

Business Meeting Minutes

August 20, 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 – Absent
Charlie Browne, MD – Absent
Jimmy Chung, MD, 2nd Vice Chair – Absent
Diana Currie, MD – Absent
Karen Domino, MD
Harlan Gallinger, MD
April Jaeger, MD
Charlotte Lewis, MD

Sarah Lyle, MD
John Maldon, Public Member, Chair
Terry Murphy, MD
Alden Roberts, MD – Absent
Scott Rodgers, JD, Public Member
Theresa Schimmels, PA-C
Robert Small, MD
Claire Trescott, MD, 1st Vice Chair
Richard Wohns, MD
Yanling Yu, PhD, Public Member

Commission Staff

Christine Babb, Investigator
Colleen Balatbat, Staff Attorney
Morgan Barrett, MD, Director of Compliance
Jennifer Batey, Legal Support Staff Manager
Larry Berg, Staff Attorney
Amelia Boyd, Program Manager
Sarah Chenvert, Performance Manager
Melanie de Leon, Executive Director
Anthony Elders, Compliance Officer
Michael Farrell, Policy Development Manager
Ryan Furbush, Paralegal
Rick Glein, Director of Legal Services
George Heye, MD, Medical Consultant

Mike Hively, Information Liaison & Acting Director
of Operations & Informatics
Jenelle Houser, Legal Assistant
Kyle Karinen, Staff Attorney
Shelley Kilmer-Ready, Legal Assistant
Stephanie Mason, Legislative Liaison & PIO
Micah Matthews, Deputy Executive Director
Lynne Miller, Paralegal
Ariele Page Landstrom, Staff Attorney
Chris Waterman, Case Manager
Trisha Wolf, Staff Attorney
Gordon Wright, Staff Attorney
Mahlet Zeru, Equity & Social Justice Manager

Others in Attendance

Sadaf Amir
Chris Bundy, MD, Executive Medical Director,
Washington Physician's Health Program
Heather Cantrell, Policy Analyst, Department of
Health
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General
Patricia Devine

Mohamed Khalif
Katerina LaMarche, Washington State Medical
Association
Nadeem Mian
David Streeter
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 August 20, 2021.

2.0 Housekeeping

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

3.0 Chair Report

Mr. Maldon recognized Jimi Bush, Director of Quality and Engagement, for her outstanding work on the 2021-2023 Strategic Plan.

He also recognized Melanie de Leon, Executive Director, for introducing a new initiative on patient focused education. He reported that a meeting was held to discuss this issue and ideas for education.

Mr. Maldon reported that the Commissioner Retreat is scheduled for December 9, 2021. The location is to be determined. He stated he would send the agenda out to all Commissioners for comment soon.

4.0 Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

4.1 Minutes from the July 9, 2021 Business Meeting.

4.2 Agenda for August 20, 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 WMC 2021-2023 Strategic Plan

Ms. de Leon gave an overview of the draft strategic plan. She asked that any comments on the draft be sent to her. She stated the draft may be revised and will be presented for action at a future meeting.

6.0 Old Business

6.1 Committee/Workgroup Reports

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

6.2 Rulemaking Activities

The rulemaking progress report was provided in the meeting packet. In addition to the written report, Ms. Boyd stated that the hearing for the chapter 246-918 WAC Physician Assistants is scheduled for Wednesday, September 22 at 4 pm. She stated that at least 11 Commissioners are needed to serve on this hearing. She asked that any Commissioners who are interested in serving on this hearing to contact her as soon as possible.

Ms. Boyd stated that there may be three rule items on the next meeting agenda.

6.3 Delegation of Signature Authority

Micah Matthews, Deputy Executive Director, presented the changes to this document.

Motion: The Chair entertained a motion to approve the revised document. The

motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

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)).

- University of Washington/Fred Hutchinson

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

7.0 Public Comment

Dr. Mohamad Kalif from the Washington Academy for International Medical Graduates, provided comments regarding the Policy Committee meeting held on August 19, 2021.

Chris Bundy, MD, Executive Medical Director, Washington Physician’s Health Program (WPHP), thanked and acknowledged Commissioner Claire Trescott, MD, who attended the WPHP’s June board meeting. He also acknowledged the work of Mr. Matthews, the Policy Committee, and the Commissioners updating the licensure application.

8.0 Policy Committee Report

Dr. Karen Domino, Policy Committee Chair, reported on the items discussed at the Policy Committee meeting held on August 19, 2021:

Policy – Determining Appropriate Practices under IMG Licenses

Dr. Domino explained that this policy and the next item, the Interpretive Statement, go together. She then asked Mike Farrell, Policy Development Manager, to explain the background of these two documents. Mr. Farrell explained that the Washington State Legislature passed a law last session to create a pathway for International Medical Graduates (IMG) to apply for a limited license. Both of these documents are to provide clarity on these limited licenses for IMGs. Dr. Domino then asked Mr. Matthews to speak on these documents. Mr. Matthews spoke about some changes that may be made after the discussion about these documents at the Policy Committee meeting. Dr. Domino then went on to explain more of the discussion that had occurred. She then stated that both of these documents will need more work and will be brought back to a future meeting. She asked that if anyone has comments to please provide them to Mr. Farrell or Mr. Matthews.

Interpretive Statement – Requiring the Filing of a Practice Agreement Before Beginning to Practice Under an IMG Limited License

See above.

Policy – Telemedicine

Dr. Domino explained that this document is the combining of a guideline and a policy as well as updating the information. She asked Mr. Farrell to explain more about this document. Mr. Farrell stated that this draft also incorporates a new law that allows telemedicine consultations without a Washington State license. Dr. Domino stated that Committee recommended approving this document for Secretary review.

Motion: The Chair entertained a motion to approve this document for Secretary review.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Procedure – Processing Complaints of Sexual Misconduct Through the Sexual Misconduct Analysis Review Team (SMART)

Dr. Domino stated this document has been reviewed previously but there were some suggested changes. She stated that this new draft includes the suggested changes. She reviewed the changes and reported that the Committee recommended approving the new draft.

Motion: The Chair entertained a motion to approve this document. The motion was approved unanimously.

Procedure – Interactive and Transparent Development of Evidence-based Policies and Guidelines

Dr. Domino stated this document has been reviewed previously and was referred to a workgroup. She stated that the workgroup provided some suggested changes which are reflected in this new draft. Among the changes was the removal of the “guidelines” throughout. She reviewed the other changes and reported that the Committee recommended approving the new draft. She stated there may also be a procedure created for developing guidelines and that Commissioners with an interest in contributing should contact Mr. Farrell.

Motion: The Chair entertained a motion to approve this document. The motion was approved unanimously.

Licensing Application Questions

Dr. Domino asked Mr. Matthews to report on this item. Mr. Matthews provided background on the proposed changes. Other changes were offered by the Commissioners. Mr. Maldon stated that due to the extended conversation on this item that the document will be brought back to a future meeting.

Informed Consent and Shared Decision-Making

Dr. Domino reported this was an informational item and that the Committee voted to form a workgroup related to this topic. She stated that if Commissioners are interested in being a part of the workgroup to contact Mr. Farrell.

9.0 Member Reports

Yanling Yu, PhD, Public Member, reported that she and some colleagues from the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality wrote a blog regarding health equity: <https://www.ahrq.gov/news/blog/ahrqviews/achieve-health-equity.html>. She also reported that the World Health Organization has recognized September 17th as World Patient Safety Day: <https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2021/09/17/default-calendar/world-patient-safety-day-2021>. She went on to say that as part of World Patient Safety Day there will be a series of webinars targeted to patients, patient’s families, and healthcare providers and that she will be a moderator. She reported that the Washington Patient Safety Coalition will hold their annual Northwest Patient Safety Conference October 6-7, 2021: <https://www.qualityhealth.org/wpwc/wpwc-events/patient-safety-conference/>.

Theresa Schimmels, PA-C, reported that she will be speaking at the Washington Academy of Physician Assistants’ (WAPA) Annual Conference. Her topic is “How to Salve, er Solve that Itchy Rash.” WAPA’s annual conference will be held October 7-9, 2021: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation->

link.mhfi.id=1623176878486&key=GRP&app=resvlink. She also reported that they are seeing a lot of reactive PTSD in veterans aged 35-65 in response to the withdrawal in Afghanistan.

Resource: The [Veterans Crisis Line](#):

- 1-800-273-8255, press 1
- Send a text to 838255
- Chat online [Confidential Veterans Chat](#)

10.0 Staff Reports

There were no additional Staff Reports.

11.0 AAG Report

Heather Carter, AAG, had nothing to report.

12.0 Adjournment

The Chair called the meeting adjourned at 9:44 am.

Submitted by

(signature on file)

Amelia Boyd, Program Manager

(signature on file)

John Maldon, Public Member, Chair
Washington Medical Commission

Approved November 19, 2021

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