

Board of Registration in Midwifery
General Session Minutes
Meeting by Phone/Video Conference
DATE: December 18, 2025 TIME: 10:00 am

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Midwifery (“the Board”) was held in person and via Webex

Board Members Present by Phone/Video:

Rebecca Herman, Chair
Zev Colsen
Anna Whelan
Nicole Pegher
Kristin Brennan
Jessica Petrone

DPH Staff Present:

Diane Barry, Board Counsel
Thomas F. Burke, Executive Director
Margaret McKenna, Program Coordinator
Monique Brown, Office Support Specialist

Board Members Not Present by Phone/Video:

Tejumola Adegoke
April Funches
Susan Hernandez, Secretary

Administrative Tasks:

- Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call Vote for attendance

Board Chair, Rebecca Herman, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. The chair established quorum via calling attendance: Kristin Brennan, Zev Colsen, Jessica Petrone, Nicole Pegher, Anna Whelan and Rebecca Herman. All members participated remotely via Webex by Cisco.

Board Business:

- Review and approve general session agenda for December 18, 2025 – VOTE

Zev Colsen moved to approve the agenda for December 18, 2025. Anna Whelan seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Kristin Brennan – “yes”; Nicole Pegher – “yes”; Anna Whelan – “yes”; Jessica Petrone – “yes”; Zev Colsen – “yes”; Susan Hernandez – “not present”; Rebecca Herman – “yes”; Tejumola Adegoke – “not present”; April Funches – “not present”.

- Review and prove general session minutes for November 20, 2025 – VOTE

April Funches moved to approve November 20, 2025 general session minutes. Zev Colson seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Kristin Brennan – “yes”; Nicole Pegher – “yes”; Anna Whelan – “yes”; Jessica Petrone – “yes”; Zev Colsen – “yes”; Susan Hernandez – “not present”; Rebecca Herman – “yes”; Tejumola Adegoke – “not present”; April Funches – “not present”.

- 2026 Board Meeting Dates

After brief discussion, Rebecca Herman moved to accept board meeting dates through June 2026 and revisit the calendar in early spring. Jessica Petrone seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Kristin Brennan – “yes”; Nicole Pegher – “yes”; Anna Whelan – “yes”; Jessica Petrone – “yes”; Zev Colson – “yes”; Susan Hernandez – “not present”; Rebecca Herman – “yes”; Tejumola Adegoke – “not present”; April Funches – “not present”.

- Licensure by reciprocity for states with substantial equivalency

The Board discussed licensure by reciprocity for states that have substantially similar licensing requirements to Massachusetts. Board members agreed to notify staff of states that they consider to have similar licensing requirements and whose licensees should be eligible for licensure by reciprocity.

- Executive director report

The director notified the Board that the electronic application for licensure will be in Quality Assurance review (QA) in early January with a goal of completing testing by the end of January. The director reminded the Board that Open Meeting Law prevents communication among board members outside of meetings. Board members may contact staff directly if they wish to share information with the Board.

- Board chair report

The chair reviewed the topic of informed refusal when LCPM clients decline treatment and withhold consent for care and the role of reproductive justice in the practice of midwifery in Massachusetts. The chair thanked board members for their efforts in reviewing and discussing scope of practice regulation.

- Board counsel report

Board counsel discussed the role of informed consent in relationship to transfer of care in emergent situations for LCPMs. She thanked board members for their input and work on the scope of practice regulation 274 CMR 5.00.

Counsel moved to review the discussion topic on license requirements. She referred the Board to the addition of compliance language to the regulation in 274 CMR 3.03 (5) and (6) that requires board approval. She noted that after board approval, the amended regulation will be sent for administrative approval and public hearing.

Following counsel’s report, Zev Colson moved to accept 274 3.00 LCPM licensure requirements as amended and send for administrative approval and public hearing.

Rebecca Herman seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Kristin Brennan – “yes”; Nicole Pegher – “yes”; Anna Whelan – “yes”; Jessica Petrone – “yes”; Zev Colsen – “yes”; Susan Hernandez – “not present”; Rebecca Herman – “yes”; Tejumola Adegoke – “not present”; April Funches – “not present”.

Correspondence:

- Group B streptococcus protocols

The board chair acknowledged receipt of correspondence on protocols and guidelines related to group B streptococcus (GBS) in homebirths and deferred discussion of protocol limits and informed consent to the review of scope of practice regulation 274 CMR 5.00. The chair noted that correspondences from the public are reviewed by chair and board counsel prior to board meetings. Members of the public are encouraged to contact board staff directly.

Board Discussion:

- 274 CMR 3.00: Licensed Certified Professional Midwife Licensure Requirements – VOTE

The topic was previously discussed and voted on during general session meeting. Deferred.

- 274 CMR 5.00 Scope of Practice for Licensed Certified Professional Midwives (LCPM) – Draft

The Board reviewed and edited 274 CMR 5.03: Scope of Services Which May Be Performed and proposed additional protocols on informed refusal and transfer of care in emergent situations. Board counsel will present a revised copy of the amended regulation at the subsequent meeting.

Kristin Brennan left the meeting at 11:42 a.m. and rejoined the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

- 274 CMR 7.00 Investigations, Complaints and Board Actions – Draft

Counsel advised board members that principles related to restorative justice may be published as a guidance document. Topic deferred to subsequent meeting.

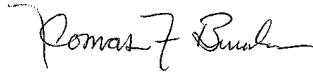
- Draft 274 CMR 2.00 Definitions – TIME PERMITTING

Deferred.

Adjournment:

At 12:29 p.m., Anna Whelan moved to adjourn the general session meeting. Nicole Pegher seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Kristin Brennan – “yes”; Nicole Pegher – “yes”; Anna Whelan – “yes”; Jessica Petrone – “yes”; Zev Colsen – “yes”; Susan Hernandez – “not present”; Rebecca Herman – “yes”; Tejumola Adegoke – “not present”; April Funches – “not present”.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas F. Burke, Executive Director

Documents used in the public session meeting:

- General session agenda for December 18, 2025
- General session minutes for November 20, 2025
- Proposed board meeting dates for 2026 calendar year
- A list of board-recommended readings on Group B Streptococcal infections in newborns
- Correspondence on protocols and guidelines related to group B streptococcus (GBS) in homebirths
- Bill of Rights for Women and Midwives published by the International Confederation of Midwives, Revised 2025
- Article on informed refusal – When Patients Decline Treatment
- Article on Refusal of Care
- M.G.L c. 112 ss 290-297
- Draft regulation 274 CMR 5.00 Scope of Practice for Licensed Certified Professional Midwives
- Draft regulation 274 CMR 7.00 Investigations, Complaints and Board Actions