

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Health Profession Licensure  
Board of Registration of Respiratory Care  
250 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02108**

**January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Via WebEx**

**GENERAL SESSION MINUTES (OPEN SESSION)**

Board Members

Present:

William Beal, Respiratory Therapist, Board Vice Chair  
Dr. Brian Bloom, MD, Physician Member  
Jason Morin, Respiratory Therapist, Board Chair  
Jason Moury, Respiratory Therapist

Board Members

not present:

None

Staff Present:

Steven Joubert, Executive Director, Multi-Boards, BHPL  
Kayla Mikalauski, Management Analyst, Multi-Boards, BHPL  
Carol Larkin, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL  
Tracy Tam, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL  
Judy Bromley, Board Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, DPH

I. Call to Order | Determination of Quorum | Notice of Electronic Recording

Mr. Jason Morin, Board Chair, called the General Session of the Board of Registration of Respiratory Care meeting to order at 1:03 P.M. and asked for a roll call vote to determine quorum. William Beal: present; Brian Bloom: present; Jason Morin: present. Jason Moury: present.

Absent: None

II. Conflict of Interest | Approval of Agenda

The General Session Agenda for January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, was reviewed for approval. Board members were asked to disclose any conflicts of interest with the agenda. No conflicts were noted.

DISCUSSION:

None

ACTION:

Motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Mr. Jason Moury, seconded by Mr. William Beal, and unanimously passed by roll call vote as follows: William Beal: approve; Brian Bloom: approve; Jason Morin: approve Jason Moury: approve.

Absent: None

DOCUMENT: January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, General Session Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

The General Session Minutes for December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, was reviewed for approval.

DISCUSSION:

None.

ACTION:

Motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Mr. William Beal, seconded by Mr. Jason Moury, and unanimously passed by roll call vote as follows: William Beal: approve; Brian Bloom: approve; Jason Morin: approve Jason Moury: approve.

Absent: None

DOCUMENT: December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, General Session Minutes

IV. Continuing Education

261 CMR 5.00: Discussion about AMA PRA (American Medical Association) Category 1 Continuing Education Courses as qualifying continuing education for Respiratory Therapists.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Jason Moury stated the current regulations for respiratory continuing education are limited to courses approved by AARC or MSRC. Mr. Moury stated many respiratory therapists expand their role into advanced practices such as ECMO, cardiac, or rehabilitation, and there is a missed opportunity for respiratory therapists to receive credit for the continuing education they received. Mr. Moury also stated the American Medical Association (AMA) has very strict guidelines for PRA I Category education and suggested to expand the scope of 261 CMR 5.04 to allow respiratory therapists to receive those credits.

Mr. Jason Morin asked if there are other professional societies the Board should consider for continuing education credit. Dr. William Bloom stated the AMA has a

wide range of courses accepted by other professions, and the AMA courses are very rigorous and carefully reviewed. Mr. Jason Moury stated including other professional societies can be confusing and the AMA courses would be the easiest option.

Ms. Judy Bromley asked why AMA courses were originally omitted from regulations. Mr. Jason Moury stated AARC and MSRC were the primary audience when the Board was initiated in the 1980s and the profession was just emerging, but the profession has grown since then. Mr. Jason Moury also stated AARC used to be the primary organization while MSRC is a chapter affiliate and MSCR used to independently certify programs at a local level, but they no longer do that because they maintain their own courses and those courses go through AARC.

Ms. Judy Bromley stated Board counsel can draft the Sub-Regulatory Guidance policy.

V. Open Investigations:  
N/A

VI. Flex Session

Mr. Steven Joubert asked for the attendance at the next Board meeting scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Dr. William Bloom stated he would not be able to attend. Mr. Steven Joubert stated there would be a loss of quorum without Dr. Bloom and proposed to reschedule the next Board meeting to February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 1:00 P.M. All Board members agreed to reschedule the next Board meeting to February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 1:00 P.M.

Mr. Jason Morin asked for the status of the vacant Board seats. Mr. Steven Joubert stated the physician seat and the nurse seat are open. Mr. Steven Joubert asked Board members to forward his contact information to anyone that is interested and stated there is a letter being drafted to be issued for recruitment.

Mr. Jason Moury asked if the composition of the seats can be changed. Mr. Jason Morin stated that would require legislative change, but the Board cannot advocate for legislative change. Mr. Jason Morin asked if this is something the MSRC can advocate for. Mr. Jason Moury stated the MSCR is interested in changing the regulations to help the profession advance forward, but they require funding.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Jason Morin, Board Chair, read the Executive Session Statement as follows: “The Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purposes of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition, or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against an individual. 1. Specifically, the Board will consider approving prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. ch.30A, § 22() for previous executive sessions of the Board. 2. Specifically, the Board will discuss complaints or charges brought against a Licensee or Licensees. The Board will not reconvene in public session subsequent to the closed session(s)”.

ACTION:

Motion to move into Executive Session made by Mr. William Beal, seconded by Dr. Brian Bloom and unanimously passed by roll call vote as follows: William Beal: approve; Brian Bloom: approve; Jason Morin: approve Jason Moury: approve.  
Absent: None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn to the General Session was made by Mr. William Beal, seconded by Dr. Brian Bloom, and unanimously passed by roll call vote as follows: William Beal: approve; Brian Bloom: approve; Jason Morin: approve Jason Moury: approve.  
Absent: None

*Let the record show that the meeting was adjourned at 1:19 P.M.*

The next meeting of the Board of Registration of Respiratory Care is scheduled for Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 1:00 P.M. remotely on WebEx.

Respectfully Submitted:

The Board of Registration of Respiratory Care