

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF GENETIC COUNSELORS
250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

Thursday, February 5, 2026
Via Zoom

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES (OPEN SESSION)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Allison Cirino, Genetic Counselor, Board Chair
Kira A. Dies, Genetic Counselor
Farid Barquet Ramos, Genetic Counselor

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Jillian Fleming, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT: Tracy Hellmer, Executive Director, Multi-Boards 1, BHPL, DPH
Kayla Mikalauskis, Executive Director, Multi-Boards 2, BHPL, DPH
Tracy Ottina, Board Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, BHPL, DPH
Carol Larkin, Office Support Specialist, Multi-Boards, BHPL, DPH

I. CALL TO ORDER | DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

At 9:34 a.m. Ms. Allison Cirino, Board Chair, called the General Session meeting to order. Ms. Cirino reminded Board members the meeting was being recorded and asked for a roll call vote to determine quorum.

Roll call as follows: Allison Cirino: present; Farid Barquet: present; Kira Dies: present.

II. APPROVAL OF GENERAL SESSION AGENDA | CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Discussion: The Board reviewed the General Session Agenda

Action:

Motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Allison Cirino, seconded by Kira Dies and was passed by roll call vote as follows: Allison Cirino: approve, Farid Barquet: approve, Kira Dies: approve.

Document: February 5, 2026, General Session Agenda

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Discussion: The Board reviewed the drafted General Session Minutes.

Action:

Motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Ms. Allison Cirino, seconded by Mr. Farid Barquet, and was passed by roll call vote as follows: Allison Cirino: approve, Farid Barquet: approve, Kira Dies: approve.

Document: August 7, 2025, General Session Minutes

IV. UNIFIED RECOVERY AND MONITORING PROGRAM

A. Quarterly Report

Discussion:

Ms. Tracy Hellmer presented the URAMP Quarterly Report showing there are zero Genetic Counselors currently enrolled in the program. The Board requested to see the reports only if there are GC licensees participating in URAMP.

Document: URAMP Quarterly Report

V. ELECTION

A. Chair

Discussion:

Mr. Farid Barquet nominated Ms. Allison Cirino to serve as Board Chair.

Action:

Motion to approve Ms. Allison Cirino to serve as Board Chair was made by Ms. Kira Dies, seconded by Mr. Farid Barquet, and was passed by roll call vote as follows: Allison Cirino: approve, Farid Barquet: approve, Kira Dies: approve.

B. Vice Chair

Discussion:

Mr. Farid Barquet nominated Ms. Kira Dies to serve as Vice Chair.

Action:

Motion to approve Ms. Kira Dies to serve as Vice Chair was made by Mr. Farid Barquet, seconded by Mr. Allison Cirino, and was passed by roll call vote as follows: Allison Cirino:

approve, Farid Barquet: approve, Kira Dies: approve.

C. Secretary

Discussion:

Ms. Allison Cirino nominated Mr. Farid Barquet to serve as Secretary.

Action:

Motion to approve Mr. Farid Barquet to serve as Secretary was made by Ms. Allison Cirino, seconded by Ms. Kira Dies, and was passed by roll call vote as follows: Allison Cirino: approve, Farid Barquet: approve, Kira Dies: approve.

VI. FLEX SESSION

Discussion:

Ms. Tracy Hellmer asked for attendance at the next Board meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 9:30am. All board members present stated they would be able to attend. Ms. Hellmer stated the public member seat is in holdover status and the Board can recruit to fill that seat.

Mr. Farid Barquet requested to add a discussion topic to the next Board meeting agenda regarding the interim policy waiving CEUS for new licensees. Ms. Tracy Hellmer stated the interim policy would remain in place until the regulations are changed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:08 a.m., motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Allison Cirino, seconded by Mr. Farid Barquet, and was passed by roll call vote as follows: Allison Cirino: approve, Farid Barquet: approve, Kira Dies: approve.

Let the record show the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Registration of Genetic Counselors is scheduled for May 7, 2026, via Zoom at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
The Board of Registration of Genetic Counselors