
Kathleen Heren
Karen Matook (*left at 11 :45*)
Maria Pezzillo
Roberta Powell
Maria Ross (*left at 11 :45*)
Betty Sadaniantz

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Margaret Clifton, Director of Nursing
Kimberly McNulty, Case Manager
Linda Tetu Mouradjian, Compliance Officer
Julie Sacks, Senior Legal Counsel
Anita Flax, Deputy Chief of Legal Services, RIEMA

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Christopher Zabbo, Kent Hospital E.D. Physician
Donna Policastro, RIANA
Nicolas Oliver, RI Partnership for Home Care
Keith Macksoud, CRNA, RIANA
Darlene Nomet, NEIT
Mary Barlas, LIT
Diane Kowal, RICSNTA
Pat Burbank, URI
Tony Cirillo, RIACEP
Dayle Joseph, NEIT
Hilary Janson, CCRI

1) **Establishment of a quorum**

A meeting of the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was held on Monday, June 12, 2017, at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 401, 3 Capitol Hill,

Providence, RI 02908. A quorum was established and the Open Session meeting was called to order at 8:46 am.

2) Presentation of the May 8, 2017 Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Betty Sadaniantz and seconded by Kathleen Heren to accept the May 8, 2017, minutes. Motion carried

3) BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

a) LPN Scope of Practice:

The Board discussed the statements and public comments on LPN's working within a school setting presented at the May 8, 2017, meeting. Director Clifton summarized that the issue before the Board is who supervises the LPN and who does the LPN report to directly within a school setting; the school nurse or the company hired by the parents of the child. The Board ultimately concluded that the school nurse is responsible for the child while in attendance at school.

The Board will craft a statement supporting the school nurse supervision over an LPN and urging all parties to work together when creating the plan of care for each child.

b) NCSBN: NCLEX Practice Exams:

Director Clifton shared a letter from NCSBN (dated 6-6-17) in which they announce practice exams of actual tests will be shared with students thereby allowing them a better understanding of the exam layout and contents. Three exams will be available for purchase. Director Clifton will share this information with the Deans of the Rhode Island Nursing schools.

c) National Certification Corporation (NCC): requesting approval for RI RNs to utilize their programs for CEUs:

Director Clifton shared the email from NCC requesting approval for RI RNs be able to use their programs for the required Continuing Education units each year. She stated that NCC is currently approved by the California Board of Nursing. A Motion was made by Lynn Blanchette and seconded by Kathy Heren to accept CEUs from NCC. Motion carried.

4) NURSING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a) RNs administering anesthetics (review submitted position paper):

Keith Macsoud, RIANA, and the ER Physicians presented the following statement to the Board for its consideration regarding RNs administering anesthetics:

For emergency situations, it is within the scope of practice for the duly licensed and credentialed registered nurse to act as the physician's third hand and administer medications for sedation and analgesia in the presence of, and under the direction of a board-certified emergency physician or other physician who is at the bedside and is properly credentialed in the use of these medications as well as resuscitation and emergency airway management.

While the Board accepted the statement, it felt part of the language should be revised and will create a final statement to be presented at the next Board of Nursing meeting.

b) Continuing Education Audit Results – 2016:

Director Clifton shared the results of the 2016 CEU Audit with the Board:

RN: 297 cases were sent the Audit

- 8 were returned as “unable to deliver”; Holds placed on their licenses = 3%
- 8 were non-compliant “did not respond” = 3%
- 2 asked for extensions = 1%
- 279 were compliant = 94%

LPN: 29 cases were sent the Audit

- 2 was returned as “unable to deliver – Hold placed on license = 7%
- 4 were non-compliant “did not respond” = 14%
- 1 asked for extension = 3%
- 22 were compliant = 76%

The Board Approved Director Clifton’s request to send a Letter of Concern to each RN and LPN who was non-compliant with the Audit. A “hold” will also be placed in L2K requiring submission of the CEUs before renewal in 2018.

c) NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE NURSING CONTRACTS (NDA): *Inactive status clarification and specification as it relates to nurses on an NDA:*

At the April 10, 2017, Board of Nursing meeting the Board approved including language within future Non-Disciplinary Alternative Nursing Contracts (NDA) that the nursing license will be placed in inactive status should a nurse not be working within nursing field during the contract timeframe. Director Clifton asked the Board for clarification when the license should be inactivated, how long the Department should inactivate an RN’s license and how to re-activate the same. The Board concluded that the license should be inactivated if a Quarterly Job Performance Report is not submitted in a timely manner and the license can only be reactivated when the RN submits a job specification from a potential employer who is aware of the NDA.

Director Clifton will present the Board with a draft NDA including this language for its review at the next scheduled meeting.

5) New Business and Public Comment

- Donna Policastro of the American Nurses Association Rhode Island Chapter shared the upcoming events hosted by ANA.
- Donna Policastro advised the Board that ANA will no longer provide labor organization assistance. If they continued to do so they would risk losing certain funding sources.

- Donna Policastro advised the Board of a Bill (Senate 499) currently being considered by the House that allow nursing assistants/medical assistants to perform duties that are currently out of their scope of practice. Director Clifton stated that the duties being considered are currently within the scope of practice for an LPN.
- President Brier announced that elections will take place for the Board of Nursing officers at the July meeting.

6) Motion to adjourn to Closed Session

Motion was made by Karen Matook and seconded by Maria Ross to adjourn to Closed Session at 10:41 am. Motion carried. President Brier read the following:

Pursuant to Sections § 42-46-4 and § 42-46-5(a)(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for the purpose of discussing job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure. Said individuals have been notified in advance by writing that they may request that the discussion be held at an open meeting.

Pursuant to Sections § 42-46-4 and § 42-46-5(a)(4) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct.

7) Return to Open Session

Motion was made Maria Ducharme and seconded by Kathleen Heren to re-open the Open Session at 2:10 p.m. and to seal the Minutes of the Closed Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-4, 42-46-5 and 42-46-7 of the Rhode Island General Laws. Motion carried.

8) Final Actions on all votes taken in Closed Session

The Board proposed action on ten (10) cases.

9) Adjournment

The next Board of Nursing Registration and Nursing Education meeting will be held Monday, July 10, 2017 at 8:45 am at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 401, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. Motion was made by Lynn Blanchette and seconded by Kathleen Heren to adjourn at 2:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kimberly McNulty
Case Manager*

*Margaret Clifton, RN-BC, MS, CLNC
Director, Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education*