

Business Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2023



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

Link to recording: <https://youtu.be/CPBi4YZRo7I>

Commission Members

Michael Bailey, Public Member	April Jaeger, MD
Christine Blake, Public Member	Ed Lopez, PA-C
Mabel Bongmba, MD – Absent	Sarah Lyle, MD
Toni Borlas, Public Member	Terry Murphy, MD, Vice Chair
Po-Shen Chang, MD	Elisha Mvundura, MD – Absent
Jimmy Chung, MD, Chair	Robert Pullen, Public Member
Diana Currie, MD – Absent	Scott Rodgers, JD, Public Member
Karen Domino, MD, Chair Elect – Absent	Claire Trescott, MD – Absent
Arlene Dorrough, PA-C – Absent	Richard Wohns, MD – Absent
Anjali D’Souza, MD	Yanling Yu, PhD, Public Member – Absent
Harlan Gallinger, MD	

WMC Staff in Attendance

Christine Babb, Investigator	Jenelle Houser, Investigator
Colleen Balatbat, Staff Attorney	Ken Imes, Information Liaison
Morgan Barrett, Director of Compliance	Kyle Karinen, Staff Attorney
Jennifer Batey, Legal Support Staff Manager	Shelley Kilmer-Ready, Legal Assistant (Virtual)
Anjali Bhatt, Business Practices & Efficiency Manager	Pam Kohlmeier, MD, JD, Attorney
Amelia Boyd, Program Manager	Lisa Krynicki, Staff Attorney
Carolynn Bradley, Management Analyst & Contracts Specialist	Emma Marienthal, Licensing Lead (Virtual)
Renee Bruess, RN, Investigator	Stephanie Mason, Public Relations & Legislative Liaison
Kayla Bryson, Executive Assistant	Micah Matthews, Deputy Executive Director
Jimi Bush, Director of Quality & Engagement	Joe Mihelich, Health Services Consultant (Virtual)
Adam Calica, Chief Investigator	Lynne Miller, Paralegal
Melanie de Leon, Executive Director	Fatima Mirza, Program Case Manager
Joel DeFazio, Staff Attorney	Marne Nelson, ARNP, Investigator
Kelly Elder, Staff Attorney (Virtual)	Freda Pace, Director of Investigations
Mike Farrell, Policy Development Manager	Mike Piechota, Investigator
Gina Fino, MD, Investigator	Stormie Redden, Legal Assistant
Ryan Furbush, Paralegal	Chris Waterman, Complaint Intake Manager
Rick Glein, Director of Legal Services	Tricia Wolf, Staff Attorney
George Heye, MD, Medical Consultant	Mahi Zeru, Equity & Social Justice Manager

Others in Attendance

Chris Bundy, MD, Executive Medical Director,
Washington Physicians Health Program (WPHP)
Terry Burton (Virtual)
Heather Cantrell, Policy Analyst, Department of
Health (DOH) (Virtual)
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General

Tom Gumprecht, MD (Virtual)
Maria Higginbotham (Virtual)
Barbi Jones (Virtual)
Shelby Wiedmann, Washington State Medical
Association (WSMA)

1.0 Call to Order

Jimmy Chung, MD, Chair, called the meeting of the Washington Medical Commission (WMC) to order at 8:05 a.m. on March 3, 2023.

2.0 Public Comment

Tom Gumprecht, MD, provided comments regarding gender reassignment surgery in Washington state.

3.0 Chair Report

Jimmy Chung, MD, Chair, had nothing to report.

4.0 Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda contained the following items for approval:

4.1 Minutes from the January 13, 2023 Business Meeting

4.2 Agenda for March 3, 2023.

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

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Outstanding Performance Awards

Melanie de Leon, Executive Director, presented the Outstanding Performance Awards as follows:

- Administrative Staff – Kayla Bryson, Executive Assistant
- Investigative Staff – Mike Piechota, Investigator
- Legal Staff – Ryan Furbush, Paralegal

6.0 Old Business

6.1 Committee/Workgroup Reports

These reports were provided in writing and included in the meeting packet. There were no additional reports.

6.2 Nominating Committee

Dr. Chung asked for volunteers for the committee. The following Commissioners were nominated to be members of the committee:

- April Jaeger, MD
- Richard Wohns, MD
- Ed Lopez, PA-C

Nominees for leadership will be announced at the April 14, 2023, Business Meeting. The

election of leadership will take place at the May 26, 2023, Business meeting.

6.3 Rulemaking Activities

The rulemaking progress report was provided in the meeting packet. There were no additional reports.

7.0 Policy Committee Report

Christine Blake, Public Member, Policy Committee Chair, asked Mike Farrell, Policy Development Manager to report on the items discussed at the Policy Committee meeting held on March 2, 2023. The Policy Committee did not have a quorum of Commissioners attend the March 2 meeting. As such, each item requires a motion from the floor and a second. The agenda was as follows:

Interpretive Statement: Opioid Prescribing & Monitoring for Allopathic Physicians and Physician Assistants

Mr. Farrell presented the document and stated there were some revisions that were suggested in addition to the revisions on the document that was provided in the packet. Mr. Farrell stated the next steps could be to rewrite the document or if the panel approves the document with revisions, it can be forwarded on to the Secretary's office for review.

Motion: The Chair entertained a motion to approve the document as presented and discussed for review by the Secretary's office. The motion was approved unanimously.

Interpretive Statement: Opioid Prescribing & Monitoring for Patients

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Motion: The Chair entertained a motion to approve the document as presented for review by the Secretary's office. The motion was approved unanimously.

Guidance Document: Treating Partners of Patients with Sexually Transmitted Chlamydia and Gonorrhea

Mr. Farrell presented the document and stated it was up for routine review. He stated the classification of the document would be changed from Guideline to Guidance Document. Other than that change, he suggested the document be reaffirmed as written.

Motion: The Chair entertained a motion to reaffirm the document. The motion was approved unanimously.

Interpretive Statement: Physician Assistants' Use of DEA Waiver for Buprenorphine

Mr. Farrell presented the document and stated a waiver for Physician Assistants to prescribe buprenorphine is no longer a requirement. Mr. Farrell requested the document be rescinded.

Motion: The Chair entertained a motion to rescind the document. The motion was approved unanimously.

Proposed Interpretive Statement: Application of the Office-based Surgery Rule, WAC 246-919-601, to the Use of Nitrous Oxide

Mr. Farrell presented the document and explained reasons it might be needed. He asked that the Commissioners think about the document and send him any questions or suggestions. He stated

that it will be brought back at a future Policy Committee meeting for consideration. Micah Matthews, Deputy Executive Director, provided additional background information.

8.0 Member Reports

Scott Rodgers, Public Member, praised the WMC staff for their professionalism and high quality work.

9.0 Staff Reports

The reports below are in addition to the written reports that were included in the meeting packet.

Ms. de Leon, presented the following Service Awards:

- Emma Marienthal, Licensing Lead – 5 years of service
- Renee Bruess, RN, Investigator – 20 years of service
- Amelia Boyd, Program Manager – 10 years of service
- Mike Kramer, Compliance Officer – 30 years of service
- Christine Babb, Investigator – 5 years of service

Mr. Matthews reported that the masking requirements in long-term care and correctional facilities will end at midnight on April 3, 2023.

Rick Glein, Director of Legal Services, introduced a new staff attorney, Lisa Krynicki. Ms. Krynicki gave a brief statement about her background.

10.0 AAG Report

Heather Carter, AAG, had nothing to report.

11.0 Adjournment

The Chair called the meeting adjourned at 8:48 am.

Submitted by

(signature on file)

Amelia Boyd, Program Manager

(signature on file)

Jimmy Chung, MD, Chair
Washington Medical Commission

Approved April 14, 2023

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