



Arkansas Department of Health

Arkansas State Board of Nursing
1123 S. University Ave., #800 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72204 • (501) 686-2700 • Fax (501) 686-2714
Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Renee Mallory, RN, BSN, Secretary of Health
Jennifer Dillaha, MD, Director
Sue A. Tedford, MNSc, APRN, Director

BOARD BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

- TIME AND PLACE:** June 5, 2025
ASBN Boardroom
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Allie Barker, MSN, RN; Tabitha Lancaster, RN; Jamie Sims, Phillip Petty, RN; Cassie Gonzales, MNSc, APRN, FNP-BC; Barbara Hillman, BSN, RN; Robin Lambert, LNHA, LPN
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Veronica Harmon, RN
Lakisha D. Young, LPN
- STAFF ATTENDING AT VARIOUS TIMES:** Sue A. Tedford, Director, MNSc, APRN
David Dawson, General Counsel
Jennifer Ivory, Attorney Specialist, Esq., MPH
Darla Erickson, Administrative Services Manager
Shannon McKinney, Assistant Director, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC
Lisa Wooten, Assistant Director, MPH, BSN, RN
Janet Simpson, ASBN Program Coordinator, MSN, RNP, RNC-MNN
Tammy Vaughn, Assistant Director, MSN, RN, CNE
Brandy Haley, Program Coordinator, PhD, RN, CNE
LouAnn Walker, Public Information Coordinator
Udell Ward Jr., Regulatory Board Chief Investigator
Chris Lewis, Executive Assistant to the Director
Susan Moore, Computer Operator
- GUESTS:** Ashley Davis, Director Designate, PhD, RN

President Allie Barker called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m. A flexible agenda was declared.

I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reports were given by Committee chairs. Motions reflect committee recommendations.

A. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Tabitha Lancaster, Acting Chairperson, and Sue Tedford, ASBN Director, covered items for the Administrative Committee. The committee approved their minutes from January 9, 2025, and discussed the Annual Stakeholder Survey. The Administrative Committee reviewed Nursing Practice policies. Revisions were necessary for the following policies of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing Administrative Manual listed in the following motion:

MOTION 1: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing approve the attached changes to the following ASBN Policies: Section III-Nursing Practice: Policy III-1 Civil

Penalties; Policy III-2 Investigation; Section III-Administration: Policy III-4 Receiving a Complaint; Policy III-6 Conducting an Investigation; Policy III-7 Consent Agreements; Policy III-8 Disciplinary Hearings; Policy III-9 Drug Screens; Policy III-10 FOI Requests of Investigations; Policy III-12 Licensees Reporting Disciplinary Action in Another Jurisdiction at the Time of Renewal; Policy III-13 Licensee's Reporting a History Substance Abuse at Renewal; Policy III-14 Licensees Reporting Criminal History; Policy III-15 Authorizing Disciplinary Investigations; Policy III-17 Opening a Case File; Policy III-18 Closing a Case File Without Action; Policy III-19 Licensure Status Change Following Board Action; Policy III-20 Reporting to the Office of Inspector General; Policy III-21 Processing Complaints from the Attorney General's Office; Policy III-22 Processing Complaints from the Office of Long Term Care; Policy III-24 Unlicensed Nursing Practice/Imposter; Policy III-25 Late Renewals; Policy III-Disciplinary Non-compliance; Policy III-27 Notification of a License Suspended by the Board; Policy III-28 Order and Notice of Hearing; Policy III-29 Facts and Findings, Conclusion of Law and Order; Policy III-30 Reinstatements – Suspension to Probation/Probation to Action Cleared/Suspension to Active; Policy III-31 Letters of Warning; Policy III-32 Letters of Reprimand; Policy III-33 Probation; Policy III-34 Suspension; Policy III-35 Voluntary Surrender; Policy III-36 Publication of Disciplinary Actions; Policy III-38 Revocation; Policy III-39 Child Support Suspension; Policy III-41 Renewal Block; Policy III-Summary Suspension; Policy III-43 Handling Disciplinary Issues when ASBN Director, ASBN Assistant Director of Nursing Practice/Discipline and General Counsel Unavailable; Policy III-44 Complaint Notification of Investigation Resolution; Policy III-45 Renewal of License Under Investigation (No Response); Policy III-46 NURSYS® Data Entry and the National Practitioner Data Bank Compliance; Policy III-47 Monitoring of Licensees Disciplinary Files; Policy III-49 Position Statement Development; Policy III-50 Criteria for Board Approved Evaluators; Policy III-51 Indeterminate DNA Authenticated Drug Screen Results; Policy III-52 Medication Assisted Treatment.
PASSED.

B. PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Cassie Gonzales, Practice Committee Chairperson, along with Janet Simpson, ASBN Program Coordinator, presented items for the Practice Committee.

The Practice Committee approved their minutes of the January 9, 2025, meeting. They discussed the purpose of the committee, reviewed the open disciplinary case report and their strategic plan. The Committee had no motions to present.

Susan Brown with Publishing Concepts, Inc., spoke to the Board concerning events planned for the upcoming year. PCS has been working with the Board since 2002, and the next Nursing Expo is scheduled for Saturday, April 11, 2026, to be held at the Jack Stephens Center on the UALR Campus.

C. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Phillip Petty, the Finance Committee Chairperson, along with Darla Erickson, Administrative Services Manager, covered items for the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee approved the January 9, 2025, Minutes. Phillip Petty advised the Board that the Finance Committee's Strategic Plan is on target. The following motions were presented:

MOTION 2: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing approve the financial statements for October 2024 – March 2025.

PASSED.

MOTION 3: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing approve the financial reports prepared by the Arkansas Department of Health – Budget Department for the State Board of Nursing for the period October 2024 – March 2025.

PASSED.

MOTION 4: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing approve the report reconciling the ASBN financial statements to the AASIS documents received from the Arkansas Department of Health – Budget Department for the period October 2024 – March 2025.

PASSED.

MOTION 5: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing approve the FY2026 Annual Operations Plan submitted on April 7, 2025, by ASBN to the Arkansas Department of Health – Budget Department.

PASSED.

D. EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Tabitha Lancaster, Education Committee Chairperson, along with Tammy Vaughn, ASBN Program Coordinator, covered items for the Education Committee. The Education Committee approved Minutes from their January 9, 2025, meeting. Tabitha Lancaster reported that the Education Department's strategic plan is on track. The following motions were presented:

MOTION 6: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing grant Continued Full Approval to the Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas Practical Nurse Program until the year 2030.

PASSED.

MOTION 7: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing grant Initial Approval to the University of Arkansas – Ease Arkansas Community College Satellite Practical Nurse Program in Augusta, Arkansas.

PASSED.

MOTION 8: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing approve the following curriculum revisions for the Arkansas State University Beebe Practical Nurse program:

- Internet assisted delivery model
- Addition of an evening cohort

PASSED.

MOTION 9: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing approve the curriculum revision for Baptist Health College Little Rock School of Practical Nursing to decrease the length of the program from 44 to 40 weeks and total credits for completion from 51 to 50 credit hours.

PASSED.

MOTION 10: I move that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing grant approval to the University of Arkansas at Monticello College of Technology Crossett to offer two high school Practical Nursing program cohorts in Crossett and Warren.
PASSED.

MOTION 11: I move that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing grant approval to the University of Arkansas Community College Morrilton Practical Nursing program curriculum revisions.
PASSED.

MOTION 12: I move that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing grant approval to the University of Arkansas Community College Morrilton Licensed Practical Nurse to Registered Nurse curriculum revisions.
PASSED.

E. SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Jamie Sims, Scholarship Committee Chairperson, along with Sue Tedford, ASBN Director, covered items for the committee. For the 2025 Fall Semester, the committee approved three (3) \$2,000 awards to Practice Renewal Applicants; nine (9) \$2,500 awards to Practice Applicants, one (1) \$1,500 award to a part-time Practice Applicant; two (2) \$4,000 awards to Educator Applicants. From the Jill Hasley Memorial Scholarship for the 2025 Fall Semester, the committee approved funds for one (1) \$4,000 award to an Educator Applicant, and one (1) \$2,500 award to a Practice Applicant. The following motion was presented:

MOTION 13: I MOVE that the Arkansas State Board of Nursing distributes the funds from the Faith A. Fields Nursing Loan Program for the 2025 Fall Semester, as follows:

Practice Renewal Applicants:

- 1) \$2,000.00 payable to the University of Central Arkansas on behalf of Gabriella Calderon;
- 2) \$2,000 payable to the University of Tulsa on behalf of Makenzie Martin; and
- 3) \$2,000.00 payable to Henderson State University on behalf of Alexis Moser;

Practice Applicants:

- 1) \$2,500 payable to the University of Arkansas of Little Rock on behalf of Katherine Ward;
- 2) \$2,500 payable to the University of Central Arkansas on behalf of Aaliyah Handy;
- 3) \$2,500 payable to Henderson State University on behalf of Hillary Williams;
- 4) \$2,500 payable to the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith on behalf of Cailee Johnson;
- 5) \$2,500 payable to Henderson State University on behalf of Avery Snow;
- 6) \$2,500 payable to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville on behalf of Trang Ngo;
- 7) \$2,500 payable to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville on behalf of Holly Clayton;
- 8) \$1,500 payable to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville on behalf of Charlie Freeman;
- 9) \$2,500 payable to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville on behalf of Emily Ward; and
- 10) \$2,500 payable to Harding University on behalf of Kaia Austin.

Educator Applicants:

- 1) \$4,000.00 payable to Arkansas State University on behalf of Haley Harper.
- 2) \$4,000.00 payable to William Carey University on behalf of Amanda Smith.

Jill Hasley Memorial Scholarship:

Educator Applicant:

- 1) \$4,000 payable to Arkansas State University on behalf of Heather Sikora.

Practice Applicant:

- 1) \$2,500 payable to Arkansas State University, Three Rivers on behalf of Alisicia McDowell.

PASSED.

President Allie Barker presented the following motions to the Board:

MOTION 14: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing approve the following Board members to serve as delegates for the NCSBN Annual Meeting held August 13-15, 2025: Delegate: Allie Barker. Alternate 1: Tabitha Lancaster. Alternate 2: Jamie Sims. The motion was seconded by Tabitha Lancaster.

PASSED.

MOTION 15: I MOVE that the ADH-Arkansas State Board of Nursing allow the ASBN Director or their designee to approve use of ondansetron and phenobarbital on a case-by-case basis with appropriate medical documentation and a signed long waiver by the prescriber. The motion was seconded by Tabitha Lancaster.

PASSED.

II. LEGISLATIVE REPORT – David Dawson & Sue Tedford (verbal)

David Dawson presented the recent legislation that concerns the Board.

- A. Act 98 allows APRNs to certify disability license plates.
- B. Act 138 allows admitting privileges for Certified Nurse Midwives. The Full Practice Authority statute was expended to include privileges for CNMs to admit and discharge patients from a licensed hospital, and if granted privileges may complete, sign and submit forms for birth certificates and death certificates.
- C. Act 198 creates the Registered Nurse Dialysis Patient Care Technician Act. The Board will need to create a registry as well as monitor it. Act 198 gives the Board the authority to discipline individuals on the registry. Board staff will create a new chapter of the *Rules* to accommodate Dialysis Patient Care Technicians.
- D. Act 265 replaces the term Medication Assistive Person with Certified Medication Assistant. It allows administration of insulin and medications by inhalation and increases the hours of didactic and clinical instruction.
- E. Act 431 modifies signature authority for APRN and Physician's Assistants. The definition of durable medical equipment has been changed to include orthotics, prosthetics, diabetic shoes and show inserts.
- F. There will be an upcoming education session to cover changes in the Freedom of Information Act in Act 505. Agencies, boards and commissions are prohibited from polling, and there are new regulations regarding remote meetings, official votes during remote meetings, and public access to remote meetings.
- G. Act 862 clarifies who may sign death certificates and who may pronounce the death of a patient. APRNs may complete and sign a death certificate and pronounce death of a patient in a hospital setting if the APRN is given authority by the medical staff of the hospital

and a physician other than an emergency department physician is not immediately available.

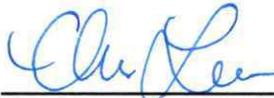
- H. Act 938 removes racial and gender quotas from membership of boards and commissions.
- I. Act 959 authorized APRNs to delegate to Medication Assistants and unlicensed staff. The administration of medications and immunizations that do not require specialized judgment and skill based on knowledge and application of the principles of biological, physical and social sciences as determined by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing and phlebotomy activities. APRNs shall remain responsible for the acts of the delegated person. The Board shall adopt rules to include only within the physical boundaries of the clinic setting of the APRN; the evaluation of whether delegation is appropriate according to the severity of the patient's condition; training and competency requirements of the delegated persons; and other standards and procedures deemed relevant by the Board.
- J. Act 961 authorizes and outsourcing facility of legend drugs and controlled substances that compound a product to sell the compounded product to certain entities and they may sell that product to APRNs. APRNs can administer the compounded products to their patients but cannot dispense to their patients.
- K. Act 963 states an APRN who prescribes a stimulant may substitute a therapeutically equivalent medication and must notify the originally prescribing physician of the substitution.
- L. Act 970 amends the Medical Ethics and Diversity Act. A worker in a medical field has the right to not participate in an abortion, assisted suicide, or gender transition procedures.

Rules changes will be discussed at the July Board Meeting, and documents will be uploaded as soon as available for Board Members to review.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.



Allie Barker, Board President



Chris Lewis, Recording Secretary

JULY 9, 2025
Date Approved