



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery
Meeting Minutes**

October 27, 2023
9:00 a.m.

On October 27, 2023, the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery held a hybrid meeting at Department of Health, 111 Israel Rd SE, Tumwater, WA 98501. Virtual access was through MS Teams.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lisa Galbraith, DO, Vice Chair
Patrice Konschuh, Public Member
Alex Sobel, DO
Tania Hernandez, DO
Yuri Tsirolnikov, DO
Kristen Pomeroy, DO
Dustin Colegrove, DO

STAFF PRESENT

Becky McElhiney, Program Manager
James Chaney, Executive Director
Davis Hylkema, Program Associate
Alyssa Brazil, Administrative Assistant
Shelly Buchanan, Staff Attorney
Heather Cantrell, Policy Analyst
Marlon Basco, Policy Analyst
Pam Bright, Case Manager
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General

1. Call to Order/Introductions – DISCUSSION/ACTION

Lisa Galbraith, Vice-chair, called the open public meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1.1 Introductions were made of the board and staff.

1.2 Approval of agenda

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the October 27, 2023, business meeting agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

1.3 Approval of September 15, business meeting minutes.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the business meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

2. Open Forum—DISCUSSION

The purpose of the open forum is to provide the public an opportunity to address the board on issues of significance to or affecting osteopathic medical practice and that are not related to topics for which a rules hearing was or will be scheduled.

- No public attendees were present for the meeting. No comments were presented.

**3. Presentation from Washington Physicians health Program (WPHP)-
DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Dr. Chris Bundy will provide the board with the annual WPHP presentations.

- The presentation was moved to the next board meeting.

4. Opioid Prescribing Rules – DISCUSSION/ACTION

The board will discuss whether to open rules on opioid prescribing to mirror recent updates made to opioid prescribing rules for allopathic physicians by the Washington Medical Commission.

MOTION: A motion was presented to file a CR101 to open four rule sections to discuss opioid prescribing rule updates to mirror WMC amendments. The motion was seconded and passed.

5. Substantial Equivalency – DISCUSSION/ACTION

The board reviewed licensing requirements of Indiana and South Carolina to determine if they are substantially equivalent to Washington licensing requirements in response to Second Substitute House Bill (SSHB) 1724.

5.1 Texas

5.2 Florida

Because in each of these states the medical and osteopathic professions are combined into a single board, as well as other factors, the board felt it needed additional information to determine substantial equivalency. The board felt that a few of them could prepare information to bring it back to the board and review, the topic is too widely spread to discuss, and narrowing it down to bring a decision from the board. A motion to create a substantial equivalency subcommittee to review other states' requirements and make recommendations to the full board regarding substantial equivalency was presented.

MOTION: The motion was seconded and passed.

6. Exception Applications Matrix- DISCUSSION/ACTION

The board will discuss updates to the exception application matrix for credentialing decisions.

- Dr. Pomeroy suggested reviewing all applications due to the low volume of “drug related” issues.

MOTION: Dr. Pomeroy moved to deny the draft exception application matrix, and instead to allow the board to continue reviewing all the applications on a case-by-case basis. Dr. Colegrove seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous and passed.

7. Correspondence—DISCUSSION/ACTION

The board will review and discuss any correspondence received since the last meeting. This could include requests for lists and labels or any other general questions or requests.

7.1 Lists and labels request from the Washington State Medical Association (WSMA)

- Mr. Chaney was appointed by the board to be part of the Medical Licensure Compact.

MOTION: The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7.2 Continuing education extension request

MOTION: The board moved to approve the licensee’s continuing education cycle to be extended for one year. The motion included pre-approving an additional 6-month extension if need. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

8. Program Reports—James Chaney, Executive Director; Becky McElhiney, Program Manager; Heather Carter, AAG Adviser

8.1 Recruitment update

- Ms. McElhiney pointed out that the board now has nine members, with one professional position and one public member position open.

8.2 Federation of State Medical Boards membership update

- Membership dues were on hold due to pandemic; they are being reinstated as of the new year, 2024.

8.3 Rules updates

8.3.1 5-year Rule review general chapter cleanup

8.3.2 ESSB 5229 Health Equity continuing education.

8.3.3 WAC 246-853-020 Osteopathic medicine and surgery examination

8.3.4 WAC 246-853-080 Continuing education

8.3.5 SSB 5496 substance use disorder.

- Ms. McElhiney reported to the board on the status of all open rule projects.

9. Consent Agenda

Items listed under the consent agenda (informational items) are considered routine matters and are approved without discussion upon approval of the agenda. If separate discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the regular business agenda for discussion.

10. Future Business – DISCUSSION

The board discussed agenda items identified or suggested for future meeting:

- Dr. Bundy’s WPHP presentation in December
- Legislation impacting osteopathic physicians in other states.
- Appointing 2 members to attend the Legislative Convention in April 2024.

- Staff providing FSMB and IMLCC updates during business meetings.

11. Adjournment of public meeting—ACTION

MOTION: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

12. Discipline, Settlement Presentations and Licensing

The board will attend to licensing, disciplinary matters, and settlement and/or agreed order presentations in closed session.

Next Scheduled Meeting

Date: December 1, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Hybrid Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Becky McElhiney, Program Manager

NOTE: Please visit the web site for future agendas and minutes - www.doh.wa.gov. Go to licensing and certification and you will find a list of the health care professions, go to osteopathic physicians for agendas and minutes.