

# Business Meeting Minutes

## March 5, 2021



WASHINGTON  
**Medical  
Commission**  
Licensing. Accountability. Leadership.

### Virtual Meeting via GoToWebinar

#### Commission Members

James E. Anderson, PA-C  
Christine Blake, Public Member  
Toni Borlas, Public Member  
Charlie Browne, MD  
Jimmy Chung, MD, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair  
Diana Currie, MD  
Karen Domino, MD  
April Jaeger, MD  
Charlotte Lewis, MD

John Maldon, Public Member, Chair  
Terry Murphy, MD  
Alden Roberts, MD  
Scott Rodgers, JD, Public Member  
Theresa Schimmels, PA-C  
Robert Small, MD  
Claire Trescott, MD, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair  
Richard Wohns, MD  
Yanling Yu, PhD, Public Member

#### Commission Staff

Christine Babb, Investigator  
Colleen Balatbat, Staff Attorney  
Jennifer Batey, Legal Support Staff Manager  
Larry Berg, Staff Attorney  
Amelia Boyd, Program Manager  
Reneé Bruess, Investigator  
Kayla Bryson, Executive Assistant  
Jimi Bush, Director of Quality & Engagement  
Adam Calica, Chief Investigator  
Sarah Chenvert, Performance Manager  
Gina Fino, MD, Investigator  
Ryan Furbush, Paralegal  
Rick Glein, Director of Legal Services

George Heye, MD, Medical Consultant  
Mike Hively, Information Liaison  
Jenelle Houser, Legal Assistant  
Kyle Karinen, Staff Attorney  
Becca King, Administrative Assistant  
Richelle Little, Staff Attorney  
Stephanie Mason, Legislative Liaison & PIO  
Melissa McEachron, Director of Operations  
& Informatics  
Joe Mihelich, Health Services Consultant  
Freda Pace, Director of Investigations  
Ariele Page Landstrom, Staff Attorney  
Trisha Wolf, Staff Attorney

#### Others in Attendance

Chris Bundy, MD, Executive Medical Director,  
Washington Physicians Health Program  
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General  
Mary Curtis, MD, Pro Tem Commissioner

Katerina LeMarche, Washington State Medical  
Association  
Gregory Terman, MD, Pro Tem Commissioner

#### 1.0 Call to Order

John Maldon, Public Member, Chair, called the meeting of the Washington Medical Commission (Commission) to order at 8:00 a.m. on March 5, 2021.

#### 2.0 Housekeeping

Amelia Boyd, Program Manager, gave an overview of how the meeting would proceed.

### 3.0 Chair Report

Mr. Maldon gave an overview of a recent meeting he; Melanie de Leon, Executive Director; and Stephanie Mason, Legislative Liaison & Public Information Officer, had with the leadership team at the Washington State Medical Association (WSMA).

Mr. Maldon reported that the Executive Committee began a pilot program to provide the Commissioners with laptop furnished by the Commission. This program is in an effort to reduce the technical issues for Commissioners.

He reported that there will be a strategic plan for 2021-2023 for the Commission as a whole as well as for the Commissioners.

### 4.0 Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

4.1 Minutes from the January 15, 2021 Business Meeting.

4.2 Agenda for March 5, 2021.

**Motion:** The Chair entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

### 5.0 New Business

#### 5.1 Ethics for Commission Members

Heather Carter, AAG, provided a refresher training on ethics.

#### 5.2 Structure of Future Meetings

The Commissioners discussed how future meetings may be structured once the Governor's restrictions on gatherings are lifted. Ms. de Leon announced that at this time, the annual Educational Conference held in October will be held in person.

### 6.0 Old Business

#### 6.1 Committee/Workgroup Reports

These reports were provided in writing and included in the meeting packet.

Ms. de Leon announced that Commissioner Diana Currie, MD was selected to serve on the Federation of State Medical Boards ad-hoc task force on health equity and medical regulation.

#### 6.2 Nominating Committee

Mr. Maldon announced the members:

- Christine Blake, Public Member
- Karen Domino, MD
- Alden Roberts, MD

The Committee will announce the slate of candidates at the April 9, 2021 Business meeting.

### 6.3 Rulemaking Activities

The rulemaking progress report was provided in the meeting packet. Ms. Boyd reported there are seven workshops to be held beginning in April and ending in June.

### 6.4 Lists & Labels Request

The following lists and labels request were discussed for possible approval or denial. Approval or denial of these requests is based on whether the entity meets the requirements of a “professional association” or an “educational organization” as noted on the application ([RCW 42.56.070\(9\)](#)).

- Pierce County Medical Society

**Motion:** The Chair entertained a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

### 7.0 Public Comment

There were no public comments.

### 8.0 Policy Committee Report

Dr. Karen Domino, Policy Committee Chair, reported on the items discussed at the Policy Committee meeting held on March 4, 2012:

#### Policy – Practitioners Exhibiting Disruptive Behavior

Dr. Domino explained that this document was presented at a previous meeting. It was deferred for additional edits. She explained what the amendments were and stated that the Committee recommended approval of this document with those amendments.

**Motion:** The Chair entertained a motion to approve the policy with the noted revisions. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### Procedure – Panel Composition

Dr. Domino lost connection with the meeting at this point. Instead, Mike Farrell, Policy Development Manager reported that the Committee had several suggested revisions and so it will be brought back at a future meeting. Mr. Farrell asked if anyone had suggestions for this document to send them to him.

#### Policy – Self-Treatment or Treatment of Immediate Family Members

Mr. Farrell explained that this document was due for its four-year review. He reviewed one change that was made from the previous version. He stated that the Committee recommended approval of the policy with the noted revision.

**Motion:** The Chair entertained a motion to approve the policy with the noted revisions. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### Policy – Self-Treatment or Treatment of Immediate Family Members

Mr. Farrell explained that this document was due for its four-year review. He gave some background on the policy. He stated that the Committee recommended approval of the policy.

**Motion:** The Chair entertained a motion to approve the policy. The motion was approved unanimously.

## 8.0 Member Reports

Robert Small, MD, reported that in the background of the COVID pandemic there has also been a mental health and substance use disorder pandemic. He stated he wanted to bring awareness to these significant issues.

Jimmy Chung, MD, stated that in his facility they have seen a significant decrease in the number of positive flu tests compared to previous year's data. He stated that social distancing, hand hygiene, and masking has contributed to this decrease.

Richard Wohns, MD, stated that there is a lag of a week or two, sometimes more, when counties begin implementing CDC's changes to COVID procedures for national implementation.

Yanling Yu, PhD, Public Member, reported that the Washington Patient Safety Coalition will partner with the Washington State Medical Association and Washington State Hospital Association to host a diagnostic excellence webinar series.

Scott Rodgers, Public Member, commented on the significant decrease in the number of pediatric deaths related to the flu.

## 9.0 Staff Reports

The reports below are in addition to those available in the packet.

**Melanie de Leon, Executive Director** expanded on Mr. Maldon's report about the meeting with WSMA. She added that staff will be meeting with WSMA's leadership team on a monthly basis to discuss issues, priorities, and collaborations. Additionally, WSMA's team would like the WMC to provide more transparency into the WMC's processes. To meet this ask, Ms. de Leon will do a series of articles in the WMC's quarterly newsletter discussing those processes.

## 10.0 AAG Report

Heather Carter, AAG, had nothing to report.

## 11.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Chair called the meeting adjourned at 9:27 am.

Submitted by

(signature on file)

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Amelia Boyd, Program Manager

(signature on file)

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John Maldon, Public Member, Chair  
Washington Medical Commission

Approved April 9, 2021

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