

# Meeting Minutes: Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board

Date: Thursday, August 8, 2024

Minutes prepared by: Linnea Becerra

Location: Minnesota Room, Department of Labor and Industry and online via Webex

## Members Present

- Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach
- Chair Jaime Gulley
- Michelle Armstrong
- Kim Brenne
- Michele Fredrickson
- Maria King (remotely)
- Katie Lundmark
- Paula Rocheleau (remotely)
- Mary Swanson (remotely)

## Visitors

- Todd Bergstrom
- Jeff Bostic
- Krystle Conley (remotely)
- Allison Eastham (remotely)
- Brian Elliott
- Bryce Hingst (remotely)
- Casey Murphy (remotely)
- Tom Syverson (remotely)

## DLI Staff

- Ali Afsharjavan
- Linnea Becerra
- Paul Enger
- Josiah Moore
- Leah Solo
- Nou Yang

## Agenda items

1. **Call to order** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Gulley at 11:04 a.m. Roll call was taken by the secretary and a quorum was declared.
2. **Approval of agenda** - A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Commissioner Blissenbach, seconded by Michelle Armstrong. Item was presented for discussion. There was discussion about moving the public comment discussion to earlier in the agenda by Katie Lundmark, but Chair Gulley assured the board that he would move quickly through the earlier agenda items to make sure there was adequate time for discussion of the public comments. A roll call vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

**3. Approval of drafted meeting minutes** – A motion to approve the July 18, 2024, drafted meeting minutes as presented was made by Commissioner Blissenbach, seconded by Michelle Armstrong. A roll call vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. Board Updates**

- Executive Director Solo presented on the updated bylaws that were passed during the 2024 legislative session. This update requires two of the three commissioners or commissioner designees to cast affirmative votes for any vote taken up by the Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board for the motion to pass. Mary Swanson requested that two of the three employers also cast affirmative votes for any vote by the Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board to pass. Paul Enger provided statutory clarification and the motion proceeded as originally presented. Commissioner Blissenbach made a motion to adopt the updated bylaws, Michelle Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.
- Executive Director Solo updated the board on the progress made by the Certification and Training workgroup. This included the sample content, sample follow up document, and draft sample curriculum. These items will be open for discussion and feedback at the upcoming public hearing.
- Executive Director Solo updated the board about the sign up and the agenda for the public hearing. Members of the workgroup spoke briefly about their work.
- Executive Director Solo presented on the waivers and variances workgroup and the discussion that was had about the items that may be required for applicants to provide to be considered for a waiver or variance. Katie Lundmark and Kim Brenne gave their thoughts and additions from that workgroup.
- Executive Director Solo reported on the data workgroup which met immediately preceding the full board meeting. Kim Brenne noted that there was discussion in the Data workgroup meeting about acknowledging the difference in numbers between the DHS fiscal note and the Long-Term Care Imperative's numbers.
- Paul Enger brought the draft from the revisor on the holiday, certification, and posting rules to the table for discussion and approval. There was significant discussion about moving the implementation date back to June 1, 2025, presented by Katie Lundmark. A motion was made by Katie Lundmark to change the effective date to January 1, 2026, seconded by Paula Rocheleau. The board discussed the proposal. A roll call vote was taken, the motion failed with six opposing votes and three in favor. A separate motion was made to adopt the rules as drafted and authorize the Department of Labor and Industry to take the steps necessary to publish with the state register the notice of intent to adopt permanent expedited rules without a hearing for these rules, made by Commissioner Blissenbach, seconded by Michelle Armstrong. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried with six affirmative votes and three opposing votes.
- The board discussed the 247 public comments that it received.
- A motion was made to adopt the rules as drafted and approve the staff to submit the necessary documents to the ALJ and OAH as well as approve the staff to respond to additional inquiries that would be necessary to effectuate that process. This motion was made by Commissioner Blissenbach, seconded by Kim Brenne. A roll call vote was taken; the motion passed with six members voting affirmatively, and three members voting in abstention.

**5. New Business –**

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**6. Next Meeting –** Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 11 a.m. in the Minnesota room.

**Adjournment:**

A motion made by Michele Armstrong to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 p.m., seconded by Kim Brenne. A roll call was taken, the motion passed unanimously.