



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

March 28, 2022
9:00 a.m.

On March 28, 2022 the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery held a webinar meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Roger Ludwig, DO, Chair
Alex Sobel, DO, Vice Chair
Lisa Galbraith, DO – Acting Chair
Sharon Gundersen, PHD, Public Member
Tania Hernandez, DO
Kim Morrissette, DO
Shannon Phipps, DO
Kevin Ware, DO

STAFF PRESENT

Becky McElhiney, Program Manager
Renee Fullerton, Executive Director
Davis Hylkema, Assistant Program Manager
Joan Simmons, Administrative Assistant
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General
Heather Cantrell, Policy Analyst
Ashley Maxwell
Tanya Mills, Credentialing Supervisor
Pamela Bright, DOH

GUESTS:

Amelia Boyd, WMC
Tracie Drake, DOH
Tania Hernn
Katerina LaMarche, WSMA
Johnette Maehren

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Roger Ludwig, Chair, called the open public meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

- 1.1 Introductions of the board and staff.
- 1.2 The board approved the March 28, 2022 agenda as presented.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the March 28, 2022 agenda. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

- 1.3 The board approved the January 7, 2022 business meeting minutes as presented.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the January 7, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

2. Report from Office of Customer Service-Credentialing Unit—PRESENTATION

Tanya Mills, credentialing supervisor, provided the board with an update regarding 3,356 active status & 146 pending status counts as of February 2022. For the timeframe between September 2021 – February 2022, she informed the board 228 applications were received and 174 credentials expired. Lastly, she provided the overall application processing timeframe which spans from the time the application is received to the last document the individual submits or the FBI fingerprints are completed, usually between 22 days to 110 days.

Ms. Mills thanked the board for their recent decisions to no longer require hospital investigative letters and approving utilizing the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) report instead of the postgraduate training letter and said those changes have led to improvements in credentialing times.

3. Dental Anesthesia Rules—DISCUSSION/ACTION

The board reviewed a clarifying edit made to the proposed dental anesthesia rules, WAC 246-853-655.

Ms. Fullerton informed the board the change was modifying the definition of “administering osteopathic physician” in the definitions section so that the requirement for completion of an anesthesiology residency applies to the whole section instead of one subsection.

MOTION: A motion was made to accept the modification definition of “administering osteopathic physician” in the definitions section. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

4. Opioid Exclusion Rules—DISCUSSION/ACTION

The WMC has proposed changes to their opioid prescribing rules to add setting-based exclusions. The board discussed filing a CR101 to mirror this language.

MOTION: A motion was made to authorize board staff to file a CR101 in order for the board to consider changes to WAC 246-853-661 Exclusions in alignment with proposed language from the Washington Medical Commission. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

5. Telemedicine Policy—DISCUSSION/ACTION

The board considered for adoption a policy statement regarding telemedicine.

MOTION: A motion was made to adopt the proposed telemedicine policy statement as presented. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

6. Retirements and Recruitments—DISCUSSION

The board discussed upcoming board member retirements and vacancy recruitments.

Ms. McElhiney informed the board Drs. Gunderson and Ludwig and Joel Quiroz will be terming out in July, and staff will be starting the recruitment process this spring.

Ms. Fullerton asked the board what areas of practice DOH staff should focus on in recruitment of new board members and if the board has any recommendations.

Dr. Morrissette mentioned she is also resigning and recommended more hospital based, acute care physicians as well as another ER doctor. Dr. Morrissette also volunteered to be available to serve as a pro tem member once her term as full board member expires.

Dr. Sobel agreed another ER representative would be valuable as well as neurosurgeons and orthopedic physicians.

7. Policies and Procedures—DISCUSSION/ACTION

The board reviewed the current policies and procedures and determine whether any updates are needed related to references to physician's assistants (PAs).

MOTION: A motion was made to remove the osteopathic PA references throughout the policy and procedures as outlined. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

8. Business Plan and Bylaws Review-DISCUSSION/ACTION

Staff members presented the current business plan and requested input from the board regarding utility of the document. Staff will outline proposed changes and identify priorities for board consideration at a future meeting. The board reviewed the bylaws to determine whether any updates are needed. Staff proposed removing references to osteopathic physician's assistants throughout the document.

MOTION: A motion was made to accept the changes to the bylaws as presented in the packet. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

9. Correspondence—DISCUSSION/ACTION

The board reviewed and discussed four lists and labels requests received since the last meeting, which were approved except Agility COHE SPC because more information is needed to clarify if they are a professional association or education institution.

9.1 Lists and labels request from the University of Washington School of Nursing – approved.

9.2 Lists and labels request from Agility COHE SPC – would like to clarification if this entity is a professional association or education institution.

- 9.3 Lists and labels request from Oregon Chapter American College of Cardiology – approved.
- 9.4 Lists and labels request from Elite Continuing Education – approved.

10. Program Reports—Renee Fullerton, Executive Director; Becky McElhiney, Program Manager; Heather Carter, AAG Adviser

10.1 Rules update

10.1.1 CR105 was filed as WSR #22-06-071 on 02/28/2022 to rescind WAC 246-854 Osteopathic physicians' assistants and WAC 246-855 Osteopathic physicians' acupuncture assistants. The CR105 has been approved and is in the public comment period.

10.1.2 WAC 246-853-650 office-based anesthesia are waiting to be filed.

10.2 Staffing update

Ms. Fullerton introduced Joan Simmons to the board. Joan is the new Administrative Assistant for the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery.

10.3 Legislative update

Ms. Fullerton informed the board of SSB 5753. This was DOH requested legislation that included changes to many different boards and commission statutes. This has been passed by the House and Senate and will be moving next to the Governor's office for decision. If signed, the impact on the board is:

- Removal of the secretary position
- Removal of the US Citizenship requirement for Board membership
- Change to quorum language to be standardized across the boards and commissions.

11. 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.

11.1 The board was provided the most recent budget for review.

12. 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 comments were received.

13. Future Business—DISCUSSION

The board discussed agenda items identified or suggested for future meetings.

- Staff report on the business plan
- 2023 meeting dates

14. Adjournment of public meeting

The public meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

15. Discipline, Settlement Presentations and Licensing

The board attended to licensing and disciplinary matters in closed session.

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.