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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
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

TIME: 10:35 A.M.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2601 North Third Street
One Penn Center, Board Room C
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

1 State Board of Osteopathic Medicine
2 April 13, 2022
3
4

5 BOARD MEMBERS:
6

7 Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
8 Professional and Occupational Affairs
9 Keara Klinepeter, Acting Secretary of Health - Absent
10 William B. Swallow, D.O., Chairman
11 John B. Bulger, D.O., Vice Chairman
12 Bette A. Grey, BA, RRT, CPFT, Secretary
13 Thomas S. Dardarian, D.O.
14 Christopher S. Poggi, D.O. - Absent
15 Frank M. Tursi, D.O.
16 Hillary D. Snyder, MSPAS, PA-C
17
18

19 BUREAU PERSONNEL:
20

21 Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel
22 Matthew Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
23 Dean F. Picarella, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel
24 Adam Williams, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
25 Mark R. Zogby, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
26 Kelsey Ashworth, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
27 Danie Bendesky, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs,
28 Department of State
29 Nichole Wray, Board Administrator
30 Suzanne Zerbe, Division Chief
31 Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State
32 Michael Martin, Legal Intern
33 Marc Farrell, Deputy Director, Office of Policy,
34 Department of State
35
36

37 ALSO PRESENT:
38

39 Jeanne Sandella, D.O., Professional Development
40 Initiatives and Communications, National Board of
41 Osteopathic Medical Examiners
42 Douglas Murray, Esquire, National Board of Osteopathic
43 Medical Examiners
44 Andy Sandusky, Executive Vice President, Public Policy
45 and Association Affairs, Pennsylvania Osteopathic
46 Medical Association
47 Michael DePalma, ND, Pennsylvania Association of
48 Naturopathic Physicians
49 Wesley J. Rish, Esquire, Rish Law Office, LLC
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State Board of Osteopathic Medicine
April 13, 2022

ALSO PRESENT: (cont.)

- Charles Hartwell, Esquire, Dethlefs Pykosh & Murphy
- Susan DeSantis, PA-C, Pennsylvania Society of
Physician Assistants
- Kari Orchard
- Joseph Brett
- Jonelle Eshbach
- Misha Patel
- Jennifer Smeltz

1 ***

2 State Board of Osteopathic Medicine

3 April 13, 2022

4 ***

5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at
6 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 deliberations
9 on a number of matters that are currently pending
10 before the Board and to receive the advice of counsel.

11 The Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.]

12 ***

13 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
14 Board of Osteopathic Medicine was held on Wednesday,
15 April 13, 2022. William B. Swallow, D.O., Chairman,
16 called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

17 Chairman Swallow welcomed everyone. He also
18 reminded everyone attending virtually or in person
19 that they were consenting to be recorded.

20 ***

21 Roll Call/Introductions

22 [Nichole Wray, Board Administrator, provided an
23 introduction of the Board members, staff, and audience
24 in attendance.]

25 ***

1 Appointment - National Board of Osteopathic Medical
2 Examiners Updates
3 [Douglas Murray, Esquire, General Counsel, National
4 Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, provided
5 updates regarding Level 1 of the Comprehensive
6 Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX)-
7 USA, which is changing from a scored exam to pass/fail
8 effective next month but should not have an impact on
9 licensing boards.

10 Mr. Murray also informed the Board of changes to
11 attempt limits, where all COMPLEX-USA exams are being
12 reduced from six to four attempts in July 2022. He
13 noted candidates have been notified who may be
14 impacted by this because the candidates have limited
15 attempts left, so the Board may be hearing from some
16 of them. He mentioned certain circumstances would
17 allow one additional attempt if the state Board
18 approve it, so the Board may be hearing from
19 candidates requesting to take an additional attempt if
20 the candidates are about to exceed their attempt
21 limits.

22 Jeanne Sandella, D.O., Professional Development
23 Initiatives and Communications, National Board of
24 Osteopathic Medical Examiners, addressed the Special
25 Commission on Osteopathic Medical Licensure

1 Assessment. She stated it was formed in 2021 and
2 includes representation from across the osteopathic
3 profession, including undergraduate medical education
4 (UME) and graduate medical education (GME), the
5 American Osteopathic Association (AOA) accreditation,
6 the public, and licensure authorities.

7 Dr. Sandella mentioned the Special Commission had
8 two state Board representatives from North Carolina
9 and Kentucky and the leader for the American
10 Association of Osteopathic Examiners, Alexios
11 Carayannopoulos from Rhode Island. She noted having a
12 testimony from patients, risk management
13 professionals, hospital administration, and hospital
14 recruiters during deliberation.

15 Dr. Sandella discussed some of the work of the
16 Special Commission, including addressing concerns
17 regarding the lack of a COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE and
18 implementation of enhanced attestation pathways for
19 Level 3 for classes for 2020 to 2023. She noted
20 enhanced attestation allows the osteopathic college
21 deans to attest that their graduates had demonstrated
22 fundamental osteopathic clinical skills necessary for
23 graduation, which includes whether or not those skills
24 were being assessed at the colleges of osteopathic
25 medicine (COM) level.

1 Dr. Sandella also noted doing a pool of all of
2 the colleges in an evidence for clinical skills
3 activities inventory, which allowed colleges to attest
4 for their students' clinical skills acumen.

5 Dr. Sandella noted the Special Commission heard
6 from stakeholders that the profession agrees that the
7 assessment of clinical skills is important, and the
8 Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine holds
9 this in very high regard. She stated the colleges of
10 osteopathic medicine can have a role in the licensure
11 assessment of osteopathic clinical skills in the
12 future and was informed by the Evidence of Clinical
13 Skills Activities (ECSA) Inventory.

14 Dr. Sandella reported 90 percent of colleges of
15 osteopathic medicine completed the inventory, and 95
16 percent of the schools were doing some type of
17 capstone-type assessment in order to either prepare or
18 identify issues in their graduates prior to the
19 COMLEX-USA Level 2-PE being temporarily suspended from
20 the pandemic.

21 Dr. Sandella noted the profession believes it is
22 important to have a national standard across the
23 entire country for these skills and is important to
24 the Board of Osteopathic Medicine to help individuals
25 obtain licensure in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

1 Dr. Sandella stated the recommendation from the
2 Special Commission includes the future of clinical
3 skills assessment as part of COMLEX-USA; emerging
4 content and competencies; diversity, equity, and
5 inclusion; assessment practices for osteopathic
6 medical licensure; and technology and test delivery.

7 Dr. Sandella stated the 10 recommendations from
8 the Special Commission will be publicly announced.
9 She noted the Special Commission is recommending to
10 the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners
11 (NBOME) to establish a COM-based COMLEX-USA National
12 Standardized Assessment, which includes an in-person
13 hands-on evaluation of fundamental osteopathic
14 clinical skills, including interpersonal communication
15 skills and osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT)
16 with quality assurance.

17 Dr. Sandella announced a public comment period
18 starting this date through May 4, 2022. She
19 encouraged feedback from the Pennsylvania State Board
20 of Osteopathic Medicine regarding the recommendations.
21 She noted the recommendations and the form went to the
22 state board representative but also offered to
23 formally email those to the Board.

24 Dr. Sandella stated the recommendations and the
25 public commentary will go to NBOME Board of Directors

1 for consideration in June 2022 and then a final report
2 will be released by the board of directors in July
3 2022.

4 Mr. Murray mentioned that another finding and
5 recommendation of the Special Commission is their
6 belief that the licensure exam for doctors of
7 osteopathic medicine (DOs) should reflect the
8 distinctive education in the practice of osteopathic
9 medicine. He noted NBOME supported that the
10 distinctive osteopathic exam is an essential part of
11 osteopathic medical education and licensure path for
12 DOs.

13 Mr. Murray stated one of the misconceptions is
14 that osteopathic manipulative treatment or osteopathic
15 manipulative medicine (OMM) is the only distinctive
16 part of osteopathic medicine. He mentioned that
17 osteopathic medicine is distinctive and a far wider
18 base because the COMLEX-USA is not just focused on OMT
19 or OMM.

20 Mr. Murray noted the exam itself is based on a
21 unique exam blueprint that includes the seven
22 competency domains for osteopathic medicine, which is
23 the unique thing about the COMPLEX-USA and
24 differentiates it from other exams like the United
25 States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) that is

1 not based on curriculum content.

2 Mr. Murray stated students are required to pass
3 COMLEX Level 1- and Level 2-PE in order to graduate
4 and is a result of the Commission on Osteopathic
5 College Accreditation (COCA) Requirement Standard
6 6.12. He noted the accreditation of COCA by the
7 Department of Education requires colleges of
8 osteopathic medicine to show success with respect to
9 student achievement in relation to the institution's
10 goals.

11 Mr. Murray explained that COMLEX-USA is a key
12 factor for COMs to be able to demonstrate their
13 students are progressing and succeeding in their
14 education. He mentioned a resolution currently in
15 front of the American Medical Association (AMA) from
16 the Medical Student Section, which opposes a single
17 licensure exam or exploration of a single licensure
18 exam.

19 Mr. Murray stated NBOME plans to respond to the
20 resolution formally and are in touch with both the
21 Medical Student Section and the AMA. He noted the
22 proposal is really not responding to licensure issues
23 but external ancillary issues relating to residency
24 programs. He mentioned many residency programs are
25 still requiring applicants take the USMLE, and certain

1 programs do not consider DOs at all from a study by
2 the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP). He
3 explained that the resolution is trying to solve, in
4 their opinion, not the issue that there is still bias
5 in the system against DOs residency program system,
6 and is what needs to be corrected, and a single
7 licensure exam would not correct this.

8 Mr. Murray noted the importance of educating
9 AMA and learning more about this and highlight the AMA
10 on the issues of why COMLEX-USA and an osteopathic
11 distinctive exam exists and why it continues to be
12 required.

13 Mr. Murray addressed a hurdle in the general
14 public and with some medical students not
15 understanding the distinctive practice of osteopathic
16 medicine. He referred to an article written by Dr.
17 Gimpel and Dr. Loveless and other information on their
18 website discussing the goal of crafting a more
19 succinct definition and encourage everyone to review
20 the materials.

21 Dr. Sandella addressed how students would show
22 competency and where they would rank when the COMPLEX
23 and medical schools go to a pass/fail system. She
24 noted USMLE went to pass/fail in January, and COMLEX-
25 USA would be going to all pass/fail for Level 1 score

1 reporting in less than a month. She noted it to be an
2 issue for residency program applications because bias
3 exists and residency programs are looking at ways to
4 help individuals distinguish themselves.

5 Dr. Sandella mentioned looking at how to help DO
6 students use other measures that may be more
7 appropriate and more geared toward success in
8 residency as opposed to licensure examination because
9 that is only a small part of what residency program
10 directors are looking for in a future resident or what
11 programs are looking for in residency program
12 applications.

13 Chairman Swallow thanked Dr. Sandella and Mr.
14 Murray for a wonderful presentation.]

15 ***

16 For the Board's Information/Discussion
17 [William B. Swallow, D.O., Chairman, referred to the
18 Osteopathic Manipulation Therapy Examination
19 requirement for applicants who graduated after COMLEX
20 Level 2-PE was suspended.

21 Ms. Wray commented that the Board is now reaching
22 a point where graduates are starting to apply for full
23 licensure after the Level 2 suspension, noting a
24 separate OMT Examination has been required based on
25 their interpretation of the regulation that is going

1 to be administered by NBOME.

2 Ms. Wray mentioned that individuals have to
3 provide some form of verification or proof that they
4 had satisfied clinical assessment skills in order to
5 sit for Level 3 and requested NBOME provide
6 clarification as to how that is being done currently
7 and whether or not that will be enough to consider the
8 OMT Exam to satisfy on the Board's part.

9 Dr. Tursi also mentioned receiving a memo from
10 one of the Erie osteopathic hospitals who had a
11 question sent to them by AOA to that very thing. He
12 requested information about Level 2-PEs and whether
13 Pennsylvania will allow them to get an unrestricted
14 license.

15 Dr. Sandella commented that Pennsylvania is a
16 large DO state with multiple osteopathic schools, and
17 the first recommendation from the Special Commission
18 to NBOME would be to establish a standardized
19 assessment across the profession, again for fields
20 that include OMT.

21 Dr. Sandella addressed requirements for the
22 classes of 2020 to 2023. She stated each dean has
23 their own NBOME folder with all of their students,
24 which contains their COMPLEX-USA profile. She noted
25 there is actual evidence for clinical skills inventory

1 that will be published and presented at the American
2 Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
3 (AACOM) Educating Leaders Conference at the end of
4 this month.

5 Dr. Sandella reported 90 percent of COMs are
6 doing a high-stakes exam and almost all of them are
7 doing an OMT assessment during their fourth year. She
8 noted having the data to show it and exactly what it
9 means, including OMT assessment, assessment of
10 documentation skills, assessment of communication
11 skills, and assessment of structural exams. She
12 mentioned all of those were actually included in that
13 inventory to show those attestations done by the dean
14 were actually meaningful at that level.

15 Dr. Sandella noted being hopeful for the
16 Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and
17 all state boards looking to license physicians to
18 practice in their state in the future.]

19 MS. WUCINSKI:

20 I believe the Board would entertain a
21 motion to accept the attestation from
22 the osteopathic medical school dean,
23 that the applicants who graduate after
24 the COMLEX Level 2-PE was suspended,
25 that they have the clinical skills

1 necessary to deem that requirement
2 satisfied for licensure purposes.

3 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

4 May I have that motion, please?

5 DR. BULGER:

6 I'll make that motion.

7 DR. TURSI:

8 Second.

9 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

10 Is there further discussion? Hearing
11 none. It has been properly moved and
12 seconded. A discussion has been held.

13 I call for a vote.

14 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.
15 Bulger, aye; Ms. Grey, aye; Dr.
16 Dardarian, aye; Dr. Tursi, aye; Ms.
17 Snyder, aye.

18 [The motion carried unanimously.]

19 ***

20 [Ms. Wray requested clarification as to whether a
21 blanket statement or something from NBOME would be
22 necessary or whether no evidence or proof would be
23 necessary if someone falls within that category based
24 on their graduation period.

25 Ms. Wucinski explained that no further evidence

1 is necessary if the student has Level 3 and graduated
2 within that class period.

3 Dr. Tursi asked how the new guidelines would be
4 disseminated.

5 Chairman Swallow commented that the Board would
6 be sending the information to the respective societies
7 for their dissemination and to AOA for their review.

8 Dr. Sandella also requested any information be
9 sent to Dr. Gimpel and Dr. LaBaere.]

10 ***

11 Approval of minutes of the February 9, 2022 meeting

12 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

13 Approval of the minutes?

14 DR. DARDARIAN:

15 So moved.

16 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

17 We have a motion to approve. Is there a
18 second?

19 MS. GREY:

20 Second.

21 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

22 It has been properly moved and seconded.

23 Is there any discussion? Hearing none.

24

25 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.

1 Bulger, aye; Ms. Grey, aye; Dr.
2 Dardarian, aye; Dr. Tursi, aye; Ms.
3 Snyder, abstain.

4 [The motion carried. Hillary Snyder abstained from
5 voting on the motion.]

6 ***
7 [William B. Swallow, D.O., Chairman, introduced and
8 welcomed Hillary Snyder as the physician assistant
9 representative to the Board.]

10 ***
11 Report of Prosecuting Attorneys
12 [William B. Swallow, D.O., Chairman, noted the Board
13 waived the prosecution presentation in lieu of the
14 discussion held in Executive Session and will proceed
15 with the vote.]

16 MS. WUCINSKI:

17 Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the
18 Sunshine Act, the Board did enter into
19 Executive Session this morning at
20 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of conducting
21 quasi-judicial deliberations on a number
22 of matters currently pending before the
23 Board and to receive the advice of
24 counsel.

25 I'm going to move to agenda items 4

1 through 5. I believe the Board would
2 entertain a motion to approve the
3 following VRP Case Numbers: Case No.
4 22-53-003383, Case No. 22-53-004596,
5 Case No. 22-53-003385.

6 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

7 Is there a motion?

8 DR. DARDARIAN:

9 So moved.

10 DR. TURSI:

11 Second.

12 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

13 Any discussion? Hearing none. Call for
14 the vote.

15
16 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.
17 Bulger, aye; Ms. Grey, aye; Dr.
18 Dardarian, aye; Dr. Tursi, aye; Ms.
19 Snyder, aye.

20 [The motion carried unanimously.]

21 ***

22 MS. WUCINSKI:

23 Moving on to item 7, I believe the Board
24 would entertain a motion to approve the
25 Consent Agreement at Case No. 21-53-

1 018516. I am going to note that Dr.
2 Tursi and Ms. Grey are recused.

3 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

4 Is there a motion?

5 DR. DARDARIAN:

6 So moved.

7 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

8 Is there a second?

9 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

10 Second.

11 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

12 Any discussion? Hearing none. Call for
13 the vote.

14

15 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.
16 Bulger, aye; Dr. Dardarian, aye; Ms.
17 Snyder, aye.

18 [The motion carried. Dr. Tursi and Ms. Grey recused
19 themselves from deliberations and voting on the
20 motion. The Respondent's name is Paul S. Vachher,
21 D.O.]

22

23 MS. WUCINSKI:

24 I believe the Board would entertain a
25 motion to approve the Consent Agreement

1 at Case No. 21-53-012110.

2 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

3 Is there a motion?

4 DR. DARDARIAN:

5 So moved.

6 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

7 Is there a second?

8 MS. GREY:

9 Second.

10 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

11 Any discussion? Hearing none. Call for
12 the vote.

13

14 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.
15 Bulger, aye; Ms. Grey, aye; Dr.
16 Dardarian, aye; Dr. Tursi, aye; Ms.
17 Snyder, aye.

18 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
19 name is Virgil Waid McMillion, D.O.]

20

21 MS. WUCINSKI:

22 Agenda item 9. I believe the Board
23 would entertain a motion to approve the
24 Consent Agreement at Case Nos. 18-53-
25 005041, 18-53-008831, 18-53-009269, and

1 19-53-010844. I am going to note that
2 Dr. Poggi and Dr. Bulger are both
3 recused.

4 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

5 Is there a motion?

6 DR. DARDARIAN:

7 So moved.

8 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

9 Is there a second?

10 MS. GREY:

11 Second.

12 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

13 Any discussion? Hearing none.

14

15 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Ms.
16 Grey, aye; Dr. Dardarian, aye; Dr.
17 Tursi, aye; Ms. Snyder, aye.

18 [The motion carried. Dr. Poggi and Dr. Bulger recused
19 themselves from deliberations and voting on the
20 motion. The Respondent's name is Garo Charles Avetian
21 D.O.]

22

23 Report of Board Counsel

24 MS. WUCINSKI:

25 Moving down to agenda item 10. I

1 believe the Board would entertain a
2 motion to adopt as final the Proposed
3 Adjudication and Order for Chuma G.
4 Osuji, D.O., Case No. 21-53-011534.

5 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

6 Is there a motion?

7 DR. DARDARIAN:

8 So moved.

9 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

10 Second?

11 MS. GREY:

12 Second.

13 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

14 Any discussion? Hearing none.

15

16 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.
17 Bulger, aye; Ms. Grey, aye; Dr.
18 Dardarian, aye; Dr. Tursi, aye; Ms.
19 Snyder, aye.

20 [The motion carried unanimously.]

21

22 MS. WUCINSKI:

23 The Board would entertain a motion to
24 direct Board counsel to draft an
25 Adjudication and Order addressing

1 exceptions for Thomas J. Whalen, D.O.,
2 Case No. 21-53-001276.

3 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

4 Is there a motion?

5 DR. DARDARIAN:

6 So moved.

7 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

8 Second?

9 MS. GREY:

10 Second.

11 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

12 It's been moved and seconded. Any
13 discussion? Hearing none.

14

15 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.
16 Bulger, aye; Ms. Grey, aye; Dr.
17 Dardarian, aye; Dr. Tursi, aye; Ms.
18 Snyder, aye.

19 [The motion carried unanimously.]

20

21 MS. WUCINSKI:

22 Moving on to agenda item 12, I believe
23 the Board would entertain a motion to
24 adopt as final the Draft Adjudication
25 and Order for Mahmoud Ghaderi, D.O.,

1 Case No. 20-53-012385.

2 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

3 Is there a motion?

4 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

5 So moved.

6 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

7 Second?

8 MS. GREY:

9 Second.

10 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

11 It's been moved and seconded. Any
12 further discussion? Hearing none.

13

14 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.
15 Bulger, aye; Ms. Grey, aye; Dr.
16 Dardarian, recuse; Dr. Tursi, aye; Ms.
17 Snyder, aye.

18 [The motion carried. Dr. Dardarian recused himself
19 from deliberations and voting on the motion.]

20

21 Applications for Licensure - Applications -

22 Unrestricted

23 MS. WUCINSKI:

24 I believe the Board would entertain a
25 motion to grant an Unrestricted License

1 to Practice as an Osteopathic Physician
2 and Surgeon under Act 41 for Ronald
3 Englert, D.O. and Gregory Nelson, D.O.

4 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

5 Is there a motion?

6 DR. DARDARIAN:

7 So moved.

8 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

9 Second?

10 MS. GREY:

11 Second.

12 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

13 Any discussion? Hearing none.

14

15 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.

16 Bulger, aye; Ms. Grey, aye; Dr.

17 Dardarian, aye; Dr. Tursi, aye; Ms.

18 Snyder, aye.

19 [The motion carried unanimously.]

20 ***

21 Miscellaneous

22 MS. WUCINSKI:

23 The final motion is Christopher

24 Vassalluzzo, D.O. I believe the Board

25 would entertain a motion to approve the

1 Request of Preceptorship for a period of
2 6 months. The Board would also grant
3 Dr. Vassalluzzo a Nonpublic
4 Nondisciplinary License to practice
5 under the auspices of that approved
6 preceptorship.

7 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

8 Is there a motion?

9 DR. DARDARIAN:

10 So moved.

11 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

12 Is there a second?

13 MS. GREY:

14 Second.

15 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

16 Any discussion? Hearing none.

17

18 Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Swallow, aye; Dr.
19 Bulger, aye; Ms. Grey, aye; Dr.
20 Dardarian, aye; Dr. Tursi, aye; Ms.
21 Snyder, aye.

22 [The motion carried unanimously.]

23

24 Report of Regulatory Counsel

25 [Dana M. Wucinski, Esquire, Board Counsel, referred to

1 Senate Bill 1151 of 2022 that amends the Mental Health
2 Procedures Act Section 111.1 to clarify and codify a
3 mental health care practitioner's duty to warn of a
4 specific and immediate threat of serious bodily
5 injury. She noted the cosponsorship memorandum states
6 the current law is too vague and ambiguous regarding
7 specifics needed to trigger the duty to warn
8 individuals, law enforcement, and communities.

9 Ms. Wucinski stated the bill was referred to the
10 Department of Health and Human Services on March 17,
11 2022, and she would be reaching out to Board members
12 if the bill gains any traction.]

13 ***

14 Report of Board Chair - No Report

15 ***

16 Report of Vice Chair - No Report

17 ***

18 Report of Acting Commissioner

19 [Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
20 Professional and Occupational Affairs, informed Board
21 members that the department is currently in the
22 process of replacing the Pennsylvania Licensing System
23 (PALS) and hope to have the replacement identified by
24 the end of 2023.]

25 ***

1 Report of Department of Health - No Report

2 ***

3 Report of Board Administrator

4 [Nichole Wray, Board Administrator, announced the
5 temporary emergency waiver of the OMT Examination for
6 out-of-state osteopathic physicians set to expire on
7 March 31, 2022, was extended until June 30, 2022. She
8 stated the waiver allows the Board to issue a
9 provisional license until the end of this renewal
10 period on October 31, 2022.

11 Ms. Wray noted that individuals would still be
12 required to sit for and pass the PA OMT Exam in that
13 time frame prior to being able to renew that license
14 unless the individuals applied through other means.

15 Ms. Wucinski informed the Board that Ms. Walter
16 is going to be drafting this regulation and would be
17 adding it in with the Act 41 regulation so they would
18 go together. She mentioned they wanted the Board of
19 Medicine and Board of Osteopathic Medicine to be
20 consistent with one another and Ms. Walter is starting
21 the drafting of this one.

22 Ms. Wray reported a record year of graduate
23 matches for internship residency programs with an
24 expected higher volume for applications for graduate
25 training licenses than previous years and the staff

1 was doing the best they can to keep up with said
2 volume.

3 Ms. Wray reminded Board members the deadline for
4 the 2021 Financial Disclosure Statement is May 1,
5 2022, and to reach out to her if anyone is having any
6 issues.]

7 ***

8 For the Board's Information/Discussion - Old/New
9 Business

10 [William B. Swallow, D.O., Chairman, noted the
11 remaining 2022 Board meeting dates and 2023 Board
12 meeting dates.

13 Chairman Swallow thanked everyone for their
14 attendance and those who were present virtually.

15 Dr. Tursi thanked the Board and all of the
16 administrators in the event this is his last meeting.
17 He encouraged new members to speak up, noting the
18 decisions they make are important in protecting the
19 citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and some
20 of the DOs.

21 Chairman Swallow thanked Dr. Tursi for all of his
22 years of service to the Board and wished him well in
23 the future.]

24 ***

25 Adjournment

1 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

2 Is there a motion to adjourn?

3 DR. DARDARIAN:

4 So moved.

5 MS. GREY:

6 Second.

7 [The motion carried unanimously.]

8

9 CHAIRMAN SWALLOW:

10 We stand adjourned.

11 ***

12 [There being no further business, the State Board of
13 Osteopathic Medicine Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.]

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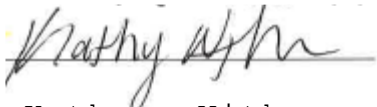
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CERTIFICATE

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.



Kathryn Witherow,
Minute Clerk
Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
REFERENCE INDEX

April 13, 2022

TIME	AGENDA
9:30	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:35	Official Call to Order
10:35	Roll Call/Introductions
10:37	Appointment - National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners Updates
11:01	For the Board's Information/Discussion
11:15	Approval of Minutes
11:16	Report of Prosecuting Attorneys
11:20	Report of Board Counsel
11:22	Applications for Licensure
11:23	Miscellaneous
11:24	Report of Regulatory Counsel
11:25	Report of Acting Commissioner
11:25	Report of Board Administrator
11:29	For the Board's Information/Discussion
11:31	Adjournment