

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
November 22, 2024**

ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Physician Assistant Committee was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Nicole Schwensow, PA-C, Chairperson in the Husker Conference Room, of the Hampton Inn & Suites, located at 7343 Husker Circle, Lincoln, Nebraska 68504. The meeting was held In-Person and by WebEx. The following members answered the initial roll call:

Nicole Schwensow, PA-C, Chairperson
Merle Henkenius, Secretary
Rachel Blake, MD
Corrigan McBride, MD

Absent: Tamara Dolphens, PA-C, Vice-Chairperson

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened. Present from the Department were Vonda Apking, Program Manager and Jan Gadeken-Harris, Health Licensing Coordinator; Mindy Lester, Assistant Attorney General via WebEx; Abigail Nissen, Assistant Attorney General via WebEx; Suzanna Glover-Ettrich, Department Legal via WebEx; Katherine Amyot, Department Legal and Mark Meyerson, Investigator with the Investigation Unit.

Schwensow announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Committee members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx> and posted on the Bulletin Board at the entrance to the Nebraska State Office Building on November 6, 2024.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

McBride moved, seconded by Henkenius, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voting aye: Blake, Henkenius, McBride, and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Dolphens. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

McBride moved, seconded by Henkenius to approve the meeting minutes of July 26, 2024, as presented. Voting aye: Blake, Henkenius, McBride, and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Dolphens. Motion carried.

2024 LEGISLATION UPDATES

LB1215 - Physician Assistant (PA) Licensure Compact

Apking has been designated as the Compact Commissioner as they suggested that the Commissioner at this time be someone that is familiar with the State's rules and regulations. Nebraska will begin participating in the PA Compact when it goes into effect on January 1, 2025.

REGULATIONS UPDATE

McBride moved, seconded by Henkenius to approve the draft Regulations Title 172, Chapter 90 for Licensure and Supervision of Physician Assistant with the noted changes. Voting aye: Blake, Henkenius, McBride, and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Dolphens. Motion carried.

INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS – CLOSED SESSION

Blake moved, seconded by McBride to go into closed session at 2:10 p.m. for the purpose of review and discussion of investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Voting aye: Blake, Henkenius, McBride, and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Dolphens. Motion carried.

The Committee Members returned to Open Session at 2:21 p.m.

APPLICATION(S) REVIEW – OPEN SESSION

There were no applications for review at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this time.

COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Physician Assistant Committee meeting is scheduled January 24, 2025 @ 2:00 p.m.

The projected schedule for 2025 is listed on the DHHS website:
<https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Schwensow, Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

signature available upon request

Merle Henkenius, Secretary
Physician Assistant Committee