President Lance Lindow called the meeting to order at 9:19 a.m. Guests were welcomed and a flexible agenda was approved.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS
General Counsel, David Dawson, represented the Board. Motions reflect the decisions of the Board reached in deliberation following the hearing of each case.

RACHEL ROSE KERWIN ARISTEO, LICENSE NO. R099866
Respondent was present for the proceedings before the Board and was not represented by counsel. Rebecca Cowie, Washington Regional Medical Center and Lisa Wooten, MPH, BSN, RN, provided testimony on behalf of the Board. Respondent has been charged with Ark. Code Ann. § 17-87-309(a)(6) and pleads not guilty to the charges. Respondent holds Arkansas RN License No. R099866. An investigation was prompted by a complaint submitted to the Arkansas State Board of Nursing on July 3, 2020 from Washington Regional Medical Center (WRMC). The complaint indicates in part the Respondent failed to provide safe nursing care related to a change of patient condition and notification of physician in a reasonable amount of time. The complaint states that Respondent documented a change from previous shift assessment in a neurological patient's pupil size, charted pupils as non-reactive, and charted the patient was in a coma without notifying a physician. The discipline and termination report
from WRMC states the Respondent assumed care for Patient J.G and performed an assessment at 8:00 p.m. Respondent documented pupils were 5mm and non-reactive bilaterally, and level of consciousness was assessed as coma. According to WRMC, neither of these findings were previously documented in Patient J.G.'s record, thus Respondent failed to recognize that a new finding of fixed and dilated pupils was indicative of a neurologic emergency and subsequently failed to notify a provider of the assessment finding in a reasonable amount of time. WRMC reported that the patient's cardiac monitor leads were placed on the patient for the first time at 10:30 p.m. and the patient's heart rate was 165. At 10:46 p.m., the primary physician was notified. Oxygen was placed on the patient, and an EKG and CT were performed. Upon return from CT, the Neuro Clinical Coordinator identified that the patient had ceased respirations and a cardiac conference (Code Blue) was initiated. In response to the WRMC investigation, Respondent stated, in part, that there were other people involved in the care of this patient and she was one member of a team. Respondent states she was not given an accurate report from her colleague on the day shift. Crucial changes in the patient's status that occurred in the day shift were not relayed to Respondent, which was crucial information that could have alerted Respondent to the gravity of the patient's situation. WRMC commented in response to Respondent's statements that a nurse cannot rely upon an assessment from twenty four (24) hours previously. The nurse must rely upon the current clinical picture presented in that moment. Within any patient population, specifically neurological, a patient's status can change rapidly and deteriorate quickly.

**MOTION:** I MOVE that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, in the case of RACHEL ROSE KERWIN ARISTEO, LICENSE NO. R099866, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that respondent has violated Ark. Code Ann. § 17-87-309(a)(6) and the Board issue a Letter of Warning.

Brought by Jasper Fultz and seconded by Neldia Dycus.

**PASSED**

Mary Trentham, the Board's attorney, presented consent agreements that had been entered into since the last meeting. Following discussion of each individual agreement, the following motion was passed:

**MOTION:** I MOVE that the Arkansas State Board of Nursing amend the Consent Agreement Motion from November 18, 2020:

**Teed, Kristopher Michael, R085631, L043769 (Higden, AR)**
- Violation: The Nurse Practice Act of Arkansas ACA §17-87-309(a)(6)
- Probation: 2 years
- Courses: Anger Management, Documentation for Nurses, Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills, Professional Boundaries in Nursing
- Civil Penalty: $2,000.00

Brought by Stacie Hipp and seconded by Janice Ivers.

**PASSED**

**MOTION:** I MOVE that the Arkansas State Board of Nursing ratify the following Consent Agreements:

**Davis, Tammy Renee Mitchell, R037214 (Alexander, AR)**
- Violation: The Nurse Practice Act of Arkansas ACA §17-87-309(a)(4) and (a)(6)
- Probation: 3 years
- Courses: Substance Abuse Bundle, The Nurse and Professional Behaviors, Documentation for Nurses
- Civil Penalty: $2,250.00
Martin, Shelly Renae, R100031, L048139  (Hamburg, AR)
Violation – The Nurse Practice Act of Arkansas ACA §17-87-309(a)(6)
Probation – 1 year
Courses – Documentation for Nurses, Sharpening Critical Thinking Skills
Civil Penalty - $1,950.00

Reed, Connor James, L056696  (Springdale, AR)
Violation – The Nurse Practice Act of Arkansas ACA §17-87-309(a)(6), (a)(8), and (a)(9)
Probation – 2 years
Courses – From Distress to Destress with Stress Management, Anger Management

Wallace, Jonathan Kyle, R077371  (Little Rock, AR)
Violation – The Nurse Practice Act of Arkansas ACA §17-87-309(a)(6) and (a)(9)
Probation – 3 years
Courses – Substance Abuse Bundle, Documentation for Nurses

Zavala, Kila Gail, R094419  (Horseshoe Bend, AR)
Violation – The Nurse Practice Act of Arkansas ACA §17-87-309(a)(6)
Probation – 1 year
Courses – Substance Abuse Bundle, Documentation for Nurses
Civil Penalty - $1,275.00

Brought by Stacie Hipp and seconded by Janice Ivers.
PASSED

After discussion of the following applicants, the following motions were presented by David Dawson, General Counsel, JD:

MOTION: I move that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that Melissa Kay Mansfield Fletcher, License(s) # L052406, RN-NCLEX applicant (retest), pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been found guilty of a crime making them ineligible to hold a nursing license as cited in Arkansas Code Annotated §17-3-102, and §17-87-309(a)(2) and that the Board GRANT a waiver of ACA §17-3-102.
Brought by Stacie Hipp and seconded by Janice Ivers.
PASSED

MOTION: I move that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that Melanie Elizabeth Waters, PN-NCLEX applicant (retest), pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been found guilty of a crime making them ineligible to hold a nursing license as cited in Arkansas Code Annotated §17-3-102, and §17-87-309(a)(2) and that the Board GRANT a waiver of ACA §17-3-102.
Brought by Stacie Hipp and seconded by Janice Ivers.
PASSED

MOTION: I move that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that Sherica Darcole Williams, RN-NCLEX applicant, pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been found guilty of a crime making them ineligible to hold a nursing license as cited in Arkansas Code Annotated §17-3-102, and §17-87-309(a)(2) and that the Board GRANT a waiver of ACA §17-3-102.
Brought by Stacie Hipp and seconded by Janice Ivers.
PASSED
MOTION: I move that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that Alyssa Rose Alexander, PN-NCLEX applicant, pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been found guilty of a crime making them ineligible to hold a nursing license as cited in Arkansas Code Annotated §17-3-102, and §17-87-309(a)(2) and that the Board GRANT a waiver of ACA §17-3-102.
Brought by Stacie Hipp and seconded by Janice Ivers.
PASSED

MOTION: I move that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that Paula Karen Linn, License(s) # L047511, RN-NCLEX applicant (retest), pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been found guilty of a crime making them ineligible to hold a nursing license as cited in Arkansas Code Annotated §17-3-102 and §17-87-309(a)(2) and that the Board GRANT a waiver of ACA §17-3-102.
Brought by Stacie Hipp and seconded by Janice Ivers.
PASSED

MOTION: I move that based on the evidence presented and the allegations contained in the Order and Notice of Hearing, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing finds that Natasha Renee Williams, License(s) # L060924, RN-NCLEX applicant (retest), pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or has been found guilty of a crime making them ineligible to hold a nursing license as cited in Arkansas Code Annotated §17-3-102, and §17-87-309(a)(2) and that the Board GRANT a waiver of ACA §17-3-102.
Brought by Stacie Hipp and seconded by Janice Ivers.
PASSED

Tonya Gierke, Assistant Director-ArNAP, discussed with the Board eligibility to re-enter the program for participants that have successfully completed previously. It was determined that a procedure will be presented at next months’ meeting.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:04 p.m. Following lunch, the Board resumed hearings.

President Lance Lindow called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. A flexible agenda was approved.

Sue Tedford, along with Darla Erickson and Karen McCumpsey, discussed with the Board the Governor's Declaration of Fee Refunds:
- 876 fees were refunded for a total of $104,607.30. Refunds were processed through INA for transactions made within the past thirty (30) days. All others were issued a check.
- A chart handout showing applications affected from start date to yesterday was provided. (See CHART for more description).

David Dawson provided a Legislative Update and Proposed Rules to the Board.

Sue Tedford also provided information on the following:
- COVID-19 update: Pharmacists are now considered prescribers of the vaccine, therefore, nurses can work under them directly.
- Financial Committee - additional documents have been uploaded to the Cloud for tomorrow for Board members to review.
- Donations for remembrance of Debbie Jones' husband, Charlie, are being collected. Checks may be made out to Camp Wyndwood or you may give cash to Sue and it will be included as one donation.
- ASBN received an email relating to the licensing of students while still in school. After discussion, it was determined that the Board is against this process.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:48 pm.

Lance Lindow, President

Mindy Danner, Recording Secretary

2/10/2021

Date Approved