

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NATUROPATHY
GENERAL SESSION BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, June 27, 2023
250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108
VIA WebEx
1:00 PM

(Open Session)
MINUTES

Board Members Present: Paul Herscu, ND, MPH, Naturopathic Doctor 1, Chair
Anne Frances Hardy, ND, LAC, Naturopathic Doctor 2, Vice-Chair
Christina Bain, Public Member

Board Members Not Present: Mattia Migliore, PhD, RPH, Clinical Pharmacologist, Secretary
Darshan Mehta, MD Physician 1

Staff Present: Jim Lavery, Bureau Director, BHPL
Steven Joubert, Executive Director, Multi-Boards, BHPL
Catherine Goldrick, Assistant Executive Director, Multi-Boards, BHPL
Heather Engman, Chief Board Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, DPH
Judy Bromley, Board Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, DPH
Sarah Constantino, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL
Kayla Mikalauski, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL
Tracy Tam, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL

Public Attendee: Daryl Bennett

I. Call to Order

At 1:00 PM Dr. Paul Herscu, Board Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order. Dr. Herscu reminded the Board members the meeting was being recorded and asked for a roll call vote to determine quorum.

Roll call as follows: Paul Herscu: present; Anne Frances Hardy: present; Christina Bain: present.
Absent: Mattia Migliore, Darshan Mehta

II. Conflict of Interest & Approval of the Agenda

The Board reviewed the June 27, 2023, Regular Session Agenda.

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Herscu asked if anyone had a conflict of interest with the agenda as written. No conflicts of interests were noted.

ACTION:

Dr. Anne Frances Hardy made a motion to approve the agenda which was seconded by Dr. Paul Herscu. The vote carried unanimously by roll call vote as follows:

Paul Herscu: yes; Anne Frances Hardy: yes; Christina Bain: yes.

Opposed: none; Abstained: none, Recused: none

Absent: Mattia Migliore, Darshan Mehta

Document: June 27, 2023, Regular Session Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the May 23, 2023, Regular Session Minutes.

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

Dr. Paul Herscu made a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Dr. Anne Frances Hardy. The vote carried by roll call vote as follows: Paul Herscu: yes; Anne Frances-Hardy: yes; Christina Bain: yes.

Opposed: none; Abstained: none; Recused: none

Absent: Mattia Migliore, Darshan Mehta

Document: May 23, 2023, Regular Session Minutes

IV. Review of PowerPoint Presentation Regarding Board of Registration in Naturopathy Licensing Overview

Mr. Joubert reviewed the Board of Registration in Naturopathy Licensing Overview PowerPoint Presentation and went over the following topics: A. 273 CMR 2:00 Purpose, Definitions, and Severability; B. 273 CMR 3:00 Licensure of Individual Naturopathic Doctors; C. 273 CMR 4.00 Scope of Practice; D. 273 CMR 5.00 Professional and Ethical Standards of Conduct; and E. 273 CMR 6.00 Continuing Education.

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Herscu stated there is a typographical error on slide #6 and slide #7 that needs to be amended. Mr. Joubert stated it will be reviewed and corrected.

Dr. Hardy stated there should be another version of this presentation condensed down to one or two-pages. Ms. Bain stated the slides were compacted with text and suggested a version that would be less dense for the reader. Mr. Joubert agreed this was a lot of information at once and some information could be edited.

Mr. Joubert stated the purpose of this Board is to promote and enforce the rules and regulations regarding Naturopathy licensure. Mr. Joubert also stated the Board is not charged with going to all the stakeholders to promote naturopathy, but the Board is charged with protecting the health and safety of the public by educating licensees and stakeholders on the standards, policies, and procedures that licensed naturopathic doctors will be held to. Mr. Joubert stated one way to educate stakeholders and the public, is to place this slideshow on our website but the Board would not seek out different stakeholders.

Mr. Joubert stated he will work on a one-page summary, and it will be submitted to the Board for review along with the Sub-Regulatory Memo at the next Board meeting.

Dr. Herscu stated he would like to keep the PowerPoint presentation as is to be sent out and to be published on our website because there are a lot of inquiries on the rules and regulations which are detailed in the presentation. Dr. Herscu also stated the one-page summary can be created for different stakeholders.

Mr. Joubert stated the Board cannot promote different documentation towards different stakeholders, there must be consistency in the information we provide to all stakeholders.

Ms. Bain asked if the presentation style can be formatted so it would be easier for the audience to read. Dr. Herscu stated there are a lot of information per slide but he would like to keep the presentation as is so the reader can be fully informed.

Dr. Herscu asked what the next step would be after the presentation is approved. Mr. Joubert stated it would be uploaded to the website and if a stakeholder reached out to us, such as an educational institution inquiring about licensing information for example, the Board would present this information to them.

Dr. Herscu stated he will be attending an annual meeting held by the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians and asked if he can refer attendees to the presentation on our website once it is uploaded. Ms. Engman stated Board members can direct anyone to access the resources and information published on our website, but they can only speak on their own behalf as in individual at the convention, they cannot speak on behalf of the Board or on behalf of the administration. Dr. Herscu also asked if he can direct attendees to contact the Board for information and Mr. Joubert stated that is allowed.

Dr. Herscu asked if a Board member can draft a one page summary of the presentation and submit it to the Board. Mr. Joubert answered Board members can submit their draft for review and the one page summary must be consistent with the regulations listed on the presentation.

Document: Board of Registration in Naturopathy Licensing Overview

V. Flex Session

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Joubert stated the Board has met more often than required and suggested going back to the scheduled quarterly meetings. Dr. Herscu stated the Board still needs to meet about the Sub-Regulatory documents. Dr. Hardy stated she has reservations about meeting quarterly when there are pending documents. Ms. Bain stated she is also concerned the documents will stagnate and work on the one-page summary will be extended if the Board meets quarterly.

Mr. Joubert stated the Sub-Regulatory documents are being reviewed by the administration and once it is finalized, it will be added to the Board Agenda, but the process requires going through the proper channels which takes time.

Dr. Herscu stated he would like to continue monthly Board meetings until all the documents are approved and then the Board can move to quarterly meetings with the option of scheduling additional meetings if an issue arises.

Mr. Joubert suggested holding a July Board meeting and then hold the next successive meeting in September so the Board can transition to a quarterly meeting schedule.

All Board members agreed on the meeting schedule as discussed.

Dr. Herscu stated he would like to discuss about CEUs. Ms. Bain stated she must leave the meeting at 2:30 P.M. due to a scheduling conflict. Mr. Joubert stated the topic of CEUs will be added to the next board meeting agenda to meet quorum.

VII. Adjournment

There being no other business before the Board, Dr. Anne Frances Hardy motioned to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Ms. Christina Bain. The vote carried unanimously by roll call vote as follows: Paul Herscu: yes; Anne Frances Hardy: yes; Christina Bain: yes.

Opposed: none; Abstained: none; Recused: none.

Absent: Mattia Migliore, Darshan Mehta

Let the records show the meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM

The next meeting of the Board of Registration in Naturopathy is scheduled for Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 1:00 PM via WebEx.

Respectfully submitted by:

The Board of Registration in Naturopathy