#### **HAWAII MEDICAL BOARD**

Professional and Vocational Licensing Division Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs State of Hawaii

#### MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020

<u>Time:</u> 1:00 p.m.

<u>Place:</u> Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar

https://dcca-hawaii-gov.zoom.us/j/92449590935

Present: Jone Geimer-Flanders, D.O., Chairperson, Oahu Osteopathic Member

Peter Halford, M.D., Vice-Chairperson, Oahu Member

Maria Chun, Ph.D., Public Member Franklin V.H. Dao, M.D., Oahu Member Darren K. Egami, M.D., Maui Member Andrew "Rick" Fong, M.D., Hawaii Member

Peter Holt, M.D., Oahu Member

Michael Jaffe, D.O., Oahu Osteopathic Member

Wesley Mun, Public Member

Danny Takanishi, M.D., Oahu Member Geri Young, M.D., Kauai Member

Shari J. Wong, Deputy Attorney General ("DAG")

Ahlani K. Quiogue, Executive Officer

Jenny Yam, Secretary

Chelsea Fukunaga, Executive Officer Lei Ana E. Green, Executive Officer

Micah Cadalzo, Secretary Erin Emerson, Secretary Kawehionapua Mau, Secretary

Excused: None.

Zoom Webinar

Guest(s): Bill Andersen

Margot Karr, Applicant

Thomas MD Anonymous Sandrina Crowley Kelsey Okuda

John

Gary Wilson

Agenda: The agenda for this meeting was filed with the Office of the Lieutenant

Governor, as required by §92-7(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS").

A short video was played to explain the meeting procedures and how

members of the public could participate in the virtual meeting.

Chair Geimer-Flanders welcomed everyone to the meeting, and proceeded with a roll call of the Board members. All Board members confirmed that they were present.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:08 p.m., at which time quorum was established.

Approval of the October 8, 2020, Minutes:

It was moved by Dr. Holt, seconded by Vice-Chair Halford, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Dao who was unable to unmute his microphone to vote on this matter and Dr. Takanishi who abstained from voting on this matter, to approve the minutes of the open session of the October 8, 2020 meeting as circulated, and the minutes of the executive session of the October 8, 2020 meeting with the following amendment:

Page 1, <u>Present</u>, Danny Takanishi, M.D. should be deleted from being listed as present since he was excused from the meeting.

Adjudicatory Matters:

Chair Geimer-Flanders called for a recess from the meeting at 1:11 p.m., to discuss and deliberate on the following adjudicatory matters pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS (Note: Board members and staff entered into the Microsoft Teams meeting):

A. <u>In the Matter of the License to Practice Medicine of Dennis I.</u> Ayon, M.D.; MED 2010-109-L

Dr. Young recused herself from the discussion and vote on this matter and left the Microsoft Teams meeting at 1:15 p.m.

The Board members reviewed Dr. Ayon's email dated September 1, 2020, requesting early termination from the Board's Final Order dated December 8, 2016. The Board's Final Order ordered, among other things, that Dr. Ayon's license be placed on probation for a period of five (5) years and that he be monitored by Pu`ulu Lapa`au, The Hawaii Program for Healthcare Professionals.

The Board members also noted that Dr. Ayon had previously submitted a letter dated September 12, 2019, requesting early termination from the terms of his probation. This request was reviewed at its October 10, 2019 meeting, at which time the Board noted that several of the documents submitted to the Board did not support such request for early termination. Thus, the Board voted to deny Dr. Ayon's request for early termination from the Board's Final Order dated December 8, 2016. The Board also determined that it will not consider terminating the Final Order any earlier than December 8, 2021.

Chair Geimer-Flanders noted that Dr. Ayon's request dated September 12, 2019, stated that Hawaii Medical Service Association ("HMSA") and other insurances will not credential him due to the probationary terms placed on his license. She is of the opinion that Dr. Ayon's statement is

inaccurate, and that insurance companies do credential physicians with probationary licenses.

Chair Geimer-Flanders suggested that the Board invite Dr. Ayon to join the Microsoft Teams meeting.

Dr. Ayon entered the Microsoft Teams meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Geimer-Flanders welcomed Dr. Ayon to the Microsoft Teams meeting, and asked Dr. Ayon to make a brief statement and whether he would like the Board to invite Dr. John Corboy and Dr. Paul Unkur to the Microsoft Teams meeting to provide their testimony.

Dr. Ayon informed the Board that Dr. Unkur will not be available until after 2:00 p.m. However, Dr. Ayon requested that the Board invite Dr. Corboy to the Microsoft Teams meeting to provide testimony before he makes a brief statement.

Dr. Ayon encountered technical difficulties and left the Microsoft Teams meeting at 1:35 p.m.

Dr. Ayon returned to the Microsoft Teams meeting at 1:37 p.m.

Ms. Quiogue reminded members and guests that the Board must also consider and decide upon other agenda items, and requested that Dr. Ayon make a brief statement until Dr. Corboy was able to join the Microsoft Teams meeting.

Dr. Ayon thanked the Board for allowing him to attend, and expressed that it is his opinion that the Board should grant his request for early termination from the Board's Final Order dated December 8, 2016, for the following reasons: (1) there is a healthcare provider shortage, especially in the Wahiawa community, where he has provided healthcare services for ten (10) years; (2) he is unable to get credentialed by HMSA or other insurance providers due to the probationary status on his license; (3) his misdemeanor conviction for DUI was over ten (10) years ago, and he has remained sober and has not relapsed; (4) he completed a forensic psychiatric evaluation by Acumen Assessments and was found fit to practice; and (5) the Hearings Officer's Recommended Order dated July 11, 2016, recommended his license be placed on probation for two (2) years versus the Board's order to place his license on probation for five (5) years.

Chair Geimer-Flanders explained to Dr. Ayon that the Board's decision to place his license on probation for five (5) years and require that he enter into a Monitoring Agreement with Pu`ulu Lapa`au is because this length of time provides the strongest evidence for success of the participating practitioner – there is less chance of recidivism.

Chair Geimer-Flanders advised Dr. Ayon that the Board had received several quarterly reports from Pu`ulu Lapa`au, including a report dated February 1, 2018, which states that he "failed to provide two drug screen tests between January 22 and January 25, 2018" and that Pu`ulu Lapa`au ordered Dr. Ayon "to cease medical practice until he attends an evaluation that can determine his recovery status and assess his ability to return to safe practice".

Dr. Corboy entered the Microsoft Teams meeting by telephone at 1:43 p.m.

Dr. Ayon stated that he failed to provide two drug screen tests due to jet lag from his trip to Denver, after which he subsequently submitted to a liver test, blood test, alcohol binge test and all results came back negative. Dr. Ayon also stated that he attended Alcoholics Anonymous meetings three times per week and was in compliance with all other requests with the Monitoring Agreement.

Dr. Jaffe left the Microsoft Teams meeting at 1:46 p.m.

Chair Geimer-Flanders welcomed Dr. Corboy to the Microsoft Teams meeting, and allowed him to provide testimony.

Dr. Corboy stated that he has been licensed as a physician for sixty-four (64) years and has known Dr. Ayon for over twenty (20) years. He stated that Dr. Ayon was convicted of a DUI and was falsely accused by a certified schizophrenic patient of soliciting the patient to cause bodily injury/harm to the mother of his child. Dr. Ayon spent twenty-three (23) months in jail awaiting a trial and all charges were dropped against him.

Dr. Corboy went on to say that the Hearings Officer concluded in his Recommended Order that Dr. Ayon's licensed be placed on probation for two (2) years, which would have been completed in 2018. The members of the Hawaii Medical Board at that time (Note: In 2016, the Board composition included, in addition to others, Drs. Chun, Egami, Geimer-Flanders, Holt, and Halford, members who currently still serve on the Board), overruled the Hearings Officer's recommendation and ordered that Dr. Ayon's license be placed on probation for a period of five (5) years and that he be monitored by Pu`ulu Lapa`au. Dr. Corboy stated that he is also a member of Pu`ulu Lapa`au and he asserted that Dr. Ayon has remained sober since 2010, which has been proven by his participation in urine tests and other alcohol/drug testing.

Dr. Corboy stated that Dr. Ayon lost both of his brothers during this time and he was still able to maintain his sobriety. Dr. Corboy urged the Board to terminate the terms of probation from Dr. Ayon's license because Central Oahu is critically underserved and there is a physician shortage. Wahiawa General Hospital and his patients are requesting for Dr. Ayon to return to practice. Dr. Corboy noted that the Pu`ulu Lapa`au letter dated

November 1, 2020, deferred to the Board's decision on whether to grant Dr. Ayon's request for early termination. Dr. Corboy stated that Dr. Ayon is fit to return to clinical practice and he was recently recertified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Corboy emphasized that the Wahiawa Community needs Dr. Ayon and humbly requested that the Board vote in favor of Dr. Ayon's request for early termination from the Board's Final Order dated December 8, 2016.

Dr. Jaffe entered the Microsoft Teams meeting by telephone at 1:50 p.m.

Chair Geimer-Flanders explained to Dr. Ayon that the Board also received subsequent Pu`ulu Lapa`au quarterly reports between April 6, 2018 to at least April 1, 2020, which indicated to the best of their knowledge that Dr. Ayon complied with their order to cease all clinical activities since January 29, 2018; however, he did not attend an evaluation as requested. More specifically, Pu`ulu Lapa`au provided additional information in its quarterly report dated September 6, 2019, which among other things, states:

We cannot endorse his safety to practice. He has not yet completed our requirement to attend a comprehensive evaluation to determine his status of sobriety and safety to practice. He has yet to fulfill any of his fiduciary responsibilities for his monitoring program. He will need to fulfill both to return to full compliance.

It was noted that Pu`ulu Lapa`au submitted a quarterly report on October 1, 2020, which states "Dr. Ayon attended an evaluation in May 2020 and was found to be fit to return to clinical practice."

Dr. Ayon explained that the evaluation was referring to the assessment and evaluation he was required to participate in with Acumen Assessments which is located in Kansas and costs approximately \$10,000. He went on to say that he was unable to afford the expenses.

Chair Geimer-Flanders questioned why Dr. Ayon would complete the Acumen Assessment when the Board did not request for it.

Ms. Quiogue clarified that Pu`ulu Lapa`au requested that Dr. Ayon complete an evaluation with the Acumen Assessments to determine his ability to safely practice and his sobriety as its September 6, 2019, quarterly report outlined.

Chair Geimer-Flanders questioned why there was no communication between Acumen Assessments and Pu`ulu Lapa`au if they were working together.

Dr. Ayon clarified that the Multidisciplinary Forensic Assessment Preliminary Report by Acumen Assessments was dated March 30, 2020 and a copy was provided to the Board.

Ms. Quiogue clarified that Pu`ulu Lapa`au determines whether a comprehensive evaluation is necessary, and if the evaluation is not available in Hawaii, then they will outsource to various assessment programs such as Acumen Assessments.

Chair Geimer-Flanders asked Dr. Ayon why he perceives that he is unable to practice with a license that is subject to certain terms of probation.

Dr. Ayon stated that HMSA will not credential him with the encumbrance on his license.

Dr. Holt asked Dr. Ayon why he legally changed his name to Thomas Isadore.

Dr. Ayon stated that he changed his name because others would not give him a second chance once they discovered the false reporting on his name as Dennis Ayon. He explained further that he wanted a fair shot and to be judged by who he is today, as Dr. Thomas Isadore.

Mr. Mun applauded Dr. Ayon's volunteerism and activities with the Wahiawa Lions Club and appreciated his concern for the physician shortage in Hawaii. Mr. Mun asked Dr. Ayon whether he has considered voluntary work at federally qualified health centers.

Dr. Ayon stated that he also experienced limitations on voluntary opportunities. He tried to volunteer to be his son's football team doctor, but they would not allow him to continue volunteering once they read about his criminal history as outlined in the Star Advertiser. Dr. Ayon stated that he also tried to volunteer at John A. Burns School of Medicine ("JABSOM") with Dr. Elizabeth Tam.

Dr. Ayon informed the Board that prior to his license being placed on probation, he was able to work at an Indian Reservation. He also tried to volunteer to practice in a federal facility in Iraq, but the federal facilities/programs would not allow him to volunteer with an encumbrance even though there was no limitation on his license.

Dr. Egami asked Dr. Ayon whether he considered his compliance with the Board's Final Order would be affected by not completing the evaluation at Acumen Assessments in a timely manner.

Dr. Ayon stated that he was not able to financially afford \$10,000 to participate in the evaluation by Acumen Assessments and did not consider that it would be non-compliance with the Board's Final Order.

Dr. Egami questioned why Dr. Ayon did not notify the Board when he was unable to participate in the Acumen Assessments evaluation due to

financial constraints.

Dr. Ayon stated that he did not know it was an option.

DAG Wong asked Dr. Ayon whether he would consider the quarterly report from Pu`ulu Lapa`au dated February 1, 2018, which stated that he "failed to provide two drug screen tests between January 22 and January 25, 2018" as being compliant with the Board's Final Order.

Dr. Ayon stated that he would consider this incident as non-compliance.

DAG Wong asked Dr. Ayon whether he was testifying that he engaged in clinical practice – either on a volunteer basis at JABSOM or in other jurisdictions.

Dr. Ayon stated that he did engage in clinical practice before probation.

DAG Wong asked Dr. Ayon to clarify whether all clinical practice, including voluntary work at JABSOM, occurred before the Board's Final Order.

Dr. Ayon stated that he volunteered at JABSOM within the last year or two and he was assisting with teaching medical students on performing physical examinations.

In response to Dr. Ayon's request for early termination and based on the reason that the Hearings Officer's Recommended Order recommended that his license be placed on probation for two (2) years, DAG Wong clarified that the Hearings Officer's Recommended Order dated July 11, 2016, recommended the following:

After carefully weighing all of these considerations, and for the violations found, the Hearings Officer **recommends** that Respondent's license to practice medicine be revoked, but that the revocation be staved, and Respondent be placed on probation for a period of two (2) years from the date of the Board's Final Order. During the probation period, Respondent shall be permitted to engage in the practice of medicine provided he complies with and otherwise obeys all laws governing physicians. The Hearings Officer further recommends that upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license to practice medicine shall be fully restored. If, however, Respondent violates the terms of the Board's Final Order in any respect, the Board, upon the filing of an affidavit from the Regulated Industries Complaints Office attesting to the violation and without further notice or hearing, may lift the stay and order that Respondent's license be revoked. Emphases added.

DAG Wong explained that Dr. Ayon's license would have been revoked

due to non-compliance had the Board adopted the Hearings Officer's Recommended Order.

Chair Geimer-Flanders applauded Dr. Ayon for his sobriety through multiple stressors, and stated that the Board is not imposing disciplinary sanctions as a punishment, but it is aimed towards protecting the public's safety.

Dr. Ayon concurred that public safety is important, but emphasized that the Wahiawa Community is suffering due to the physician shortage.

Dr. Corboy also mentioned that Dr. Ayon has been volunteering with no compensation at his clinic, The Hawaiian Eye Foundation, for the last two (2) years doing solitary work, and commented that Dr. Ayon is someone that the Wahiawa Community loves and trusts. He stated that patients in Wahiawa do not have access to an internist; however, if the Board were to grant Dr. Ayon's request, then they would.

Chair Geimer-Flanders asked the Board members if they had any further questions.

Given there were no further questions from the Board members or staff, Chair Geimer-Flanders thanked Dr. Ayon and Dr. Corboy for appearing, and excused them from the meeting.

Dr. Jaffe left the Microsoft Teams meeting at 2:10 p.m., and will not return to the meeting.

Dr. Ayon and Dr. Corboy, meeting guests, left the Microsoft Teams meeting at 2:10 p.m. and returned to the Zoom meeting.

DAG Wong asked members whether Dr. Ayon's voluntary work in the past two years at JABSOM and Dr. Corboy's Hawaiian Eye Foundation is a violation of Pu`ulu Lapa`au's order to cease all clinical activities.

Chair Geimer-Flanders asked Dr. Takanishi whether a volunteer at JABSOM is required to have an unencumbered physician license to assist with teaching medical students on performing physical examinations.

Dr. Takanishi stated that a volunteer is not required to be licensed to assist with teaching medical students; however, they must obtain privileges if they will be interacting with patients.

Dr. Takanishi stated that based on the statements provided by Dr. Ayon and Dr. Corboy, it can be inferred that Dr. Ayon was volunteering at a private clinic, and he is of the opinion that it would be considered tangible evidence that he violated Pu`ulu Lapa`au's order to cease all clinical activities.

The Board members noted that several of the documents submitted to the Board do not support such request for early termination. Based on this information, Dr. Takanishi stated, and members agreed, that they were not inclined to approve Dr. Ayon's request for early termination of its Final Order dated December 8, 2016.

After due consideration of the information received and the testimony provided by Dr. Ayon and his guest(s), it was moved by Chair Geimer-Flanders, seconded by Dr. Holt, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe who left the meeting and Dr. Young who recused herself from the discussion and vote on this matter, to deny Dr. Ayon's request for early termination from the Board's Final Order dated December 8, 2016.

## B. <u>In the Matter of the License to Practice Osteopathy of Vinson M.</u> DiSanto, D.O.; MED 2020-151-L

Dr. Young entered the Microsoft Teams meeting at 2:19 p.m.

After discussion, it was moved by Chair Geimer-Flanders, seconded by Vice-Chair Halford, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe who left the meeting, to approve the Settlement Agreement Prior to Filing of Petition for Disciplinary Action and Board's Final Order.

C. <u>In the Matter of the License to Practice Medicine of Michael J.</u> Hall, M.D.; MED 2020-116-L

After discussion, it was moved by Chair Geimer-Flanders, seconded by Vice-Chair Halford, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe who left the meeting, to approve the Settlement Agreement Prior to Filing of Petition for Disciplinary Action and Board's Final Order.

D. <u>In the Matter of the License to Practice Medicine of David J. Wooding, M.D.; MED 2020-90-L</u>

After discussion, it was moved by Chair Geimer-Flanders, seconded by Vice-Chair Halford, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe who left the meeting, to approve the Settlement Agreement Prior to Filing of Petition for Disciplinary Action and Board's Final Order.

Following the Board's review, deliberation, and decision on these matters pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS, Chair Geimer-Flanders announced that the Board reconvene to its regular Chapter 92, HRS, meeting at 2:24 p.m. Board members and staff returned to the Zoom meeting.

Chair Geimer-Flanders asked whether there were any public attendees who would like to provide testimony.

### A. <u>In the Matter of the License to Practice Medicine of Dennis I.</u> <u>Ayon, M.D.; MED 2010-109-L</u>

Chair Geimer-Flanders recognized Mr. Bill Andersen, and advised him that he may provide public testimony on the matter regarding Dr. Ayon.

Mr. Andersen stated that he has known Dr. Ayon for three (3) years. Mr. Andersen is of the opinion that the Board should grant Dr. Ayon's request for early termination from the Board's Final Order dated December 8, 2016, so he would not have issues becoming credentialed with HMSA and be able to help patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chair Geimer-Flanders recognized Mr. Gary Wilson, and advised him that he may provide public testimony on the matter regarding Dr. Ayon.

The public attendee clarified that her name is Gloria Wilson, and that Gary Wilson is her husband. She went on to inform the Board that Dr. Ayon provided house call services to monitor her progress after a car accident. She has since recovered and is able to walk. Ms. Wilson stated that there is a physician shortage in Hawaii and Dr. Ayon is a great physician.

Chair Geimer-Flanders recognized an anonymous public attendee, and offered this anonymous public attendee the opportunity to provide public testimony.

The anonymous attendee clarified that his name is Mr. Renney Emorgia and he used to be a former patient of Dr. Ayon. Mr. Emorgia stated that he was without physician care for three (3) months, and only Dr. Ayon was willing to provide him the care he needed. Mr. Emorgia was suffering and Dr. Ayon did everything he could to help him get back on his feet. Mr. Emorgia is of the opinion that the Board should reinstate Dr. Ayon's license.

Vice-Chair Halford asked Mr. Emorgia to provide the time period that Dr. Ayon provided care for him.

Mr. Emorgia stated that he could not recall the exact dates, but he speculated it might have been after 2004. Mr. Emorgia had a severe case of Irritable Bowel Syndrome. He stated that Dr. Ayon was the only physician that cared enough to help him while others did not want to speak to him.

Chair Geimer-Flanders recognized Ms. Sandrina Crowley, and advised her that she may provide public testimony regarding Dr. Ayon.

Ms. Crowley stated that she is a caregiver and Dr. Ayon provided care for her father, a military veteran, who has various illnesses, including leg swelling. She stated that Dr. Ayon not only tried to figure out treatment options for her father to reduce the swelling, but he also trained her on how to care for her father. She stated that her father is very grateful to have Dr. Ayon as his physician, and she is of the opinion that the Board should reinstate Dr. Ayon's license.

Chair Geimer-Flanders asked Ms. Crowley to provide the time period that Dr. Ayon provided care for her father.

Ms. Crowley stated that she could not recall the exact dates, but it was a few years ago.

Chair Geimer-Flanders recognized Mr. Bill Andersen again, and advised him that he may provide public testimony, but to a limit his testimony to no more than five (5) minutes.

Mr. Andersen stated that after he heard everyone's public testimony regarding Dr. Ayon, he wanted to provide additional details. Mr. Andersen stated that Dr. Ayon provided care for his daughter, and he is the only physician that she trusts. He went on to say that Dr. Ayon is also part of the Wahiawa Lions Club and recruited him to join, but he was unable to join due to schedule conflicts.

Chair Geimer-Flanders asked if there were any additional comments or concerns from the public attendees.

There being none, Chair Geimer-Flanders thanked all the public attendees for providing their public testimony.

Dr. Takanishi called for a recess from the meeting at 2:43 p.m., to discuss and deliberate on the following adjudicatory matter pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS (Note: Board members and staff entered into Microsoft Teams):

### A. <u>In the Matter of the License to Practice Medicine of Dennis I.</u> Ayon, M.D.; MED 2010-109-L

Following the Board's review, deliberation, and decision on these matters pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS, Chair Geimer-Flanders announced that the Board reconvene to its regular Chapter 92, HRS, meeting at 2:50 p.m. Board members and staff returned to the Zoom meeting.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Halford, seconded by Dr. Takanishi, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe who left the meeting, to enter into executive session at 2:53 p.m., pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(1), to consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for professional licenses cited in HRS §26-9, and, pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(4), to consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities. (note: Board members and staff entered into Microsoft Teams):

By consensus, the Board moved this item out of order:

## Applications for License/ Certification:

### A. Applications:

- (ii) Physician (Permanent/Non-Endorsement):
  - a. David Earl Shook, M.D.

By consensus, the Board returned to regular order of the agenda.

- (i) Physician Assistant:
  - a. Margot Elaine Karr, PA-C

Ms. Karr entered the Microsoft Teams meeting at 3:19 p.m.

Ms. Karr left the Microsoft Teams meeting at 3:31 p.m.

- (ii) Physician (Permanent/Non-Endorsement):
  - b. Tracy Ellen Napp, M.D.

Dr. Holt left the Microsoft Teams meeting 3:56 p.m., and will not return.

The Board took a brief recess during the Microsoft Teams executive session meeting at 3:56 p.m. and reconvened to the Microsoft Teams executive session meeting at 3:59 p.m.

It was moved by Vice-Chair Halford, seconded by Dr. Takanishi, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe and Dr. Holt who left the meeting, to return to the open meeting at 4:00 p.m. Board members and staff returned to the Zoom meeting.

# Applications for License/ Certification:

### A. <u>Applications:</u>

- (i) Physician Assistant:
  - a. Margot Elaine Karr, PA-C

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Takanishi, seconded by Vice-Chair Halford, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe and Dr. Holt who left the meeting and Mr. Mun who was unable to unmute his microphone to vote on this matter, to approve Ms. Karr's application for certification subject to certain conditions.

The Board based its decision on the following citation of the Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS"), which find factual support in the records and files of Ms. Karr's application:

HRS section 436B-19 provides that:

In addition to any other acts or conditions provided by law, the licensing authority may refuse to renew, reinstate or restore, or may deny, revoke, suspend, or condition in any manner, any license for any one or more of the following acts or conditions on the part of the licensee or the applicant thereof:

\* \* \*

(7) Professional misconduct, incompetence, gross negligence, or manifest incapacity in the practice of the licensed profession or vocation.

For reasons contained in the records and files of Ms. Karr's application, the Board placed the following conditions on her conditional license:

- 1. Ms. Karr's physician assistant certificate is hereby conditioned.
- 2. Ms. Karr shall enter into a monitoring contract with Pu`ulu Lapa`au, The Hawai`i Program for Healthcare Professionals ("Pu`ulu Lapa`au") within sixty (60) days of the date of the conditional letter. The length of the contract shall be determined by Pu`ulu Lapa`au, but be no less than five (5) years. However, said monitoring contract may be extended by the Board if the Board believes that reasonable grounds exist.
- 3. Ms. Karr shall provide a copy of her fully executed contract with Pu`ulu Lapa`au to the Board within seventy-five (75) days of the date of the conditional letter.
- 4. Ms. Karr may only begin to practice medicine with physician supervision in the State of Hawaii after she receives written confirmation from the Board that she has:
  - a. Secured proper monitoring in the State of Hawaii with Pu`ulu Lapa`au;

- b. Been issued a physician assistant certificate number by the Board;
- c. Secured a supervising physician in the State of Hawaii that meets the requirements set forth in Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR") §16-85-49 if she wishes to hold an active certificate in the State. Note that until she is able to secure a supervising physician that meets the requirements of HAR §16-85-49, her physician assistant certificate will remain on inactive status; and
- d. Her physician supervisor must send written confirmation to the Board within ten (10) days of Ms. Karr's request to activate her certificate that:
  - i. He/she is in receipt of a copy of the Board's conditional letter; and
  - He/she understands the responsibilities of being a supervising physician as set forth in HAR §§ 16-85-44.5 and 16-85-49.
- 5. If, at any time, Pu'ulu Lapa'au determines that Ms. Karr is not in compliance with the monitoring contract, she shall immediately notify the Board and immediately cease practicing medicine with physician supervision until Pu'ulu Lapa'au specifies to the Board what conditions, if any, it recommends for her to safely resume the practice of medicine with physician supervision. Depending upon Pu'ulu Lapa'au's written report and recommendations, the Board may evaluate what, if any, further conditions and/or limitations are warranted for her to practice medicine with physician supervision and impose such conditions and/or limitations on your certificate. If she fails to refrain from inappropriate behavior, using alcohol, and using drugs for purposes other than to treat her health-related condition, the Board also will consider whether to suspend, revoke, or otherwise discipline your certificate.
- 6. During the period of Ms. Karr's conditional certificate, she shall ensure that Pu`ulu Lapa`au submits quarterly written reports to the Board.

These written reports shall include, but not be limited to, assessments regarding: (1) her compliance with the monitoring contract; and (2) her ability to safely practice as a physician assistant. The first quarterly report is due within ninety (90) days from the date her conditional certificate number is issued.

- 7. The Board, at its discretion, may pursue additional disciplinary action as provided by law to include further fines and other sanctions as the Board may deem appropriate if she violate any further provision of the statutes or rules governing the conduct of physician assistants in the State of Hawaii, or if Ms. Karr fails to abide by the terms of her conditional certificate.
- 8. Should Ms. Karr wish to have any condition removed from her certificate, she shall make a request in writing to the Board, at which time the Board would consider her request. When doing so, she shall provide evidence of full compliance with her monitoring contract with Pu`ulu Lapa`au and all other conditions placed on her conditional certificate.

It was moved by Chair Geimer-Flanders, seconded by Dr. Young, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe and Dr. Holt who left the meeting, to approve the following application:

- (ii) Physician (Permanent/Non-Endorsement):
  - a. <u>David Earl Shook, M.D.</u>
- (ii) Physician (Permanent/Non-Endorsement):
  - b. Tracy Ellen Napp, M.D.

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Egami, seconded by Vice-Chair Halford, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe and Dr. Holt who left the meeting, to defer Dr. Napp's application pending submission of additional information.

Applications for License/
Certification:

B. Ratifications:

(i) List

It was moved by Chair Geimer-Flanders, seconded by Dr.

Takanishi, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe and Dr. Holt who left the meeting, to ratify the attached list of individuals for licensure or certification.

### 2021 Proposed Legislation:

### A. A Bill For An Act Relating to Telehealth

The Board considered proposed amendments by the Healthcare Association of Hawaii to section 453-1.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, practice of telehealth. The purpose of this bill is to expand access to care and reduce delays by clarifying that a physician-patient relationship may be established via a telehealth appointment.

Chair Geimer-Flanders stated, and Dr. Takanishi agreed that telehealth is essential to patient care and access to care.

Dr. Takanishi advised the Board that recent data reflects that misses and near misses are not as high as what was previously thought when telehealth is used to provide care. He went on to say that telehealth is a safe mechanism to provide care to patients.

It was moved by Chair Geimer-Flanders, seconded by Vice-Chair Halford, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe and Dr. Holt who left the meeting, to support this bill.

### B. A Bill For An Act Relating to the Practice of Medicine

The Board considered a legislative proposal, which amends section 453-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, practice of medicine defined. The purpose of this bill is to clarify the definition of the practice of medicine to provide uniformity of practice for both medical physicians and osteopathic physicians.

Ms. Quiogue advised members that this legislative proposal is part of Governor David Y. Ige's administrative package and is very similar to S.B. 2424, Relating to the Practice of Medicine, which was introduced during the 2020 legislative session.

It was moved by Chair Geimer-Flanders, seconded by Vice-Chair Halford, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe and Dr. Holt who left the meeting, to support this bill.

### C. A Bill For An Act Relating to Sunshine Law Boards

The Board considered a legislative proposal, which amends section 92-3.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, meeting by interactive conference technology; notice; quorum. The purpose of this bill is to expand and enhance public participation in public meetings, lower the costs of holding meetings, protect public health and safety, promote voluntary participation

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on boards, and avoid unnecessary and possibly burdensome travel by board members, staff, testifiers, observers, other participants, and the general public, by allowing boards to use interactive conference technology to conduct virtual meetings under the Sunshine Law.

It was moved by Chair Geimer-Flanders, seconded by Vice-Chair Halford, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Jaffe and Dr. Holt who left the meeting, to monitor this bill.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 14, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Virtual Videoconference Meeting - Zoom Webinar

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Reviewed and ap	oproved by:	Taken and recorded by:	
/s/Ahlani K. Quio	gue	/s/Jenny Yam	
(Ms.) Ahlani K. Quiogue Executive Officer		(Ms.) Jenny Yam Secretary	
AKQ:jy 12/29/2020			
(x)		Minutes approved as is. Minutes approved with changes:	

### **HAWAII MEDICAL BOARD 12/10/20 - RATIFICATION LIST**

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MD	21464	DANA	N <hemmati<< td=""></hemmati<<>
MD	21465	ANSH	JL <dutta<< td=""></dutta<<>
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MD	21467	SHAW	N D <mattison<< td=""></mattison<<>
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- MD 21504 MALAY Y <BHATT<
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- MD 21506 KENNETH C < FORTGANG <
- MD 21507 WYATT L < HADLEY <
- MD 21508 JOHN D < HOW <
- MD 21509 DANA T < LERMAN <
- MD 21510 WALTER T < LUCHSINGER DE OBARRIO <
- MD 21511 LUONG T <LY<
- MD 21512 DAVID N <MAIN<
- MD 21513 RICHARD <OTT<
- MD 21514 TASNEEM < RASHID <
- MD 21515 JESSICA M < VAN FLEET-GREEN <
- MD 21516 JACK B < PULA <
- MD 21517 LARA W < DAO <
- MD 21518 DAVID O <BAILEY<
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