

# ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING

770 Washington Ave, Ste 350, RSA Plaza  
Montgomery, Alabama

Fiscal Year 2015-2016  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
October 15, 2015

## I. CALL TO ORDER

### A. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday October 15, 2015. The following Board members were present: Francine Parker, EdD, MSN, RN, President; E. Laura Wright, PhD, MNA, CRNA, Vice-President; Gladys Davis Hill, MSN, RN, Secretary; Natalie Baker, DNP, CRNP; Cheryl Bailey, BSN, MBA; Melissa Bullard, LPN; Catherine Dearman, RN, PhD; Jill B. Hightower, MSN, RN; Chrystabell King, LPN; Helen T. McAlpine, Ed.D.; and Executive Officer Peggy Benson, MSHA, MSN, NE-BC, ABN Board members absent were: Peggie Carpenter, BA, LPN; Amy Price, MSN, RN; and Judith Burns, LPN Staff members attending the meeting were: Cathy Boden, MSN, RN, Legal Nurse Consultant; Charlene Cotton, MSN, RN, Advanced Practice; Dawn Daniel, MSN, RN, Probation Nurse Consultant; Christie Davis, Chief Financial Officer; Mary Ed Davis, RN, MSN, Voluntary Disciplinary Alternative Program; Honor Ingels, Chief Legislative and Information Officer; Joyce Jeter, MSN, RN, Practice/Continuing Education; Barbara Johnson, HR Manager; Brad Jones, IT Specialist; Kristine Jordan, as recorder; Howard Kenney, Chief Investigator; Debra Lett, PhD, MSN, MPA, RN, Education Nurse Consultant; Alice Maples Henley, Deputy Attorney General/General Counsel. Abby Migliore, RN, MSN, Legal Nurse Consultant; Melanie Rightmyer, RN, MSN, Legal Nursing Consultant; Robert Rollins, IT Manager; and Patrick Samuelson, Assistant General Counsel.

Visitor attending the meeting was:

Thomas W. Williams Jr., SPHR, SHRM-SCP, Courseware Developer and Instructor.

### B. Declaration of Quorum

A quorum was declared with ten Board members present on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

### C. Statement of Compliance with Open Meetings Act

Prior notice of this meeting was posted on the Secretary of State's web site in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

D. Review of Agenda

- 1) Additions, Modifications, Reordering None
- 2) Adoption of Consent Agenda

The following items were accepted on the Consent Agenda:

- II Advance Practice
- III Finance
- IV Executive Officer
- V Education
- VI Legal

**On October 15, Ms. Wright moved that the Board adopt the Consent Agenda. Ms. Hill seconded. Motion carried without objection.**

II. ADVANCE PRACTICE

A. Advance Practice Applications

Ms. Cotton reported that the roster includes all applications for collaborative practice completed by September 18, 2015. The Joint Committee will meet on October 20, 2015, to review the applications as listed in the roster. The Board of Medical Examiners (BME) will meet on October 21, 2015.

The roster of applications was distributed for the Board's review and approval.

**On October 15, Ms. Wright moved that the Board approve the applicants for collaborative practice as listed in the published roster, pending confirmation from the Joint Committee and Board of Medical Examiners. Ms. Baker seconded. Motion carried without objection.**

B. Advance Practice Guideline/Policy

Ms. Cotton reviewed the proposed policy for administrative approval of collaborative practice applications, which would facilitate progression from Temporary Approval to Active status without a vote by ABN members at a monthly meeting. The administrative policy and process for approval would eliminate the need to schedule a meeting of the ABN when the only item of business is voting on the collaborative practice applications. ABN's administrative process would have no effect on the BME process or Board agenda. The proposed policy identifies circumstances that require direct review of the CRNP or CNM qualifications by the ABN prior to approval for collaborative practice with a physician. It also allows for administrative approval for Standard Protocol and Standard Formulary

should there be a delay on a request for Specialty Formulary or Specialty Protocols.

Some discussion and questions occurred to clarify that only standard protocols and formulary would move forward with exceptions being presented to the ABN board members for approval at the next available Board meeting. Also noted is the allowance for consistency in how the Board staff approved other advanced practice licensees such as the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist and Clinical Nurse Specialist.

**On October 15, Ms. Wright moved that the Board accept the change in policy for approval of collaborative practice applications. Ms. McAlpine seconded. Motion carried without objection.**

C. Collaboration for CRNP on Probation

Ms. Cotton reviewed the proposed practice plan for Ms. Keen with Dr. John Sumners, Explaining the transition from RN practice back to CRNP practice. Ms. Anne Keen, RN 1-065300 applied for collaboration with Dr. John Sumners, 6213 for practice at Greenville Pediatrics. The application requests prescriptive authority for legend non-controlled medications. In order to comply with the stipulation for Employment Monitoring, Ms. Keen may work only when another CRNP or a physician is present in the office at Greenville Pediatrics, should the collaborative practice application be approved. Ms. Keen and Dr. Sumners submitted a Return to Work Agreement for compliance with her Board Order for Probation of her RN license including full-time on-site monitoring by the two CRNPs already employed in the office

Discussion and questions occurred regarding whether the requested action would change the current board order and whether Ms. Keen continue to practice in the event that the on-site monitors left the practice for some reason in the future.

Ms. Cotton responded that it would not change the Board order and Ms. Daniel added that probation requires that a monitor must be physically present on-site when Ms. Keen is practicing. The benefit of allowing a Registered Nurse to return to Advanced Practice during Board-monitored Probation is that the Board has direct access to review and monitor the nurse's practice, as well as quarterly reports.

**On October 15, Ms. Wright moved that the Board approve the proposed practice plan for Anne Keen RN 1-065300 to return to collaborative practice as a CRNP with Dr. John Sumners, MD 6213. Ms. McAlpine seconded. Motion Carried with six in favor (Gladys Davis Hill, MSN, RN, Secretary; Natalie Baker, DNP; CRNP; Cheryl Bailey, BSN, MBA; Catherine Dearman, RN, PhD; Jill B. Hightower,**

**MSN, RN; Chrystabell King, LPN) with one opposed (Melissa Bullard, LPN).**

III. FINANCE

A. FY 2017 Budget Approval

Ms. Davis reported and reviewed the FY 2017 budget, which is due in the budget office on November 2, 2015. The proposed budget is typically presented at a Board meeting before the due date so that it can be submitted by the deadline. Ms. Davis also highlighted large variances from previous years in relation to the FY 2017 proposed budget assumptions for the Board's information and review. Ms. Davis also informed the board about the new state fringe and payroll system.

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed budget, specifically, the changes in lease fees for facilities and costs for rental of the old Board room, as well as possible ways to reduce future expenditures.

Mrs. Benson informed the Board members that there are several options being discussed with RSA. The greatest potential savings is represented by selling the old Board table and leasing or subleasing the old Board room. These items will be brought forward to the Board in the spring or sooner upon development.

**On October 16, Mrs. Baker moved that the Board approve the FY 2017 proposed ABN Trust Fund expenditure budget. Ms. Bullard seconded. Motion carried without objection.**

IV. EXECUTIVE OFFICER

A. NURSYS

Mrs. Benson summarized the NURSYS system processes and changes occurring with the subscription service. Indicating that Robert Rollins and Charlene Cotton have worked toward matching information and certificate information and this should continue for about two or three more weeks until finalized. At that time, the Board members will receive a report on all nurses that have discipline from other boards across the US. Board staff continues to work on a review process through legal to address the individual issues. Mrs. Benson reported for the Board members information as information only.

B. License Card Update

Mrs. Benson updated the Board on the elimination of plastic license cards, effective January 1, 2016 and proposed processes for the transition. At time of roll out in January, the plan is to send a certificate, which will state when the applicant became a nurse. Board staff is expanding the

subscription verification service, in that all subscribers will receive all information, with subscription level determined by number of licensees, rather than desired scope of information which improves public safety. Ms. Benson reported for the Board members as information only.

C. Appoint Education Advisory Council

Mrs. Benson reviewed the proposal for an advisory council to establish dialogue with LPN programs related to the feasibility of bridge programs for military veterans. The ultimate goal is to create a pathway from LPN to BSN. Currently there are no veteran bridge programs in Alabama. The cost is \$30.00 per day plus mileage for each member appointed. This would also fulfill one of the Board's SWOT plans: to look at our military service members and what the Board could do to help to establish a nursing career path for them.

Board Members discussed the benefit of establishing a military bridge program. Several questions relating to who should be part of the council, coming to a consensus that invitations should be extended to all 17 public PN programs, as well as faculty in facilities near military installations in Alabama.

Dr. McAlpine recommended that Debra Millings, who is a veteran, be appointed to the committee as well. Should Ms. Millings decline, Dr. Alpine volunteered to be a member of the council.

**On October 16, Ms. Wright moved that the Board establish an Education Advisory Council to review the feasibility of a veteran bridge program and to invite all proposed members. Dr. McAlpine seconded. Motion carried without objection.**

V. EDUCATION

Mrs. Benson indicated that there a number of educational programs who may not meet the 3 year rolling average on the September 30th report due any day. Mrs. Benson stated that she would review the rules closely and come back to the Board with recommendations in November. The Education Report was presented as information for the ABN Board members.

Nurse Consultant Activities on September 9, 2015: Reid State Technical College PN program survey visit.

VI. LEGAL

A. North Carolina Dental Board Decision

Mr. Patrick summarized a recent meeting relating to the Dental Board decision, which affects the process for establishing rules and regulations by regulatory boards. Boards throughout the United States are working to adapt to the ruling, which could expose Board members to anti-trust actions by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). At the meeting, there were mixed feelings as to how this will change board processes in the future. Mr. Samuelson voiced the concern that the FTC may seek to have all boards controlled by non-market participants and not the experts in fields making decisions on scope of practice (e.g., a plumber overseeing the pharmacy board). The Dental Board decision is very broad, leaving future actions open to interpretation based on the specific facts in any given case. Mr. Patrick presented as information for the ABN Board members.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the ABN Board will be November 12-13, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. Located in the RSA Plaza 770 Washington Ave, Suite 350, Montgomery, Alabama.

VIII. OTHER

IX. BOARD MEETING DEBRIEFING

X. ADJOURNMENT

The ABN Board meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m. on October 15, 2015.

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Francine Parker, President

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Gladys Davis Hill, Secretary

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kristine Jordan, Recorder 10/15/2015