COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

THIS AGENDA CONSTITUTES NOTICE OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE
IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING LAW, M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20

Thursday, April 17, 2025
1:00 p.m.
General Session is open to the public and will be held via Zoom at:
https://zoom.us/j/91608716194?pwd=pnIomQ3m0pCNwanGMcVd6rZMeERB1i.1
Call-In Telephone number: 1-929-436-2866
Meeting ID: 916 0871 6194

Agenda

All votes must be via roll call

Time	Item #	Item	Staff Contact
1:00p.m.	**I**	**Call to Order & Introductions** **Determination of Quorum** **Notice of Electronic Recording**	Board Chair
	II	**Approval of Agenda**	Board Chair
	III	**Approval of Minutes** A. Approval of March 20, 2025, General Session Minutes.	Board Chair
	IV	**Discussion on Respiratory Care Education Services** A. Joelle Hochman, RT9782	Board
	V	**Regulations Discussion** A. 261 CMR 2.00: Purpose and definitions B. 261 CMR 3.00: Documentation of license	Board

Board of Respiratory Care

ADA Compliance Notice: If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, contact Stacy Hart the DPH ADA Coordinator at phone number 857-274-1120 in advance of the meeting. While the Board will do its best to accommodate you, certain accommodations may require distinctive requests or the hiring of outside contractors and may not be available if requested immediately before the meeting.

	VI	**Flex Session** A. Limited License Guidance Memo B. Who will attend the next board meeting? C. Topics for next agenda	Acting Executive Director
	VII	**Executive Session** The Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purpose of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, individuals, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual. 1. Specifically, the Board will consider approval of prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. c.30A, § 22(f) and review a good moral character matter for licensure. The Board will not reconvene in open session subsequent to the closed session.	Board Chair
	VIII	**Adjournment:** Next meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2025.	Board Chair

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE
250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

Thursday, April 17, 2025
Via Zoom

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES (OPEN SESSION)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Jason Morin, Respiratory Therapist, Board Chair
Brian Bloom, MD
Daniel Fisher, Respiratory Therapist
Adelline Ntatin, Nurse
Adrian Velasquez, MD

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:
William Beal, Consumer, Board Vice Chair
Meaghan Kaplan, Consumer

STAFF PRESENT:
Tracy Tam, Acting Executive Director, Multi-Boards 1, BHPL
Kayla Mikalauskis, Acting Executive Director, Multi-Boards 2, BHPL
Tracy Ottina, Board Counsel, BHPL
Danielle MacFarland, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL

I. CALL TO ORDER | DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

At 1:02 p.m., Mr. Jason Morin, Board Chair, called the General Session meeting to order. Mr. Morin reminded Board members the meeting was being recorded and asked for a roll call vote to determine quorum.

Roll call as follows: Dr. Brian Bloom: present, Mr. Daniel Fisher: present, Mr. Jason Morin: present, Ms. Adelline Ntatin: present, Dr. Adrian Valasquez: present.

II. APPROVAL OF GENERAL SESSION AGENDA | CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Discussion: The Board reviewed the General Session Agenda.

Action:
Motion to approve the agenda was made by Dr. Brian Bloom, seconded by Mr. Daniel Fisher, and unanimously passed by roll call vote as follows: Dr. Brian Bloom: yes, Mr. Daniel Fisher: yes, Mr. Jason Morin: yes, Ms. Adelline Ntatin: yes, Dr. Adrian Velasquez: yes.

Document: April 17, 2025, General Session Agenda

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Discussion: The Board reviewed the drafted General Session Minutes. Mr. Daniel Fisher stated his votes were not recorded and would like to amend the minutes to reflect his votes.

Action:
Motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Dr. Brian Bloom, seconded by seconded by Mr. Daniel Fisher, and unanimously passed by roll call vote as follows: Dr. Brian Bloom: yes, Mr. Daniel Fisher: yes, Mr. Jason Morin: yes, Ms. Adelline Ntatin: yes, Dr. Adrian Velasquez: yes.

Document: March 20, 2025, General Session Minutes

IV. DISCUSSION ON RESPIRATORY CARE EDUCATION SERVICES

A. Joelle Hochman, RT9782

Ms. Joelle Hochman is in attendance Via Zoom.

Discussion: As requested by the Board at a previous meeting, Ms. Joelle Hochman submitted a proposal for her Respiratory Care Education Services to display her compliance with the regulations, Dr. Brian Bloom stated Ms. Joelle Hochman should have a Physician's Order before she evaluates a patient. Ms. Joelle Hochman stated that the request is reasonable, and she will comply with those requirements.

Action:
Motion to approve the Respiratory Care Education Service with the condition of obtaining a Physician's Order prior to services was made by Dr. Brian Bloom, seconded by Ms. Adelline Ntatin, and unanimously passed by roll call vote as follows: Dr. Brian Bloom: yes, Mr. Daniel Fisher: yes, Mr. Jason Morin: yes, Ms. Adelline Ntatin: yes, Dr. Adrian Velasquez: yes.

V. REGULATIONS DISCUSSION:

A. 261 CMR 2.00: Purpose and definitions

Discussion: The Board reviewed 261 CMR 2.02: Definitions. Mr. Daniel Fisher would like to have (CoARC) added to the definitions under 2.02 since they are a regulatory board for the Board of Respiratory Care. Mr. Jason Morin stated the definition can simply be "The Commission on Accreditation of Respiratory Care". Ms. Tracy Tam also noted from last month's meeting Mr. Daniel Fisher requested to amend the definition of Respiratory Care to state the following: "Respiratory Care is a changing and evolving profession and shall include Board approved procedures described by the Clinical Practice Guidelines of the AARC and the AARC position statements, and any practice guidelines as published in the journal of Respiratory Care". Ms. Tracy Tam stated a draft of the suggested changes will be presented at the next meeting.

B. 261 CMR 3.00: Documentation of license

Discussion: The Board reviewed 261 CMR 3.05: Exceptions to General Licensure Requirements. Mr. Jason Morin would like to amend 3.05(5) to state the following: "cleaning, sterilizing, disinfecting, assembling, and disassembling of respiratory care equipment at a home, hospital, or other location" to clarify that these performances are allowed outside of a hospital setting.

The Board reviewed 261 CMR 3.06: Criteria and Application for Licensure. Mr. Morin stated the AARC and MSRC are pushing to raise the licensure standard to the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential and the Board could consider making RRT the minimum requirement for licensure. Dr. Bloom stated there are low enrollment and graduation rates for respiratory therapists and there is also a shortage of respiratory therapists in the field so raising the requirement may cause scarcity. Mr. Fisher stated the CRT is an old credential and suggested making RRT the minimum requirement for licensure while allowing CRTs an extension on their limited license if they did not score high enough to obtain the RRT credential. Ms. Adelline Ntatin suggested allowing both credentials to obtain licensure but delineate the scope of practice between a CRT and an RRT. Mr. Morin stated he can reach out to MSRC regarding the different scope of practices between a CRT and RRT. Ms. Tracy Ottina advised Mr. Morin to invite a representative from MSRC as a guest speaker to address the Board.

Dr. Bloom stated the existence of both 3.06(2): License by Reciprocity and 3.06(3): License by Credential seem redundant and suggested removing 3.06(2) because holding a license in another state is not a requirement for licensure and they would still need to verify their credentials. Ms. Tam stated the Board should consider keeping the criteria from

3.06(2)(b) which states “Documentation satisfactory to the Board that his or her license is in good standing in the other jurisdiction” to verify applicants who hold a license in another state are in good standing. Ms. Tracy Ottina stated she will research the legislative intent for these two pathways. Dr. Velazquez agreed there should be research before striking out this section. Mr. Morin also suggested adding a section that recognizes the credentials of military-trained Respiratory Therapists. Mr. Fisher agreed and stated he will research the requirements for military-trained Respiratory Therapists

The Board reviewed 261 CMR 3.07: Limited License. Dr. Bloom would like to amend 3.07(1) to include a criterion that requires students to complete at least two semesters of a Board approved respiratory care program before they can obtain a limited license. Dr. Fisher would like to remove 3.07(1)(c) which states “is eligible to sit for the licensure examination” because students are no longer allowed to sit for the licensure exam until after graduation. Ms. Ntatin stated 3.07(1)(d)2 indicates that the school is to list the curriculum components that that the applicant has completed but it should be clarified that the school is to list the skills that the applicant has successfully achieved. Mr. Morin would like to amend 3.07(1)(d)2 to state the following: “Verification of Education Form certified by the school seal that lists the competencies that the applicant has completed”.

Mr. Morin would like to amend 3.07(3)(c) by reducing the amount of time a limited license can be held after graduation to three months. Ms. Tam stated the Board should take into consideration the application process to obtain a license which takes around 2-4 weeks. Ms. Ntatin suggested six months as a compromise. The Board agreed. Mr. Morin would also like to amend 3.07(3) to include a criterion that would render the limited license as expired if the student leaves the respiratory care program before graduating.

Mr. Morin stated 3.07(4) puts the responsibility on limited license holders to self-report when they fail the licensure exam and suggested putting the responsibility on the director of the respiratory therapy program instead. Ms. Tam stated the exam taker needs to authorize the NBRC to release this information first before NBRC will provide this information to the Board. Ms. Ottina stated there could be legal restrictions prohibiting the school from disclosing this information to a third party because educational institutions have their own privacy laws. Ms. Ottina stated she would look into this matter further. Mr. Morin also stated he would like to move section 3.11: Responsibilities of Licensed Respiratory Therapists in Director Roles up to section 3.07 because their responsibility only applies to limited license holders.

Ms. Tam stated the Board can review 261 CMR 3.08 to 3.11 at the next Board meeting.

VI. FLEX SESSION:

Discussion: Ms. Tam presented the Limited License Policy to Board members for review. Dr. Bloom would like to amend the policy to allow students to hold a limited license after

completing 2 semesters of their respiratory care program instead of 1 year. Ms. Ntatin would like to amend the word "supervisor" to "Respiratory Care Program Director". Ms. Ottina stated she will amend the policy and bring it back to the next Board meeting.

Mr. Morin asked who would be in attendance at the next Board meeting scheduled for May 15, 2025. Dr. Bloom and Mr. Morin are unsure if they would be able to attend. Ms. Tam stated she would check with the other Board members about their availability to meet quorum, otherwise the next meeting will be rescheduled.

Ms. Tam stated the topics for the next Board meeting will include the Limited License Policy as well as the CMR discussions.

Ms. Adelline Ntatin left the meeting at 2:41 pm.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (ROLL CALL VOTE)

Discussion: The Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purpose of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, individuals, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual. 1. Specifically, the Board will consider approval of prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. c.30A, § 22(f) and review a good moral character matter for licensure. The Board will not reconvene in open session subsequent to the closed session.

Action: At 2.48 p.m., motion to move into Executive Session was made by Dr. Brian Bloom, seconded by Mr. Adrian Velasquez, and unanimously passed by roll call vote as follows: Dr. Brian Bloom: yes, Mr. Daniel Fisher: yes, Mr. Jason Morin: yes, Dr. Adrian Velasquez, yes.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

At 3:00 p.m., motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Brian Bloom, seconded by Mr. Adrian Velasquez, and unanimously passed by roll call vote as follows: Dr. Brian Bloom: yes, Mr. Daniel Fisher: yes, Mr. Jason Morin: yes, Dr. Adrian Velasquez: yes.

Let the record show that the meeting was adjourned at 3.00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Respiratory Care is scheduled for Thursday, May 29, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
The Board of Respiratory Care