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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

TIME: 10:34 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2601 North Third Street

One Penn Center, Board Room C

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

1 State Board of Osteopathic Medicine
2 December 13, 2023

3
4
5 BOARD MEMBERS:

6
7 Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
8 Professional and Occupational Affairs
9 Sirisha Reddy, Special Assistant, on behalf of Debra
10 L. Bogen, M.D., FAAP, FABM, Acting Secretary of
11 Health
12 John B. Bulger, D.O., MBA, Chairman
13 Hillary D. Snyder, MSPAS, PA-C, Vice Chairwoman
14 Bette A. Grey, BA, RRT, CPFT, Secretary
15 Thomas S. Dardarian, D.O.
16 Joseph M. Zawisza, D.O.
17 Jonathan P. Oline, D.O.
18
19

20 BUREAU PERSONNEL:

21
22 Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel
23 Heather J. McCarthy, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor
24 and Prosecution Liaison
25 Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
26 Jonelle Harter Eshbach, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
27 Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
28 Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
29 Priscilla Turek, Board Administrator
30 Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State
31
32

33 ALSO PRESENT:

34
35 Lisa Ann Witherite-Rieg, D.O., Owner, Punxsutawney
36 Medical Associates, PC
37 Misha Patel, M.D., Curriculum Education Assistant,
38 Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine
39 Stuart Lewis, D.O.
40 Susan DeSantis, PA-C, Pennsylvania Society of
41 Physician Assistants
42 Andy Sandusky, Executive Vice President, Public
43 Policy and Association Affairs, Pennsylvania
44 Osteopathic Medical Association
45 Daniel Grill, Esquire, Thomas, Thomas, & Hafer, LLP
46 Matthew Ford
47
48
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1 ***

2 State Board of Osteopathic Medicine

3 December 13, 2023

4 ***

5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
6 at 9:30 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session
7 with Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, for
8 the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
9 deliberations on a number of matters that are
10 currently pending before the Board and to receive the
11 advice of counsel. The Board returned to open
12 session at 10:30 a.m.]

13 ***

14 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
15 Board of Osteopathic Medicine was held on Wednesday,
16 December 13, 2023. John B. Bulger, D.O., MBA,
17 Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.]

18 ***

19 Introduction of Board Members/Attendees
20 [Priscilla Turek, Board Administrator, provided an
21 introduction of Board members, staff, and audience in
22 attendance.]

23 ***

24 Approval of minutes of the October 11, 2023 meeting
25 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

1 You have in front of you the minutes
2 from the October 11, 2023 meeting of
3 Board.

4 Are there any additions, deletions,
5 corrections of those minutes? Hearing
6 none.

7 I'll entertain a motion to approve
8 those minutes.

9 MS. GREY:

10 So moved.

11 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

12 Second?

13 DR. ZAWISZA:

14 Second.

15 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

16 Would you please call the roll,
17 Priscilla?

18
19 Arion Claggett, aye; John Bulger, aye;
20 Hillary Snyder, aye; Bette Grey, aye;
21 Thomas Dardarian, aye; Joseph Zawisza,
22 aye.

23 [The motion carried. Sirisha Reddy had technical
24 difficulty and did not vote on the motion. Jonathan
25 Oline's name was not called.]

1 ***

2 Report of Prosecuting Attorneys

3 [Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
4 presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 18-53-
5 01030.]

6 ***

7 [Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, on
8 behalf of Mark R. Zogby, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
9 presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 23-53-
10 012885.]

11 ***

12 MS. WUCINSKI:

13 At agenda item 3, I believe the Board
14 would entertain a motion to reject the
15 Consent Agreement and Order at Case No.
16 18-53-01030 as too harsh.

17 MS. GREY:

18 So moved.

19 DR. ZAWISZA:

20 Second.

21 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

22 It's been moved and seconded. Any
23 discussion? Hearing none.

24 We'll proceed with the vote.
25

1 Arion Claggett, aye; Sirisha Reddy,
2 aye; John Bulger, aye; Hillary Snyder,
3 aye; Bette Grey, aye; Thomas Dardarian,
4 aye; Joseph Zawisza, aye; Jonathan
5 Oline, abstain.

6 [The motion carried. Jonathan Oline was not on
7 camera and abstained from voting on the motion.]

8 ***

9 MS. WUCINSKI:

10 At agenda item 4, I believe the Board
11 would entertain a motion to adopt the
12 Consent Agreement and Order at Case No.
13 23-53-012885.

14 MS. GREY:

15 So moved.

16 DR. ZAWISZA:

17 Second.

18 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

19 It's been moved and seconded. Any
20 discussion? Hearing none.

21 We'll proceed with the vote.

22
23 Arion Claggett, aye; Sirisha Reddy,
24 aye; John Bulger, aye; Hillary Snyder,
25 aye; Bette Grey, aye; Thomas Dardarian,

1 aye; John Bulger, aye; Hillary Snyder,
2 aye; Bette Grey, aye; Thomas Dardarian,
3 aye; Joseph Zawisza, aye; Jonathan
4 Oline, abstain.

5 [The motion carried. Jonathan Oline was not on
6 camera and abstained from voting on the motion.]

7 ***

8 MS. WUCINSKI:

9 At agenda item 7, I believe the Board
10 would entertain a motion to adopt the
11 Hearing Examiner's Adjudication and
12 Order for Raymond J. Kraynak, D.O.,
13 Case No. 21-53-014250.

14 MS. GREY:

15 So moved.

16 DR. ZAWISZA:

17 Second.

18 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

19 It's been moved and seconded. Any
20 further discussion? Hearing none.

21 We'll proceed with the vote.

22
23 Arion Claggett, aye; Sirisha Reddy,
24 aye; John Bulger, aye; Hillary Snyder,
25 aye; Bette Grey, aye; Thomas Dardarian,

1 aye; Joseph Zawisza, aye; Jonathan
2 Oline, abstain.

3 [The motion carried. Jonathan Oline was not on
4 camera and abstained from voting on the motion.]

5 ***

6 Report of Board Counsel - Other

7 [Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, informed
8 Board members that House Bill 507 of 2023 is now Act
9 31 of 2023 and requires informed consent for pelvic,
10 rectal, and prostate examinations with a few
11 exceptions. She noted it subjects healthcare
12 providers to liability for violating Act 31. She
13 stated it also allows healthcare providers to
14 delegate the task of obtaining informed consent to a
15 qualified practitioner who is not a student.

16 Chairman Bulger commented that informed consent
17 is an issue of professionalism and common sense and
18 Act 31 codifies that in the statute.]

19 ***

20 Report of Board Chair

21 [John B. Bulger, D.O., MBA, Chairman, stated
22 regulations have been drafted and are winding their
23 way through the regulatory process. He noted the
24 Board made some decisions over the past few years to
25 waive certain administrative processes that are part

1 of receiving a license.

2 Chairman Bulger noted the Pennsylvania
3 Osteopathic Medical Association (POMA) and others
4 brought to the Board's attention that the website
5 reflects the old regulation and does not reflect the
6 practicalities of what happens as part of the
7 licensing process.

8 Ms. Wucinski explained that the Board would
9 either create a Statement of Policy or some other
10 kind of notification as soon as possible.

11 Chairman Bulger noted the pragmatics of the
12 Board's deliberations would soon be available on the
13 Department of State's website and thanked everyone
14 who brought that issue to the Board's attention.

15 Chairman Bulger thanked everyone for their hard
16 work throughout the past year and wished everyone a
17 happy holiday.]

18 ***

19 Report of Vice Chair - No Report

20 [Hillary D. Snyder, MSPAS, PA-C, Vice Chair, also
21 thanked everyone for their efforts through all of the
22 Board endeavors and wished everyone a happy holiday.]

23 ***

24 Report of Acting Commissioner

25 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of

1 Professional and Occupational Affairs, informed Board
2 members that all Board meetings going forward would
3 be held at 2525 North 7th Street in a hybrid fashion.
4 He also noted it would be updated on the Board's
5 website and any notifications.]

6

7 Report of Department of Health

8 [Sirisha Reddy, Special Assistant, on behalf of Debra
9 L. Bogen, M.D., stated it is respiratory virus
10 season, noting a respiratory virus dashboard is
11 available on the Department of Health's website
12 showing the status of illnesses and cases across the
13 Commonwealth.

14 Ms. Reddy reported an increase in influenza cases
15 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), especially
16 among children under 5. She noted COVID-19 hospital
17 admissions have been increasing over the last few
18 weeks and 655 deaths related to COVID-19 since
19 October 1. She asked everyone to consider getting
20 vaccinated and to talk to their primary care
21 physician.]

22

23 Applications for Licensure

24 MS. WUCINSKI:

25

At agenda item 9, I believe the Board

1 would entertain a motion to
2 provisionally deny the Reactivation
3 Application of Stuart Lewis, D.O.

4 MS. GREY:

5 So moved.

6 DR. ZAWISZA:

7 Second.

8 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

9 It's been moved and seconded. Any
10 further discussion? Hearing none.

11 We'll proceed with the vote.

12

13 Arion Claggett, aye; Sirisha Reddy,
14 aye; John Bulger, aye; Hillary Snyder,
15 aye; Bette Grey, aye; Thomas Dardarian,
16 aye; Joseph Zawisza, aye; Jonathan
17 Oline, abstain.

18 [The motion carried. Jonathan Oline was not on
19 camera and abstained from voting on the motion.]

20

21 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

22 [Priscilla Turek, Board Administrator, reiterated the
23 next Board meeting would be held at 2525 North 7th
24 Street.]

25

1 For the Board's Information/Discussion - Board
2 Meeting Dates

3 [John B. Bulger, D.O., MBA, noted the 2024 Board
4 meeting dates.]

5 ***

6 For the Board's Information/Discussion - Old/New
7 Business

8 [John B. Bulger, D.O., MBA, informed everyone that
9 Dr. Randy Litman is in the process of completing his
10 paperwork and would be joining the Board at the next
11 meeting.]

12 ***

13 For the Board's Information/Discussion - Old/New
14 Business - Approval of the Proposed 2025 Board
15 Meeting Dates

16 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

17 We have to approve the proposed 2025
18 Board meeting dates.

19 MS. GREY:

20 So moved.

21 DR. ZAWISZA:

22 Second.

23 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

24 It's been moved and seconded. Any
25 further discussion? Hearing none.

1 We'll record the vote.

2

3 Arion Claggett, aye; Sirisha Reddy,
4 aye; John Bulger, aye; Hillary Snyder,
5 aye; Bette Grey, aye; Thomas Dardarian,
6 aye; Joseph Zawisza, aye; Jonathan
7 Oline, abstain.

8 [The motion carried. Jonathan Oline was not on
9 camera and abstained from voting on the motion.]

10 ***

11 For the Board's Information/Discussion - Old/New
12 Business - Annual Election of Officers

13 [Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, mentioned
14 that the Board had its annual election in August and
15 decided the election of officers would remain the
16 same through December 2024, noting Bette Grey would
17 also continue as secretary.]

18 ***

19 For the Board's Information/Discussion - Old/New
20 Business - Review of Applications Committee Members

21 [John B. Bulger, D.O., Chairman, stated the
22 Applications Committee reviews applications received
23 between Board meetings and includes himself, Dr.
24 Dardarian, and Ms. Grey as members. He noted the
25 Probable Cause Screening Committee decides whether

1 immediate action should be taken on a license and
2 includes Dr. Dardarian and Ms. Grey. He also noted
3 the Board has a Continuing Education Committee that
4 reviews continuing education programs.

5 Dr. Zawisza volunteered as the third member of
6 the Probable Cause Screening Committee, Dr. Oline
7 replaced Chairman Bulger on the Applications
8 Committee, and Dr. Litman was chosen to be a member
9 of the Continuing Education Committee once the
10 required paperwork has been completed.]

11 ***

12 Adjournment

13 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

14 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

15 MS. GREY:

16 So moved.

17 DR. ZAWISZA:

18 Second.

19 CHAIRMAN BULGER:

20 Thanks everybody.

21 ***

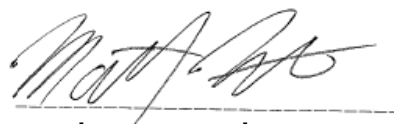
22 [There being no further business, the State Board of
23 Osteopathic Medicine Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.]

24 ***

25

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine meeting.



Matthew Ford,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
REFERENCE INDEX

December 13, 2023

TIME	AGENDA
9:30	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:34	Official Call to Order
10:35	Introduction of Board Members/Attendees
10:36	Approval of Minutes
10:38	Report of Prosecuting Attorneys
10:42	Report of Board Counsel
10:46	Report of Board Chair
10:49	Report of Acting Commissioner
10:50	Report of Department of Health
10:51	Applications for Licensure
10:52	For the Board's Information/Discussion
10:58	Adjournment