



Washington State Department of Health  
Board of Naturopathy  
Special Meeting Minutes

**April 30, 2021**

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On Friday, April 30, 2021, the Board of Naturopathy held a special board meeting via Webinar. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Amira Ahdut, ND, LAc, Vice Chair  
Chad Aschtgen, ND, Chair  
Libby Cope, ND  
Joanne Hillary, ND  
Dr. Dean Neary, ND  
Deborah Wright, Public Member

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Susan Gragg, Program Manager  
Renee Fullerton, Executive Director  
Davis Hylkema, Program Associate  
Michelle Hartman, Administrative Assistant  
Lilia Lopez, Assistant Attorney General  
Heather Cantrell, Policy Analyst

**GUESTS:**

See Addendum provided on last page

**OPEN SESSION**

**1. Call to Order/Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 12:08 P.M.

**1.1 Introduction of board, staff, guests, and audience.**

Dr. Chad Aschtgen, Chair, led roll call of board members and staff. He then offered an introductory statement explaining the procedure of the remote meeting.

Ms. Gragg and Mr. Hylkema provided instructions for the public comment period.

**1.2 Approval of April 30, 2021, agenda**

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the April 30, 2021 agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

**2. New Business**

**2.1 Rule Petition**

The board reviewed rule petitions received requesting amendments to the board's continuing education (CE) rules in WAC 246-836-080.

**2.1.1 Petitions:**

**2.1.1.1** A petition was received requesting amendments to: 1) remove the requirement that the CE-accrediting entity designate the number of

pharmacy hours as very few of the identified entities include this information, and 2) expand the naturopathic-focused accrediting entities available (i.e. Naturopathic Academy of Primary Care Physicians, Pediatric Association of Naturopathic Physicians). The petitioner also wishes to clarify that in a previous petition, he had intended the board consider allowing CE directly *approved* by the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine (OBNM), rather than CE merely *accepted* by OBNM. The information staff provided to the board had included all CE accepted by OBNM; “accepting” as opposed to “approving” is what would have created conflict within the rules between Category 1 and Category 2 entities.

2.1.1.2 Two petitions were received requesting amendments that would allow self-reporting of pharmacology hours for courses that do not designate such hours (i.e. ACCME-accredited continuing medical education [CME], other general medicine CME, etc.).

#### 2.1.1 Background

Ms. Gragg provided the background and history on the rulemaking process for WAC 246-836-080.

#### 2.1.2 Public comment.

The board received the following feedback from the members of the public:

- Concerns that entities providing CE often do not designate hours as specifically pharmacology.
- Offerings that meet the requirements of Category 1 are too limited to meet the practice needs of Washington Naturopathic physicians.
- Desire to access primary care focused CE from other physician sources.
- Desire for the board to recognize CE approved by other state's boards of Naturopathic medicine.
- Financial hardship due to higher cost of Category 1 CE.
- Concerns that the board's statutory responsibility is to protect public safety and limiting the CE rules as they have, does not fit within their legal public safety duty.
- Concerns that the profession is fictionalized and that some Naturopathic physicians are not welcome at Naturopathic specific events.
- Concerns that Bastyr cannot offer CE due to operating campuses in different states that certify CE differently.
- Concerns about financial conflicts of interest for the entities allowed to certify Category 1 CE.
- Concerns that Category 3 is limited to 5 hours.
- Having categories is more confusing than the prior rules.

2.1.3 The board discussed the information provided and decided to grant the petition to open the rule section to consider amendments.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Cope to grant the petitions to open rule section WAC 246-836-080 regarding continuing education to consider whether amendments may be appropriate. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ahdut and unanimously passed.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to draft an interpretive statement with regard to the pharmacology requirement in WAC 246-836-080(3). The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Gragg and Ms. Fullerton will draft an Interpretive Statement for the board members to review at the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

2.2 List/Label Request

The board reviewed a request for lists of licensees from RussoCME for their Tri-Cities Pain Conference scheduled for May 14-15, 2021.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the list and label request received from RussoCME. The motion was seconded and passed.

3. **Adjournment of public meeting**

The meeting adjourned by approved motion at 1:38 P.M.

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**Next Scheduled Meeting**

Date: May 14, 2021

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: via webinar; information on registering for this event will be sent prior to the meeting

**Addendum:**

**Guests:**

**\*Indicates those that provided public comments**

Candace Aasan  
Rhea Abbott  
Jennifer Ash  
Cate Berezney  
Riddhi Blow  
\*Christine Bowen  
Molly Brignall  
\*Matthew Brignall  
Michelle Brown-Echerd  
\*Holly Christy  
Cesilie Cocks  
Heather DeLuca  
Petra Eichelsdoerfer  
Andrea Emde  
Selena Eon  
\*Teresa Evans  
Marnie Frisch  
Colleen Fuller  
Luciano Garofalo  
\*April Gilliom  
Tema Gochberg  
Kathie Golden

Hannah Gordon  
Shannon Hirst  
Wendy Hueners  
Donna Kachinskas  
\*Elias Kass  
\*Noreen Lalani  
Melissa Larson  
Geoff Lecovin  
Sasha Mastroianni  
Rachelle McCarty  
Tammy McInnis  
Christine Menke  
\*Carly Mooney  
Virginia Morris  
Jana Nalbandian  
\*Teresa Neff  
Courtenay Newton  
Troy Nichols  
Ashley Ohlson Stramp  
\*Traci Pantuso  
\*Lisa Price  
Teresa Richter

Adam Rinde  
Angela Ross, ND  
Chrysalis Sabatinos  
Masa Sasagawa  
Elizabeth Schnippel  
\*Trina Seligman  
Heidi Semanie  
\*Katie Shaff  
\*Rebecca Shalev  
\*Kris Somol Hamasaki  
Aimee Svendsen  
Erin Sweet  
Juleah Tabak  
Chika Takahashi  
\*Alex Tan  
Brad Tower  
Michael Weisman  
Debbie Whittington  
Rachel Winstedt  
\*Les Witherspoon, ND  
\*William Wulsin