



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**Podiatric Medical Board
Meeting Minutes**

January 14, 2021
9:00 a.m.

On Thursday, January 14, 2021 the Podiatric Medical Board held a business meeting via Webinar. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Randy Anderson, DPM, Chair
Jacqueline Buckley, DPM
Zarko Kajgana, DPM
Lotchie Kerch, DPM, Secretary
DJ Wardle, DPM, Vice Chair
Civillia Winslow Hill, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Susan Gragg, Program Manager
Renee Fullerton, Executive Director
Michelle Hartman, AA3
Davis Hylkema, Assistant Program Manager
Gail Yu, Assistant Attorney General
Ashley Maxwell, Supervising Staff Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lynn Kovacevich Renne, DPM – WSPMA
Gail McGaffick, JD – WSPMA
Tommy Seaman

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Chair Randy Anderson, DPM, called the meeting of the Washington State Podiatric Medical Board to order at 9:00 a.m. on January 14, 2021. The board made the following actions for these agenda items:

1.1 Introductions

The board members, staff, and guests introduced themselves. The board welcomed the newest board member, Dr. Buckley.

1.2 Approval of agenda

MOTION: The Chair entertained a motion to approve the January 14, 2021 business meeting agenda. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

1.3 Approval of November 5, 2020 special meeting minutes

MOTION: The Chair entertained a motion to approve the November 5, 2020 special meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

2. **Old Business**

2.1 Rule Project Updates

2.1.1 Senate Bill 5380 – e-prescribing requirements and prescription monitoring program electronic medical record integration.

Ms. Gragg updated the board with the status of SB 5380. The Department of Health (DOH) policy office determined a new joint CR101 must be filed between DOH and the Pharmacy Commission. It is in the process of being filed with the Office of the Code Reviser. Once filed, the process will begin on the CR102 phase.

2.1.2 Repeal of WAC 246-922-070 – AIDS prevention and information education requirements.

Ms. Gragg reported that the CR 103 had been filed with the Code Reviser's office for the repeal of the HIV/AIDS training requirement for this profession and this prerequisite for licensure is no longer required.

3. **New Business**

3.1 COVID-19 follow-up

Ms. Gragg shared that the proclamations concerning health professions have been extended through January 19th, 2021, and will likely be extended beyond that. At this time, podiatry is still limited by the statutory scope of their practice and does not have the ability to administer the COVID-19 vaccines; however, the CME waivers are still in place and reviewed for extension every 30 days.

3.2 2021 Legislative Session

Ms. Gragg discussed the following Bills that have been proposed that may be of interest to the profession.

- Bill 1056 – Concerning the Open Public Meetings Act. This would put in place the ability to suspend the in-person meeting requirement, should another declared emergency take place.
- Bill 1065 – Regarding the Pandemic Vaccines. The bill proposed states that as an employee, there would be no stipulation on employment that would require someone to get vaccinated.

Ms. Gragg advised the board that she will continue to monitor bills being introduced and if they pertain to the profession, she will send updates for future discussion. Ms. Gragg reminded the board that the weekly meet-me-calls are still occurring, and Dr. Kerch is the boards representative.

3.3 Continuing Medical Education discussion

The board discussed continuing medical education (CME) requirements regarding in-person and/or virtual attendance to see whether changes were needed to the board's CME rules in WAC 246-922-310.

MOTION: A motion was made to open rulemaking to consider whether changes are needed to the language for category one hours. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Ms. Gragg advised the board that once the CR 101 is filed, the board can discuss the specific language.

3.4 Policy, Procedure, Guideline, Interpretive Statement Review

The board reviewed member recommendations for repeal, amendment, or conversion to FAQ on the following board policies:

3.4.1 PO 95-05 Assistant Surgeon Role

MOTION: A motion was made to keep PO 95-05 but convert it to an FAQ. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3.4.2 PO 95-14 Infection Control

MOTION: A motion was made to keep PO 95-14 as a guideline. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3.4.3 PO 95-23 Scope of Practice Relative to Individual Practitioners

MOTION: A motion was made to adopt the FAQ option two, with modifications. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3.4.4 PO 99-44 Pre-surgical Histories and Physicals

MOTION: A motion was made to keep as an interpretive statement, to be updated as an official Interpretive Statement for filing with the Office of the Code Reviser. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3.4.5 PO 98-45 Residency Training Rotations

MOTION: A motion was made to repeal PO 98-45. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3.4.6 PO 02-46 Best Practice Guidelines – Verbal Prescriptions

MOTION: A Motion was made to keep PO 02-46 as a guideline. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3.5 Federation of State Medical Boards 2021 Annual Meeting

The board discussed the potential for member(s) interested in virtual attendance at the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) 2021 Annual Meeting, currently scheduled for April 29-May 1, 2021. The FSMB leadership has made the decision to hold the annual meeting virtually due to the ongoing pandemic crisis.

The board agreed to send Dr. Buckley and Dr. Kerch.

3.6 Correspondence/Inquiries

The board reviews and discusses correspondences received since the last meeting.

There were no correspondences or inquiries received.

4. **Program Reports**

4.1 Budget report

Ms. Gragg shared the budget status report as of November 30, 2020. She explained that once the current disciplinary cases are resolved, the financial report will look much better. Overall, the budget is in good standing.

4.2 Statistics reports

The Credential Counts report, as of December 31, 2020, shows current total active licensees to be 352 and 20 limited licenses. For disciplinary cases, there are 26 active cases; 4 in assessment, 8 in investigation, 10 in review, and 4 in adjudication.

Ms. Gragg presented the board with an overview of the number of cases for each year for the past ten years.

Ms. Yu recommended utilizing a training course for those cases that go forward for disciplinary hearings and she volunteered to host such training for any board members who sit on a hearing panel.

4.3 Continuing education audit report

There were no updates.

4.4 Recruitment update

Ms. Gragg updated the board on recruitment, that Dr. Buckley had been appointed to the professional member position and that, due to a technical issue, the public member recruitment is needing further scrutiny by the Governor's office.

4.5 Other reports

Ms. Yu, AAG, announced she will be retiring in May so the board's April 15th meeting will be her last meeting with the board. She will introduce her replacement at the next meeting.

Ms. Fullerton gave an update on HELMS, which continues to move forward. She shared that HELMS will allow access to things the board currently does not have, and potentially eliminate unnecessary paperwork circulating.

5. **Open Forum**

Public attendees were provided time to address the board on issues of significance to or affecting the practice of podiatric medicine and that are not related to topics for which a rules hearing was or will be scheduled.

Ms. Gail McGaffick thanked the board members and staff for their collaborative work. She also thanked Ms. Yu, AAG, for her years of service with the board.

6. **Future Business**

The board discussed adding the following items to the agenda for future meetings:

- Review of the policies being researched by board members
- CME rule discussion
- CME Requirements relative to specialty board certification

7. **Settlement Presentations**

Settlement and/or Agreed Order presentations are contingent upon agreements being reached between the parties prior to a board meeting. Decisions are made in closed session; however, decisions are made during open session.

There were no settlement presentations.

8. **Adjournment of public meeting**

Randy Anderson, DPM, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

9. **Discipline and Licensing**

There were no licensing or disciplinary matters to attend to.