

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS
BOARD MEETING
250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108**

**Friday, September 20, 2024
VIA WebEx**

**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
(OPEN SESSION)**

Board Members

Present:

Stephen Davis | Department of Public Health
James Divver, LNHA | Public Member
Roxanne Webster, R.N. | Registered Nurse
Kahoney Anderson, N.H.A | Nursing Home Administrator 1
James Lomastro, Ph. D | Educator
Pavel Terpelets | Office of Long-Term Services and Supports
Patrick J. Stapleton, N.H.A | Board Chair
Nancy Lordan, N.H.A. | Nursing Home Administrator 3
Malvika Varma, MD | Physician

Board Members

Not Present:

Carolyn Fenn | Executive Office of Elder Affairs
Naomi M. Prendergast | N.H.A | Nursing Home Administrator 4
Sister Jacquelyn McCarthy, N.H.A. | Nursing Home Administrator 2

Staff Present:

Steven Joubert | Executive Director – Multi-Boards, BHPL
Kayla Mikalauski | Management Analyst II, Multi-Boards
Tracy Tam | Assistant Executive Director, Multi-Boards
Judith Bromley | Board Counsel
Jonathan Dillon, Director of Policy, BHPL, DPH
Gillian Coffey, Health Communications Manager, BHPL, DPH
Lauren McShane, Chief Investigator, DPH
Mark Waksmonski, SARP Coordinator, BHPL, DPH
Sophia Emidy, Regulatory Affairs Intern, BHPL, DPH
Edmund Taglieri, PSUD Supervisor, BHPL, DPH

Staff Not Present: N/A

I. Call to Order | Determination of Quorum:

Mr. Stapleton welcomed the board members to the meeting. Mr. Stapleton handed the floor over to Mr. Joubert. Mr. Joubert called the meeting to order and reminded the Board members the meeting is being recorded and asked for a roll call vote to determine quorum.

Roll Call as follows: Kahoney Anderson: Present; Steven Davis: present; James Divver: Present; Nancy Lordan: Present; James Lomastro: present; Patrick Stapleton: present; Pavel Terpelets: present; Malvika Varma: Present; Roxanne Webster: present.

Absent: Carolyn Fenn, Sister Jacquelyn McCarthy, Naomi Prendergast

II. Conflict of Interest | Approval of Regular Session Agenda

The Board reviewed the September 20, 2024, Regular Session Agenda.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Joubert asked if anyone had a conflict of interest with the agenda as written. No conflicts of interest were noted.

ACTION:

Motion by Roxanne Webster to approve the General Session agenda, seconded by Patrick Stapleton and a unanimous decision by Roll Call as follows: Kahoney Anderson: approve; Steven Davis: approve; James Divver: approve; Nancy Lordan: approve; James Lomastro: approve; Patrick Stapleton: approve; Pavel Terpelets: approve; Malvika Varma: approve; Roxanne Webster: approve.

Absent: Carolyn Fenn, Sister Jacquelyn McCarthy, Naomi Prendergast

Document: September 20, 2024, Regular Session Agenda

III. Approval of Regular Session Minutes

The Board reviewed the August 16, 2024, Regular Session Minutes.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Joubert asked for a motion to approve the August General Session Minutes when ready.

ACTION:

Motion by James Divver to approve the August 16, 2024, General Session Minutes seconded by Steve Davis and a decision by Roll Call as follows: Kahoney Anderson: approve; Steven Davis: approve; James Divver: approve; Nancy Lordan: approve; James

Lomastro: approve; Patrick Stapleton: approve; Pavel Terpelets: approve; Malvika Varma: approve; Roxanne Webster: approve.

Absent: Carolyn Fenn, Sister Jacquelyn McCarthy, Naomi Prendergast

Document: August 16, 2024, Regular Session Minutes

IV. URAMP Discussion:

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Jonathan Dillon, Director of Policy, provided a presentation on the Unified Recovery and Monitoring Program (URAMP) as follows:

In Chapter 177 of the Acts of 2022 - An Act Addressing Barriers to Care for Mental Health, comprehensive legislation continuing the process of reforming the way mental health care is delivered in Massachusetts, ensuring that people get the mental health care they need when and where they need it. Within the legislation URAMP is established as a voluntary program for monitoring the rehabilitation of licensed health care professionals who seek support for their mental health or substance use or who are referred to the program by a licensing board. The legislation establishes three key components to the service: the Advisory Committee, Rehabilitation Evaluation Committee (REC), and the URAMP Operational Team.

The primary goal is to promote patient safety while respecting a licensee's condition. This is a monitoring program with a focus on public protection, it will remain confidential (unlike disciplinary proceedings), and allows disciplinary proceedings to be dismissed without prejudice when the incident(s) are found to be a direct result of the licensee's substance use disorder (SUD) or Mental Health Disorder (MHD), and the licensee successfully is admitted to URAMP. Upon admission of a licensed health care professional into the program, the licensing board may dismiss any pending investigation or complaint against the participant that arises from or relates to the participant's mental health or substance use. The licensing board may change the participant's publicly available license status to reflect the existence of non-disciplinary restrictions or conditions.

In Chapter 177 of the Acts of 2022, a board of registration that is required to establish a similar rehabilitation program by another requirement of this chapter shall fulfill that requirement by formally adopting the program in lieu of establishing its own. The Bureau has two existing alternative-to-discipline programs: the Pharmacy Substance Use Disorder (PSUD) Program and the Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Program (SARP). They are both successful programs designed specifically for their professions. URAMP unites the current SARP and PSUD programs but also expands the scope to be available to licensees under all 21 boards, to increase the scope of admissions, and to ensure the

confidential monitoring program will help licensees practice safely. Over time, because of these factors, the alternative to discipline caseloads is forecasted to at least double.

The URAMP Advisory Committee will assist the department in the development and implementation of the program. The Rehabilitation Evaluation Committee (REC) consists of members with a knowledge base in mental health and substance use disorder. The REC will review admissions and make recommendations for individualized plans; review and approve gradual return of practice, return of privileges and successful graduation for successful progression in program; review and approve plans for participants that have non-successful compliance; and review and approve non-successful discharge and license surrender for repeated non-successful progression. URAMP staff will manage in-program administrative matters pursuant to Bureau policies and the URAMP staff action policy. REC and URAMP staff lead the program for BHPL, allowing licensing Boards to focus on their core mission. Any changes to a restriction or condition shall be subject to the approval of the participant's licensing board to review and approve de-identified reports upon successful program completion. URAMP is expected to launch by the end of the year.

Mr. Mark Waksmonski and Mr. Edmund Taglieri, SARP Coordinator, explained that URAMP staff are authorized to modify/ease a participant's program requirements for return to practice and compliance monitoring. Mr. Waksmonski presented a chart detailing the return to practice conditions.

Mr. Dillon stated as soon as documents have gone through the approval process and become available, they will be shared with the Board.

Document: URAMP Board Introduction Presentation

V. Continuing Education:

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Kahoney Anderson states she has reviewed the Mass. ALA Application which is requesting 5 CEUs. Ms. Anderson states after reviewing they do meet the requirements for the CEUs and would recommend approving the Associations request.

Ms. Anderson states secondly, she has reviewed the request for the Long-Term Care Finance Association requesting 3 CEUs to help and encourage nurse leadership- Ms. Anderson stated she needed clarification if it is an initial or renewal request. Mr. Joubert states they have been approved by the board before, Ms. Webster stated this Association has deem status. All board members felt comfortable approving.

ACTION:

Motion by Roxanne Webster to approve both CEU Applications, seconded by Steve Davis and a decision by Roll Call as follows: Kahoney Anderson: approve; Steven Davis:

approve; James Divver: approve; Nancy Lordan: approve; James Lomastro: approve; Patrick Stapleton: approve; Pavel Terpelets: approve; Malvika Varma: approve; Roxanne Webster: approve.

Absent: Carolyn Fenn, Sister Jacquelyn McCarthy, Naomi Prendergast

VI. Flex Session:

Mr. Joubert asked board members who would be present at the October 18, 2024, board meeting? At this time all board members will be present besides Dr. James Lomastro.

VII. Adjournment:

ACTION:

Motion by James Divver to adjourn the General Session meeting and go into the Executive Session meeting seconded by James Lomastro, and a unanimous decision by Roll Call as follows: Kahoney Anderson: approve; Steven Davis: approve; James Divver: approve; Nancy Lordan: approve; James Lomastro: approve; Patrick Stapleton: approve; Pavel Terpelets: approve; Malvika Varma: approve; Roxanne Webster: approve.

Absent: Carolyn Fenn, Sister Jacquelyn McCarthy, Naomi Prendergast

The next meeting of the Board of Registration of Nursing Home Administrators is scheduled for Friday, October 18, 2024, at 10:00 AM via WebEx.

Let the records show the meeting adjourned at 10:58am

Respectfully submitted by:

The Board of Registration of Nursing Home Administrators