

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Health
Board of Registration of Dietitians and Nutritionists

Public Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2024

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Dietitians and Nutritionists (the Board) was held remotely with video and audio conference as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, An Act Relative to Extending Certain State of Emergency Accommodations, signed into law on July 16, 2022.

Ms. Guglietta stated that the meeting was being recorded.

Dr. Lisa Brown noted a quorum of members present via video or phone and called the meeting to order at 09:16 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lisa Brown, Chair
Valerie Machinist, Vice Chair
Stella Uzogara
E. Reese
Elizabeth Natale
Pranita Amarasinghe

STAFF PRESENT

Lisa Guglietta, Board Executive Director
Katie Goldrick, Board Associate Executive Director
Sheila York, Esq., Board Counsel
Gillian Coffey, Health Communications Manager
Lauren Nelson, Deputy Director
Edmund Taglieri, PSUD Program
Sophia Emidy, Policy Intern

ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Lisa Brown took attendance by roll call and a quorum of board members was recorded with the following members present via video conference: *Brown, Machinist, Reese, Uzogara, Natale, Amarasinghe*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Thereafter a motion was made by Reese, seconded by Dr. Uzogara, and VOTED (roll call); **to approve the September 6, 2024 agenda as drafted.**

in-favor: Brown, Machinist, Reese, Natale, Amarasinghe

opposed: none

abstained: Uzogara

CONFLICT OF INTEREST and OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS

Attorney York reviewed Conflict of Interest and Open Meeting Law requirements with the Board. Members should contact Atty. York with questions about possible conflicts with applicants, petitioners, or cases before the Board. Please bring these matters to Atty. York's attention before the meeting if possible.

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

The Board discussed the draft public meeting minutes of 6/7/2024.

Thereafter a motion was made by Ms. Amarasinghe, seconded by Ms. Machinist, and VOTED (roll call); **to approve the June 7, 2024 Public Meeting minutes as drafted.**

in-favor: Brown, Machinist, Uzogara, Natale, Reese, Amarasinghe

opposed: none

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Guglietta informed the Board that Lisa Brown's and Reese's terms on the Board had ended. She thanked them both for their many contributions and years of service. Ms. Guglietta reported that three new board members were in the process of appointment for two Certified Dietitian seats and the Dietitian with Baccalaureate Degree seat. She also mentioned that there was the possibility that Elizabeth Natale would be moved to the Educator's seat and another Certified Dietitian candidate could fill her current Certified Dietitian seat. The Board does not currently have potential candidates for the second Public Member seat.

Ms. Guglietta reported that since the last meeting the Board Chair, Dr. Lisa Brown, approved three license reactivation applications via delegated authority.

URAMP INTRODUCTION

Gillian Coffey, Health Communications Manager, and Edmund Taglieri of the Pharmacy Substance Use Disorder Program (PSUD) introduced the Board to the Unified Recovery and Monitoring Program (URAMP). The URAMP seeks to support health professionals with meeting their substance use disorder (SUD) and/or mental health related recovery goals while preserving public safety. Licensees voluntarily enter URAMP and work, pursuant to the program structure, to modify the personal antecedents that may have contributed to the event(s) that led to program entry. The URAMP monitors the participant's recovery and restoration activities instead of directly providing recovery related interventions. URAMP will be accessible to licensees of all 21 Bureau of Health Professions Licensure boards as an alternative to discipline program.

Mr. Taglieri discussed the participant program requirements for return to practice and compliance monitoring. He also answered questions from Board members. The Chair, Dr. Lisa Brown, asked about the role of the Board in the program. She noted that the program may minimize the burden on the Board but expressed concern that those working with the licensees in the program would not fully understand the nuances of what dietitians and nutritionists do. Mr. Taglieri emphasized that the Board would be considered part of the team and would be consulted if needed. He also encouraged Board members to provide feedback and suggestions.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:28 a.m. a motion was made by Ms. Amarasinghe, seconded by Ms. Natale, and VOTED (roll call); **to end the public meeting.**

in-favor: Brown, Reese, Machinist, Uzogara, Natale, Amarasinghe

opposed: none

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Guglietta, Executive Director
Board of Registration of Dietitians and Nutritionists

Documents used by the Board during open session:

- Posted agenda 9/6/24
- Draft public meeting minutes of 6/7/2024
- URAMP Introduction and PowerPoint Presentation Slides