

**VERMONT BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE**  
**Minutes of the November 1, 2023 Board Meeting**  
**108 Cherry St. Suite 206, Burlington, VT 05402**  
**Remote via Teams**

**Unapproved**

- **Call to Order; Call the Roll; Acknowledge Guests:**

Dr. Rick Hildebrant, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM

**Members Present:**

Rob Ciappenelli; Richard Clattenburg, MD; David Coddair, MD; Evan Eyler, MD; Gail Falk; Matthew Greenberg, MD; Rick Hildebrant, MD; Patricia Hunter; Suzanne Jones, PA-C; Leo LeCours; Stephanie Lorentz; Christine Payne, MD; Dawn Philibert; Marga Sproul, MD; Margaret Tandoh, MD; Robert E. Tortolani, MD.

**Others in Attendance:**

David Herlihy, Executive Director; Paula Nenninger, Investigator; Scott Frennier, Investigator; Jane Malago, Operations Administrator; Tracy Hayes, Public Health Specialist; Justin Sheng, AAG; Megan Campbell, AAG; Kurt Kuehl, AAG; Bill Reynolds, AAG; Jessa Barnard, VMS.

- **Approval of the Minutes of the October 4, 2023, and October 18, 2023, Board Meetings:**

D. Philibert moved to accept the minutes of the October 4, 2023, and October 18, 2023, meetings. S. Lorentz seconded the motion. The motion passed; opposed: none; recused: none; abstained: none.

- **Board Issues (Dr. Hildebrant):**

Dr. Hildebrant noted that Dr. Marga Sproul's term as a member will be coming to an end, summarized some of her many accomplishments, and expressed thanks for the many years of service. D. Herlihy also offered thanks for the many contributions to the Board and Licensing Committee as a valued participant and leader on many endeavors.

D. Herlihy reminded the Board that Dr. Sproul began with the Board in 2014 and will serve until a replacement is appointed.

- **Administrative Updates (David Herlihy):**

- D. Herlihy notified the Board that he will be away November 13-15 for the annual meeting of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission and November 28-29 for a meeting of the USMLE State Advisory Board.
- D. Herlihy provided an update about the building move for the Board of Medical Practice staff. AHS sent an update to State of Vermont staff about continuing the move to Waterbury and identifying locations for departments. An exact location of the future location for the Board of Medical practice has not yet been identified. D. Herlihy will share updates when more information is provided.
- D. Herlihy shared that the IT project to update the systems utilized by Board staff are ongoing and continue to demand a significant amount of time to be dedicated by staff to the process.

- **Presentation of Applications:**

Applications for physician, physician assistant and limited temporary physician licensure were presented and acted upon as detailed in Appendix A, incorporated by reference into these minutes.

Dr. Hildebrant moved for the issuance of physician licenses and physician assistant licenses. (See Appendix A)

Dr. Tortolani made a motion to accept all applicants for licensure as presented. Seconded by Dr. Tandoh. The motion passed; opposed: none; abstained: none; recused: none.

Dr. Hildebrant moved for the issuance of limited temporary licenses to practice medicine. (See Appendix A)

Dr. Eyler made a motion to accept all applicants for licensure as presented. Seconded by S. Lorentz. The motion passed; opposed: none; abstained: none; recused: none.

- **Other Business:**

- D. Herlihy shared the recommendations and information provided by the ad hoc Committee for Licensing Process. The Committee reviewed all aspects of the Board's licensing process, including the issues raised by the specific questions posed by the General Assembly in its request for a report from the Board regarding licensing. After reviewing the Board's current licensing processes with consideration to the topics of particular interest brought to the Board by the legislature.
  1. The ad hoc Committee recommended that the Board institute a requirement for future physician and physician assistant applicants to use the Federation Credentials Verification Services (FCVS). D. Herlihy noted that the Board currently accepts FCVS, but does not require its use, adding that all states accept FCVS and that 14 states require FCVS. It was noted that FCVS applies to only physician and physician assistant applicants because the service is available to only those two professions. There was extended discussion of the recommendation in response to a question about the timing if the recommendation is accepted. D. Herlihy explained that there will need to be an analysis of when and how to implement the requirement if it is passed. It was also noted that by requiring use of FCVS the issues raised by the General Assembly concerning identification process and verification of state licenses would become moot for physicians and physician assistants.

Dr. Greenberg made a motion to require all future MD and PA applicants to utilize FCVS for the application process. Seconded by G. Falk. The motion passed; opposed: none; abstained: none; recused: none.

2. The second recommendation of the ad hoc Committee was to continue to require all applicants to have references submitted. David Herlihy summarized some of the facts about references from the report: references are required of all applicants at present; an applicant's references are seen by a Board member only if the application must be reviewed by the Licensing Committee; some medical boards do not require references and some require references from only applicants who have adverse history; references are a leading cause for delay in applications becoming complete; and references are a leading source of complaints about the process from applicants and other stakeholders.

Some members of the Licensing Committee commented that they like to have the additional information of a reference when reviewing some applications. Some members questioned the value of references, noting the likelihood that applicants obtain references from individuals who would provide favorable input. There was discussion of limiting the requirement for references to applicants who would be reviewed by the Licensing Committee. D. Herlihy noted that there would be practical challenges with implementing that: asking for references to be submitted only after determining that an application would be reviewed by the Licensing Committee would cause delay; applicants likely would be confused if asked to determine themselves whether their application required review. Dr. Clattenburg suggested asking applicants to identify references on the application but not require submission of the reference form, which would allow references to be contacted if the Licensing Committee desired. A suggestion was made to table the discussion and ask the Licensing Committee and ad hoc Committees to further discuss references and provide revised recommendations. This issue will be further discussed at the 12/06/2023 Board meeting for final decisions and recommendations.

3. The third recommendation of the ad hoc Committee was for implementation of processes similar to those used by FCVS for identification of applicants for DPM, AA, and RA.

Dr. Tortolani made a motion to implement processes for identification of DPM, AA, and RA applicants that are similar to the processes used by FCVS for identification. Seconded by Dr. Greenberg. The motion passed; opposed: none; abstained: none; recused: none.

4. D. Herlihy advised that the next issue raised by the General Assembly was the fact that the Board does not yet receive reports of criminal background checks and thus is not able to offer licensees licensure in other states via the IMLCC. It was explained that there is no recommendation regarding this issue because the problem stems from a position taken with the FBI/Department of Justice and that it is being addressed on a national basis by FSMB and the IMLCC. There is a bill pending in Congress that is known as the SHARE Act that would resolve the issue if passed.

5. D. Herlihy next addressed the item from the General Assembly asking about provisional licensure. It was explained that by opting to require FCVS the Board had effectively mooted out the issue because FCVS provides all state license verifications at once. There are only two elements to the provisional licensure law that prompted the question from the General Assembly. One is verification of other state licenses and the other is criminal background checks. The Board does not receive criminal background checks on applicants so that is not an issue. The Board was reminded that they had previously taken the position that they did not support provisional licensure for the Board's applicants at the time when a provisional licensure option was put in law for OPR. The Board did not take up a motion on this issue and the position did not change.
  
6. The next recommendation of the ad hoc Committee was to allow for Board staff to approve applications that don't need to go to the Licensing Committee for approval. The committee also recommended ending the required presentation of all applicants before the Board. Thus, once approved by the Licensing Committee for licensure the staff would issue those licenses, too.

Dr. Tortolani made a motion to stop the practice of presenting applications for licensure by the Board, with staff issuing licenses for applications that are not reviewed by the Licensing Committee. Additionally, once approved by the Licensing Committee, those licenses would be issued by staff without the need for the full Board to vote approval. Seconded by R. Ciappenelli. The motion passed; opposed: none; abstained: none; recused: none.

- **Break 2:09 PM**
  
- **Reconvene meeting 2:15 PM; Other Business Continued:**
  - D. Herlihy shared the FSMB draft policy about prescription opioid guidelines. Board members provided comments. Dr. Hildebrant and D. Herlihy finalized comments to be forwarded to FSMB.
  
- **Convene meeting; Executive Session to Discuss:**

- **Investigative cases recommended for closure**
- **Other matters that are confidential by law, if any**

Dr. Eyler made a motion at 2:36 PM to enter Executive Session to discuss confidential matters related to investigations. Dr. Coddair seconded the motion. The motion passed; opposed: none; recused: none; abstained: none.

- **Return to Open Session 3:08 PM; Board Actions on matters discussed in Executive Session:**

**L. LeCours, North Investigative Committee, asked to close:**

MPN 122-0423 – Special #1

Dr. Tortolani made a motion to close the case presented. Dr. Payne seconded the motion. The motion passed; opposed: none; abstained: none; recused: North Investigative Committee.

**Dr. Payne, Central Investigative Committee, asked to close:**

MPC 146-0423 – Letter #1 – Dr. Sproul and Dr. Tandoh recused

MPC 144-0423 – Letter #1 – Dr. Sproul and Dr. Tandoh recused

MPC 020-0223 – Special #2

MPC 143-0423 – Letter #1 – Dr. Sproul and Dr. Tandoh recused

P. Hunter made a motion to close the cases presented. PA-C Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed; opposed: none; abstained: none; recused: Central Investigative Committee.

- **Upcoming Board meetings, committee meetings, hearings, etc.: [Locations are subject to change. A notification will be provided if a change takes place.](#)**
  - **November 9, 2023, North Investigative Committee Meeting, 9:00 AM, [Remote via Teams and 108 Cherry St. Suite 206, Burlington, VT 05402](#)**
  - **November 17, 2023, Central Investigative Committee Meeting, 9:00 AM., [Remote via Teams and 108 Cherry St. Suite 206, Burlington, VT 05402](#)**

- **November 15, 2023, Board Meeting on pending applications, 12:10 PM, Remote via Teams and 108 Cherry St. Suite 206, Burlington, VT 05402**
- **November 15, 2023, South Investigative Committee Meeting, 12:15 PM, Remote via Teams and 108 Cherry St. Suite 206, Burlington, VT 05402**
- **December 6, 2023, Licensing Committee Meeting, 10:30 AM, Remote via Teams and 108 Cherry St. Suite 206, Burlington, VT 05402**
- **December 6, 2023, Board Meeting, 12:00 PM, Remote via Teams and 108 Cherry St. Suite 206, Burlington, VT 05402**
  
- **Open Forum:**
  - Dr. Tortolani requested a follow-up meeting of the ad hoc and Licensing Committees to further discuss the issues surrounding references with the goal of making recommendations related to references at the Board meeting in December. D. Herlihy is to follow up with scheduling a meeting prior to the Board's December 6, 2023, meeting.
  
- **Adjourn:**

Dr. Hildebrant declared the meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.

**PRESENTATION OF FULL APPLICATIONS**

**November 1, 2023**

***Note: Applicants listed below have been notified that their applications for licensure appear to be complete and may be presented at the next scheduled Board Meeting.***

***\*\* Must pass through licensing prior to being presented.***

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Practice Location</b>
**Blackledge, Amber PA-C	Slippery Rock University	Unknown	TBD
Brass, Tara MD	Jefferson Medical College	Psychiatry (BC)	Private Practice
**Chung, Arlene MD	NYU	Emergency Medicine (BC)	UVMC
Colaianni, Lee MD	Ross University (Barbados)	Emergency Medicine	Carlos Otis Clinic
Edwards, Morgan PA-C	Augusta University	Unknown	TBD
Edwards, Susan PA-C	Central Michigan University	Unknown	TBD
**Falcon, John MD	Georgetown University	Emergency Medicine (BC)	RRMC
Harrison, David MD	David Geffen School of Medicine	Pediatric Cardiology (BC)	DHMC
Harrison, Olivia MD	UVM	Psychiatry	UVM
Johnson, Justin MD	Drexel University	Emergency Medicine (BC)	TeamHealth
Kusick, Daniel MD	Tufts University	Cardiology (BC)	SWVMC
**Livermon Jr., Jefferson MD	Eastern Virginia Medical School	Family Medicine (BC)	Ephrata Clinic
**Lo, Justin MD	University of Rochester	Anesthesiology (BC)	Private Practice
Macfarlane, Barbara MD	university of Calgary	Family Medicine (BC)	HealthTap
Martin, Peter AA-C	South University	Anesthesiology	SWVMC Dept of Anes.
**Morales, Ximena MD	Pontifica Universidad (Columbia)	Neurology (BC)	Brattleboro Memorial
Sandelis Perez, Jorge MD	Havana University (Cuba)	Internal Medicine (BC)	Telemedicine
Sgambato, Deanna PA-C	Quinnipiac University	Unknown	TBD
Shin, Michael MD	University of Oklahoma	Emergency Medicine (BC)	Queens Medical Center
Sweeney, Joseph MD	University College Galway (Ireland)	Internal Medicine (BC)	Prolytix Lab.
Yannes, Zachary PA-C	Quinnipiac University	Unknown	TBD



11/1/2023

## Presentation of Limited Temporary License Applications for Board Approval

26 VSA Section 1391 (e) authorizes a limited temporary license to practice medicine/Podiatry in the State of Vermont for a period of one year only. The following persons have applied for limited temporary licenses:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Hospital</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Type</u>
**Davis, Micah MD	Surgery	DHMC	11/1/23	MD
Sohnen, Samantha MD	Anesthesiology	DHMC	11/1/23	MD

\*\* Must pass through licensing prior to being presented.

These applications appear to have met the requirements. The Board, pursuant to 26 VSA Section 1391 (e), grants to each of them a limited temporary license.

**PRESENTATION OF FULL APPLICATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ISSUED THROUGH  
THE COMPACT**

*Note: Applicants listed below have already received a license through the compact.*

*November 1, 2023*

<b>Credential Number</b>	<b>Name</b>
<a href="#"><u>042.0017360-COMP</u></a>	Ronald Boucher
<a href="#"><u>042.0017361-COMP</u></a>	Stephanie Garrett Clemens
<a href="#"><u>042.0017362-COMP</u></a>	Melissa Coomes
<a href="#"><u>042.0017363-COMP</u></a>	Joseph Michael Migliuri
<a href="#"><u>042.0017364-COMP</u></a>	Drew Pate
<a href="#"><u>042.0017365-COMP</u></a>	Nabeel Syed Saghir
<a href="#"><u>042.0017366-COMP</u></a>	Govind Jivanda Seth
<a href="#"><u>042.0017368-COMP</u></a>	Natosha Diane Canty-Johnson
<a href="#"><u>042.0017369-COMP</u></a>	Anne Colleen Cooper
<a href="#"><u>042.0017370-COMP</u></a>	Jesse Lee Costales
<a href="#"><u>042.0017371-COMP</u></a>	Dennis Wayne Garver
<a href="#"><u>042.0017372-COMP</u></a>	William Hsu
<a href="#"><u>042.0017373-COMP</u></a>	Jeffrey Franklin Jones
<a href="#"><u>042.0017374-COMP</u></a>	Todd Levine
<a href="#"><u>042.0017375-COMP</u></a>	Faisal Tai
<a href="#"><u>042.0017376-COMP</u></a>	Rebecca Wang
<a href="#"><u>042.0017377-COMP</u></a>	Michael Calderwood
<a href="#"><u>042.0017378-COMP</u></a>	Stephanie Grail
<a href="#"><u>042.0017379-COMP</u></a>	Cheri C. Mather
<a href="#"><u>042.0017380-COMP</u></a>	John D Seigne
<a href="#"><u>042.0017389-COMP</u></a>	Dorothea Barton
<a href="#"><u>042.0017390-COMP</u></a>	Patricia Ann Clancy
<a href="#"><u>042.0017391-COMP</u></a>	Holly Lynn Elgas
<a href="#"><u>042.0017392-COMP</u></a>	Noreen Mairead Flanagan
<a href="#"><u>042.0017393-COMP</u></a>	Veronica Grail
<a href="#"><u>042.0017394-COMP</u></a>	James Heckman
<a href="#"><u>042.0017395-COMP</u></a>	Ron Khamsou Her
<a href="#"><u>042.0017396-COMP</u></a>	Hemant Ravinder Kade

<a href="#"><u>042.0017397-COMP</u></a>	Susan Elizabeth Little-Jones
<a href="#"><u>042.0017398-COMP</u></a>	Daniel Owens
<a href="#"><u>042.0017399-COMP</u></a>	Michael Thad Pfannenstiel
<a href="#"><u>042.0017400-COMP</u></a>	Aja' Pollard
<a href="#"><u>042.0017401-COMP</u></a>	Salman Siddiqui
<a href="#"><u>042.0017402-COMP</u></a>	Elizabeth Brooke Spencer
<a href="#"><u>042.0017403-COMP</u></a>	Jeffrey Walker