Sarah Huckabee Sanders
GOVERNOR

Renee Mallory, RN, BSN
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

Jennifer Dillaha, MD
DIRECTOR

FULL INDEPENDENT PRACTICE CREDENTIALING COMMITTEE

July 29, 2025

The meeting of the Full Independent Practice Credentialing Committee was called to order by Julia Ponder, DNP, APRN, Chairperson of the Full Independent Practice Credentialing Committee at 9:00 a.m.

Members present:

Julia Ponder, DNP, APRN, Chair

Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN

Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN

William Hawkins, MD

Mitzi Scotten, MD

Mark Foster, DNP, APRN, Co-Chair

Ashley Davis, Director ASBN

Members Absent: Amy Embry, Director ASMB

Also attending this meeting:

Sarah DeBusk-Griffith, Attorney, Arkansas Attorney General's Office

Shannon McKinney, DNP, APRN, ASBN Assistant Director

David Dawson, ASBN General Counsel

Christine Lewis, Executive Assistant, ASBN

Additions to the agenda – There were no additions to the agenda.

Approval of Agenda – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to accept the agenda. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to accept the minutes. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed unanimously.

Investigations and Complaints Update

Shannon McKinney, DNP, APRN, ASBN Assistant Director updated the committee on new complaints received since the last meeting:

ORBS ID 74886 – unprofessional conduct and dismissing patient's concerns. Investigation was conducted and case closed without action.

ORBS ID 98758 – not providing appropriate care or follow-up on requested documents. Investigation was conducted and case closed without action.

ORBS ID 115515 – stimulant prescribing. Investigation was conducted and case closed without action.

The following cases have an ongoing investigation:

ORBS ID 102209 – malpractice settlement notice

ORBS ID 86478 – prescribing

ORBS ID 20853 – two complaints: mismanagement; pre-signed prescription

ORBS ID 120747 – using the doctor title

ORBS ID 51581 – alleges not providing appropriate management for prescribed treatment

Shannon McKinney, DNP, APRN, ASBN Assistant Director updated the committee on the Board actions taken since the last meeting.

ORBS ID 91391 – A Letter of Warning (non-disciplinary) was issued for practicing outside scope of practice.

ORBS ID 157548 – A Letter of Warning (non-disciplinary) was issued for unprofessional conduct.

ORBS ID 91748 - A Letter of Warning (non-disciplinary) was issued for unprofessional conduct.

ORBS ID 111737 - The Arkansas State Board of Nursing ratified a three (3) year probation consent agreement. Certificate holder has an encumbered license and does not qualify for Full Independent Practice. They are currently practicing and prescribing under a collaborative practice agreement. Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to suspend full independent practice certificate until ASBN requirements are met and they can reapply for full independent practice. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Review of Applications

Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate to the following applicants in Batch 1. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

1. **Jennifer Cox A004006**
2. **Lauren Hancock A003570**
3. **Lindsay Chalmers A003225**

4. **Shannon McKinney A004386**
5. **Eric Luster CNP 218827**
6. **Lorraine Dyess CNP 21314**
7. **Brittany Moore CNP 216954**
8. **Karen Hanig A006171**
9. **Sara Mannis A006097**
10. **Nancy Mitchell CNP 122415**
11. **Brandie Tindell CNP 216972**
12. **Erica Caraway CNP 217972**
13. **Erica Ajoku A005060**
14. **Karri Mitchell A003642**
15. **Kelsey Sallee CNP 125040**
16. **Amy Henson A004345**
17. **Jennifer Harris A004265**
18. **Rebecca Gray A003229**
19. **Ebony Montgomery CNP 125407**
20. **Jessica Matthews CNP 218273**

Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate to the following applicants in Batch 2. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

1. **Jodi Buffington A005193**
2. **Rachel Nejem CNP 220653**
3. **Jennifer Shook A003667**
4. **Charlotte Jones A001896**
5. **Lisa Jaggers A003726**
6. **Shelly Evans A001382**
7. **Lakendra Ready A004869**
8. **Amber Mautner A004364**
9. **Stacey Pejsa CNP 217460**
10. **Shelly Oles CNP 232419**
11. **Jennifer Smith A004143**

12. **Mallory Jones CNP 232207**
13. **Ashley Denning CNP 232146**
14. **Joshua Sandford A006065**
15. **Jennifer Mace A005235**
16. **Melanie Higgins A004511**
17. **Carol Hughes A005079**
18. **Angela Ramsey CNP 120682**
19. **Debra Wade A006144**
20. **Wendy West A003655**

Mitzi Scotten, MD moved to grant a full independent practice certificate to the following applicants in Batch 3. It was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

1. **April Harris A005422**
2. **Nicollette Guerrero CNP 223814**
3. **Rebecca Cole A003272**
4. **Sherry Black A001200**
5. **Kristen Luce A004525**
6. **Michael Troutt A004280**
7. **Jerrica Luster CNP 214728**
8. **Chanel Bullock A005316**
9. **Courtney Eberhard CNP 123616**
10. **Emily Allen A005227**
11. **Britni Cartillar A004524**
12. **Jessica Metcalf A004958**
13. **Paige Patrick A005410**
14. **Tanja Mead A002930**
15. **Jama Davis A003724**
16. **Shandi Oneal CNP 124510**
17. **Brittney Lewis CNP 215920**
18. **Grayson Grant CNP 21514**
19. **Manuel Heredia A004183**

Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate to the following applicants in Batch 4. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

1. **Ramonda Housh A001746**
2. **Kaitlyn Peters CNP 217308**
3. **Yuliya Riddle CNP 214770**
4. **Melanie Hearnsberger-McGuire A005425**
5. **Erika Morrison A005476**
6. **Cassandra Caffey S002251**
7. **Alisha McCool CNP 214946**
8. **Ashley Cannon CNP 220179**
9. **Tina Gaither A004343**
10. **Haley Jaggers CNP 221479**
11. **Miricle Anderson CNP 228717**
12. **Jahnneliz Jones CNP 217659**

Necole Hughes, A004389 - Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Amanda Smallmon, A003277 - Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Emily Carpenter, A004802 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for Family. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Stephanie Johnson-Sykes, CNP 121434 - Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Colleen Atchley, A003744 – Mitzi Scotten, MD moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Kimberle Patterson, CNP 124060 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Patricia Shepphard, A004612 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Courtney Cavender, CNP 123842 - Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Amy Branham, A005667 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to defer the application for a new hours affidavit. The motion was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

clarification of Psych-Mental Health practice hours and a description of current scope of practice. The motion was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Natalie Beck, A003889 - William Hawkins, MD moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. There was not a second. Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to defer the application for a new notarized employer letter. The motion was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Thanh Nguyen, CNP 223927 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Sara Jones, A003969 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed. Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN abstained.

Katrina Scott, CNP 124327 - Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Paula Strickland, CNP 229962 - Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for Acute Care. It was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed. Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to defer approval for Family and requested hours clarification and a notarized letter from employer. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Uhronda Reel, CNP 124427 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by William Hawkins, MD. The motion passed.

Laura Collins, CNP 223501 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by William Hawkins, MD. The motion passed.

Lana Mears, A001938 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Caleb Kaspar, A005702 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Mika Seay, A003424 – Mark Foster, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Maureen Storey, CNP 230813- Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Glory Nwankwo, A004711 – Mitzi Scotten, MD moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Crystal Baldwin, A003299 - Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Brenna Fitzgerald, A003058- Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Dawn Lindsey, A004757 – Darlene Byrd, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for Psych/Mental Health. It was seconded by Mitzi Scotten, MD. The motion passed.

Delisa Brooks, CNP 221237 - Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for Family and Psych/Mental Health. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Ottysha White, A004401 – Leonie DeClerk, DNP, APRN moved to grant a full independent practice certificate for Psych/Mental Health. It was seconded by Mark Foster, DNP, APRN. The motion passed.

Other Business

Proposed Rule changes were discussed.

The new APRN for full practice and discipline will start on August 18, 2025.

Meeting dates for 2026 were discussed.

Next Meeting

October 7, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Julia Ponder, Chair

Shannon McKinney DNP, APRN

Shannon McKinney, Recording Secretary