

**NEW MEXICO MEDICAL BOARD
Board Meeting
May 1-2, 2025
MINUTES**

MEETING MADE PUBLIC VIA ZOOM AND TELECONFERENCE

THURSDAY, May 1, 2025

Members Present: Karen Carson, MD, Chair
Jeannine Daniels, Public Member
Kathy Johnson, PA, Vice Chair
Angela Medrano, Public Member
Michael Richards, MD (Day 1)
Paul Roth, MD (Day 1)
Mark Unverzagt, MD

Video Conferencing: Eileen Barrett, MD
Kristin Reidy, DO
Michael Richards, MD (Day 2)
Paul Roth, MD (Day 2)
Bradley Scoggins, DO, Secretary Treasurer

Others Present: Monique Parks, Interim Executive Director
Samantha Breen, Licensing Manager
Elishia Lucero, Compliance Supervisor
Natalie Padilla, Compliance Coordinator
David Dominguez, Investigator
Marcus Erickson, Investigations Supervisor
Lusan Leyba, Chief Financial Officer
Peter Eicker, NMMB Contract Attorney
Tom Banner, NMMB Contract Attorney
Richard Romero, Government Liaison (via zoom)
Leah Nelson, New Mexico Health and Wellness Program
Mary Lynn Griffin, New Mexico Health and Wellness Program
Adam Vareika, Executive Director, New Mexico Health and Wellness Program

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Dr. Carson, after establishing the presence of a quorum, called the **May 1, 2025**, Board Meeting of the New Mexico Medical Board to order at 8:32 AM, roll call was completed. **PRESENT:** Dr. Carson, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Dr. Barrett.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION was made by Ms. Daniels to approve the agenda for the May 1-2, 2025, Board Meeting. **SECONDED** by Ms. Medrano. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Dr. Barrett. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION was made by Ms. Daniels to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2025, Interim Board Meeting. **SECONDED** by Dr. Scoggins. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Ms. Daniels, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** PA Johnson, Dr. Barrett. **MOTION CARRIED.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Compliance, New Mexico Health Professional Wellness Program and Complaint Committee Reports.

MOTION was made by Ms. Daniels to go into Executive Session pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H) (1) of the Open Meetings Act, Sections 10-15-1 to 10-15-4, the NM Medical Board may close portions of its meeting to discuss matters pertaining to a particular license, such as the issuance, suspension, renewal or revocation of a license. All final actions concerning any particular license will be made in an open meeting. **SECONDED** by Scoggins. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Dr. Barrett. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. HPWP Report (Executive Session)

Mary Lynn Griffin, Leah Nelson, MD and Adam Vareika, Executive Director from HPWP presented the status of all mandatory and voluntary HPWP participants and answered questions from the Board.

5. Informal Compliance Interviews (Executive Session)

Alexandra Cotter, PA, Francisco Ralls, MD, Bryan Wood, MD, Jeffrey Neidhart, MD, Claire Pults, PA, Joseph Cohn, MD, Edward McKenzie, MD and Stephen Cain, MD

OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session. Dr. Carson stated for the record that the matters discussed in executive session were limited only to those specified in the motion for closure.

6. ACTIONS RELATED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Complaint Committee A:

RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Richards to **CLOSE** the following cases: **NMMB- 20230231 and NMMB-20240309.** **YES:** Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **MOTION CARRIED.** **RECUSED:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Richards. **EXCUSED:** Ms. Medrano. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case# NMMB-20240160 RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Richards to **CLOSE** this case with an advisory letter ordering that the Physician take a professional communications course. **YES:** Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins. **RECUSED:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Richards, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Ms. Medrano. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case# NMMB-20240159 RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Richards to issue a Notice of Contemplated Action to Physician for violations of the Medical Practice Act, including but not limited to, Sec. 61-6-15(D)(15) use of false, fraudulent or deceptive statement in a documentation connected with the practice of medicine; Sec. 61-6-15(D)(18) conduct likely to deceive or harm the public; Sec. 61-6-15(D)(21) failure to report an adverse action by a health care entity; Sec. 61-6-15(D)(26) injudicious prescribing; Sec 61-6-15(D)(33) improper management of medical records; possible violation of 16.10.14.9 NMAC and other Rules promulgated by the New Mexico Medical Board. After issuance of the NCA, the compliant committee recommends that the Prosecutor offer Respondent an opportunity to surrender their license under stipulation requiring Respondent to agree that sufficient evidence exists for the Board to find violations of the Medical Practice Act. **YES:** Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Richards. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case# NMMB-00082783 RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Richards to Deny licensure, may reapply after, with proof of successful completion of Missouri's licensing Board's recommended certification and competency evaluations. **YES:** Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Richards. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case# NMMB-00155401 RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Richards to issue the applicant a stipulated license with mandatory enrollment in NMHPWP and follow all recommendations made by the NMHPWP. **YES:** Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Richards. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case # 00176479 RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Richards to issue a full unrestricted license to the applicant. **YES:** Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Richards. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case # 00197261 RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Richards to issue a full unrestricted license to applicant. **YES:** Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Richards. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Complaint Committee B:

RECOMMENDATION was made by Ms. Daniels to **CLOSE** the following cases: **NMMB-20230276, NMMB-20240023, NMMB-20240032 and NMMB-20240186.** **YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, PA

Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins. **RECUSED:** Ms. Daniels, Dr. Unverzagt. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case# NMMB-20240078 RECOMMENDATION was made by Ms. Daniels to **CLOSE** this case with issuance of an advisory letter, strongly suggesting the Physician to obtain complete history form from every patient to find out potential increased risks so the potential increased risks are not missed. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins. **RECUSED:** Ms. Daniels, Dr. Unverzagt. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case# NMMB-20240085 RECOMMENDATION was made by Ms. Daniels to **CLOSE** this case with an advisory letter suggesting Physician contact NMHPWP for wellness services relating to burnout. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins. **RECUSED:** Ms. Daniels, Dr. Unverzagt. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Complaint Committee C:

RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Reidy to **CLOSE** the following cases **NMMB-20230213** and **NMMB-20240009**. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** Dr. Barrett, Dr. Reidy. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case# NMMB-20240380 RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Reidy to **CLOSE** this case with issuance of an advisory letter to remind the Physician of the importance of sensitive and respectful communication with patients. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** Dr. Barrett, Dr. Reidy. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Complaint Committee D:

RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Roth to **CLOSE** the following cases **NMMB-20230122** and **20230304**. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Case# NMMB-20230296 and 20230297 RECOMMENDATION was made by Dr. Scoggins to **CLOSE** these cases with an advisory letter to the Physician regarding proper termination of patient-physician relationship, as the physician's fiduciary responsibility to patients entails an obligation to support continuity of care for their patients. At the beginning of the patient-Physician relationship, the Physician should alert the patient to any foreseeable impediments to continuity of care. When considering withdrawing from a case, Physician must: (a) Notify the patient or authorized decision maker, long enough in advance to permit the patient to secure another Physician (b) Facilitate transfer of care when appropriate as part of the AMA Code of Ethics. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Complaint Committee E:

RECOMMENDATION was made by Ms. Medrano to **CLOSE** the following cases: **NMMB-20230270, NMMB-20230279, NMMB20240237 and NMMB-20240346. YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **RECUSED:** PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Lunch

7. Reports- [portions may be closed**]

Executive Director

Interim Executive Director, Monique Parks gave a brief update on current vacancies, the investigation position has been successfully filled, and the new investigator will begin working with the Board on May 12, 2025. Additionally, she informed the Board that interviews for the prosecutor are underway and if not successful, the plan is to publish the job posting with the State Bar, which will greatly support the efforts in finding a suitable candidate. Ms. Parks also informed the Board of the financial deficit that NMMB will be facing in the upcoming fiscal year and the possibility of increasing application fees to offset the deficit.

Ms. Parks informed the Board of the current conferences she and other staff members attended. One being the AIM conference where she presented on the merger between our board and the DO board. The merger presentation allowed other states to present as well. This was very informative as other states are taking on more than one board and more than one profession. Staff also attended the annual FSMB conference, Ms. Parks stated that this year was not her first year but her first year where it was tailored to her role specifically. At the conference, Ms. Parks became aware of the recent foreign medical graduate schools will now include Canadian school, as of June 30, 2025. This is important as this effects the way we license of Canadian applicants. Finally, Ms. Parks informed the board that it is time to reassign complaint committees. Board members will be receiving an email with this information.

Chair Report

NMMB Board Chair, Dr. Karen Carson spoke in depth about the following topics:

1. Safe Haven
2. Telemedicine
3. Prescribing Psychologists
4. Expedited Licensure
5. PA Practicing Independently
6. Nursing Board/ Pharmacy Board Outreach possibilities
7. Pharmacist Clinicians
8. Foreign Trained Physicians/ IMG
9. Compact(s) a. PA compact FIR.docx b. LFC Requester: c. IMLCC: LFC Requester
10. AI in Medicine
11. Return to Practice
12. Disciplinary Guidelines
13. Medical Students/Residents
14. Executive Committee

15. Policy statements (Also work in conjunction with NMBOP and NMBON)
16. Fees
17. Chiropractor scope of practice bill NMMB opposition a. FIR- HB189

Medical Director

NMMB's Medical Director, Dr. William Brady introduced himself to the Board and gave a quick update on his attendance at the FSMB conference. He spoke about the things he noticed and learned from other states at the conference. Dr. Brady completed his update by letting the Board know what type of topics he would be interested in focusing on during his time with NMMB.

Governmental Projects Coordinator

Richard Romero, Governmental Projects Coordinator reported to the Board about the concluded legislative session. He updated the Board on the bills that were addressed during the session and specified information regarding the telemedicine bill, the physician assistance bill, and the expedited licensure bill. Mr. Romero noted his thanks to all the individuals that assisted in the processing of each bill that went through legislation and mentioned the forming of positive relationships between Staff, Board and Legislators. Dr. Carson spoke about the importance of Mr. Romero's role during the legislative session and expressed gratitude for the work that was done.

Licensing Manager

NMMB's Licensing Manager, Samantha Breen informed the Board of the request from Project Vida Health Center Psychiatric Residency Program to allow their residents to participate in a six-month inpatient rotation under Dr. Cynthia Garza located at Mesilla Valley Hospital and noted to the Board that the request needed approval.

MOTION was made by Dr. Carson to accept the program. **SECONDED** by Dr. Barrett. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Dr. Scoggins. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Samantha Breen then informed the Board of the following licensing statistics:

- The pending number of physician applications is 222
- The pending number of expedited applications is 15
- Issued 64 expedited licenses from January 1, 2025, to present
- 192 licenses were issued in the month of April 2025
- The number of pending PA applications is 56
- Issued 2 PA applications in the month of April 2025
- Currently in renewal cycle for physicians – 4,101 licenses expire July 1, 2025
- Renewal period opened April 1, 2025 - 980 applications have been renewed so far
- The number of PA renewals was 640 – 536 have renewed – 104 have not renewed but they have until May 30, 2025 to complete

Dr. Carson posed the question to Ms. Breen regarding the number of licensees that are actively practicing in New Mexico and who have a license in NM but are either not practicing or is practicing elsewhere. She also raised a question regarding the increase in licensure numbers last year and why licensees may not be practicing in NM even if the licensure

numbers have increased. There was further conversation from several members of the Board and Interim Executive Director, Monique Parks pertaining to incorporating the requested information as questions in the renewal surveys and possibly cross referencing the Medicare and Medicaid billing information to each licensee under NMMB.

Finance

NMMB's Chief Financial Officer, Lusan Leyba provided the Board with a report and update on the NMMB budget status and covered the topics below.

The budget revenue status ending March 31, 2025 are as follows:

From July 1, 2024-March 31, 2025, expenditures total \$2,051,194.99 (58.18%) of budget expenditures (Opbud \$3,525,300.00).

From July 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025 the agency collected revenues in the amount of \$990,121.00 (31.51%) of budgeted revenues (Opbud \$ 3,045,300.00; FB \$480,000=\$3,525,300.00.

FY26 Operating Budget was approved for \$ 3,618,600.00

8. Old Business

Election of Officers

With there being no nominations and by acclamation, the current officers will continue. Dr. Carson, Chair, PA Johnson, Vice Chair and Dr. Scoggins, Secretary/Treasurer.

MOTION was made by Ms. Daniels to keep the current officers as Dr. Carson, Chair, PA Johnson, Vice Chair and Dr. Scoggins, Secretary/Treasurer. **SECONDED** Dr. Unverzagt. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Dr. Barrett. **MOTION CARRIED.** Dr. Unverzagt will take over vice chair upon PA Johnson's departure from the Board December 2025.

Adoption of the Open Meetings Act

MOTION was made by Dr. Carson to adopt the Open Meetings Act. **SECONDED** Dr. Scoggins. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Dr. Barrett. **MOTION CARRIED.**

9. Adjourn

Dr. Carson adjourned the first day [May 2, 2025] of the May Regular Board Meeting at 3:17 p.m.

10. Friday, May 2, 2025

Dr. Carson, after establishing the presence of a quorum, called the **May 2, 2025** Board Meeting of the New Mexico Medical Board to order at 8:33 AM, roll call was completed. **PRESENT:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Dr. Richards.

11. New Business:

New Mexico Health Professional Wellness Program, Leah Nelson, MD Adam Varika, Executive Director and Mary Lynn Griffin, Clinical Director

Dr. Leah Nelson presented on the discussion around how reporting to PHPs is used as an alternative to making self-reports directly to medical boards in other states. She also mentioned a program that is being rolled out called PEER Program that will essentially be a review and evaluation of the individual PHPs in all states that provide the programs against the best practice guidelines that came out in 2019. Dr. Nelson stated that she would like to see NMHPWP work toward obtaining this review. She also mentioned that the Interstate Licensure Compact was not passed in the concluded legislative session and explained what that means for PHP practices nationwide as well as for New Mexico NMHPWP. She mentioned the conversation around getting all parties that are involved with investing and supporting the health care workforce all on the same page, in a meaningful way, and to support the licensees with what they need to receive help from PHP. There was also conversation around reducing stigmatizing language within PHP and Dr. Nelson informed the board on what the goals are to move forward with this plan through FSPHP. Dr. Nelson then moved on to speaking about Safe Haven and how NMHB and NMHPWP can move toward that work. She stated that since NM is not a part of the Licensure Compact, if NM is not considered a Safe Haven there is a possibility that there will be a harder time recruiting new jobs to the state. Dr. Nelson noted the next topic being an overview of what NMHPWP does, effectiveness of care and what the interactions are within HPWP and NMHB and explained in detail several aspects of each topic. Executive Director for NMHPWP, Adam Vareika explained the percentage of Dr. Nelson's employment with NMHPWP and spoke on the effectiveness of increasing her percentage as an employee due to higher work volume. Dr. Nelson spoke about Safe Haven vs. Diversion Programs and explained the details of the differences between the two. Dr. Nelson also spoke in depth about the services that are provided through NMHPWP, how much those services cost and how they are paid for in different contexts and finally what funding looks like for NMHPWP.

NNMB Data Analytics- Kyra Solutions, Munjal Patel and Courtney King

Dr. Unverzagt started with a brief introduction informing the Board that NMHB received a grant from FSMB that was designed to improve the proficiency of medical boards. NMHB's proposal was to start analyzing internal data to improve both efficiency and quality of decision making. He noted the team working on this has spent a lot of time cleaning up the old database and has been working to make the data reportable and understandable.

Munjal Patel and Courtney King then spoke in depth about the data analytics project and what specific items have been focused on, the information that has been pulled for cleanup and the progress. The team walked step by step and provided a tutorial and explanation of all aspects of the information being looked at and what the key points are within the data that was reviewed.

12. Licensing Requests and Actions- New Applications/Reinstatements

Richard Gadowski, M.D. – Motion for Entry of Default Order (Case No. 2025-005)

Dr. Carson granted Peter Eiker, NMHB Contract Attorney ten minutes of oral argument.

MOTION was made by Dr. Carson to accept the Entry of Default for Dr. Richard Gadomski. **SECONDED** PA Johnson. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scoggins, Dr. Unverzagt. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Richard Gadomski, M.D. – Default Order of Revocation on License (Case No. 2025-005)
Dr. Carson granted Peter Eiker, NMMB Contract Attorney ten minutes of oral argument.

MOTION was made by Dr. Carson to revoke the license of Dr. Richard Gadomski. **SECONDED** Dr. Unverzagt. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Dr. Scoggins. **MOTION CARRIED.**

13. Compliance Requests/Actions

Stephen Cain, MD- Request for Release

MOTION was made by Dr. Unverzagt to Release Dr. Stephen Cain from compliance. **SECONDED** Dr. Barrett. **YES:** Dr. Carson, Dr. Barrett, Ms. Daniels, PA Johnson, Ms. Medrano, Dr. Reidy, Dr. Richards, Dr. Roth, Dr. Unverzagt. **EXCUSED:** Dr. Scoggins. **MOTION CARRIED.**

14. Meeting Adjourned

There being no further business before the Board, Dr. Carson adjourned the meeting at 11:08 am.

SUBMITTED BY: Monique Parks
Monique Parks, Interim Executive Director

DATE: 6/18/2025

APPROVED BY: Karen Carson
Karen Carson, M.D., Chair

DATE: 6/18/2025

APPROVED BY: Bradley Scoggins
Bradley Scoggins, D.O., Secretary Treasurer

DATE: 6/18/2025