

**BOARD OF NURSING**  
Professional and Vocational Licensing Division  
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
State of Hawaii

MINUTES OF MEETING

The agenda for this meeting was filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor as required by Section 92-7(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”).

Date: Thursday, October 5, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m.

In-Person Meeting Location: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room, First Floor  
HRH King Kalakaua Building  
335 Merchant Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual: Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar (use link below)  
<https://dcca-hawaii-gov.zoom.us/j/97570051169>  
Zoom Phone Number: (669) 900 6833  
Meeting ID: 975 7005 1169

Zoom Recording Link: <https://youtu.be/UK5fZR0uJVA>

Agenda: The agenda was posted on the State electronic calendar as required by HRS section 92-7(b).

Members Present: Carrie Oliveira, Chair  
Diana Jill Riggs, RN, MSN, Vice Chair  
Karen Boyer, RN, MS, FNP  
Sherri Shields-Hanson, MSN, RN  
Bradley Kuo, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, CARN-AP  
Terrance Aratani, Public Member

Member Excused: Luzviminda Miguel, DNP, MSN Ed., RN  
Benjamin Ramos, RN

Staff Present: Chelsea Fukunaga, EO (“EO Fukunaga”)  
Lee Ann Teshima, Executive Officer (“EO Teshima”)  
Shari Wong, Deputy Attorney General (“DAG”)  
Marc Yoshimura, Secretary

Guests: Linda Beechinor, Hawai'i American Nurses Association  
Jeremy Creekmore, President, Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses  
Tom Cook  
Joann McDermott  
Wesley Barr, RICO  
Dr. Sara Federschmitt, DVM  
Hanna

John G  
Melveen Jaeen Camba  
Sacha  
Jen Pastiglione  
Emily Krump  
Melissa Young

For purposes of this hybrid meeting, the Chair will take roll call of the Board members to establish quorum and for motions that require a vote of the Board members.

Virtual Meeting  
Instructions:

A short video regarding virtual meetings was played for attendees.

The Chair provided information on internet and phone access for today's virtual meeting and announced that today's meeting was being recorded and that the recording will be posted on the Board's web page.

Call to Order:

The Chair took roll call of the Board members.

In accordance with Act 220, SLH 2021, all Board members attending virtually confirmed that they were alone in their nonpublic location.

After taking roll, quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

Chair's Report:

**Announcements**

No announcements from the Chair.

**Approval of the August 3, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes**

The Chair asked if there were any corrections or discussion of the executive session minutes of the August 3, 2023 meetings.

No corrections or discussion.

Upon a motion by the Chair, seconded by Ms. Boyer, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the executive session minutes of the August 3, 2023 meeting.

**Approval of the September 7, 2023 Open and Executive Session Meeting Minutes**

The Chair asked if there were any corrections or discussion of the open and executive session minutes of the September 7, 2023 meetings.

No corrections or discussion.

Upon a motion by the Chair, seconded by Dr. Kuo, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the open and executive session minutes of the September 7, 2023 meeting.

Education Committee  
Reports:

**Education Committee Report for August 3, 2023 Meeting Recommendations**

Ms. Boyer reported on the following recommendations from the Education Committee's August 3, 2023 meeting:

**Hawaii Nursing Programs**

**Faculty Applications – Recommended approvals**

- ✓ Kauai Community College: Margaret Plyler  
Sheryl Shields
- ✓ University of Hawaii at Manoa – Nancy Atmospera-Walsh School of Nursing:  
Christine Loui  
Brenna Kahana  
Kyoung Eun Lee  
Vincent Pair  
Cynthia Greywolf  
Angel Echols  
Samia Valeria Ozorio Dutra  
Krist Aceret

**Faculty Applications - Recommended deferrals for additional information for the following faculty applications:**

- ✓ University of Hawaii at Manoa – Nancy Atmospera-Walsh School of Nursing:  
Tracy Stogner  
Rhonda Sipp  
Chloe Hasegawa  
Kate Takahashi

**New Administrator** – Recommended approval of Edna Magpantay-Monroe as the new administrator for Hawaii Pacific University

- Discussion on preceptors for nurses at all levels.
- Discussion on English proficiency requirement from foreign educated nurse applicants

**Education Committee Report of the September 7, 2023 Meeting Recommendations**

Ms. Boyer reported on the following recommendations from the Education Committee's September 7, 2023 meeting:

**Hawaii Nursing Programs**

**Faculty Applications – Recommended approvals**

- ✓ University of Hawaii at Manoa – Nancy Atmospera-Walsh School of Nursing:  
Cheryl Ann Afuso-Sumimoto  
Nicole Chun

Heather Katahara

Faculty Applications - Recommended deferrals for additional information for the following faculty applications:

- ✓ University of Hawaii at Manoa – Nancy Atmospera-Walsh School of Nursing:  
Angela Leonardo  
Yasmeen LaTore  
Qi Zhi

Upon a motion by Mr. Aratani, seconded by Mr. Kuo, it was voted on and unanimously carried to accept the actions/recommendations of the Education Committee's August 3, 2023 and September 7, 2023 meeting.

There being no further discussion, the Chair announced the next agenda item as Chapter 91, HRS, Adjudicatory Matters.

The Chair called for a recess from the meeting at 9:15am to discuss and deliberate on the adjudicatory matters pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS.

Chapter 91, HRS  
Adjudicatory Matters:

**In the Matter of the License to Practice Nursing of Joann M. McDermott, RNS 2021-409-L – Compliance**

The Chair announced that the Board will be hearing oral arguments from the respondent's attorney and recognized Tom Cook.

Mr. Cook introduced himself and thanked the Board for allowing him to address the Board on behalf of Joann McDermott. Mr. Cook stated that he is aware that he only has five minutes for his presentation and mentioned that a statement was submitted to address the issue. Mr. Cook stated that the issue at hand is Ms. McDermott's compliance with the settlement agreement that was released earlier this year; specifically with the completion of the educational requirement.

Mr. Cook admitted that Ms. McDermott concedes that she was probably a little late on completing the educational requirement. He stated that involved the discovery that the course that she committed to take pursuant to the settlement agreement didn't even exist at the time she signed the settlement agreement. As a result, Ms. McDermott found a substitute which appears to be identical to the course that was address in the settlement agreement. Mr. Cook concluded that Ms. McDermott is in all respects compliant with the settlement agreement.

Mr. Cook added that Ms. McDermott has a job opportunity which was somewhat difficult to find given the need to disclose the settlement agreement; this is the final piece to put together the restoration of her license and the pursuit for her career. Mr. Cook stated that both he and Ms. McDermott are both prepared to answer any questions the Board might have. Mr. Cook commented that almost on a personal level, he sees a human failure has not much redemption. He stated that Ms. McDermott made a mistake in her life and has done everything right since.

The Chair asked if there were any questions or comments for Mr. Cook. There were none.

Ms. McDermott stated “I would really like the opportunity to have my license restored so I can get back to work and help support my family. I have a seven-year-old daughter.”

The Chair thanked Mr. Cook and Ms. McDermott for their testimony.

Westley Barr introduced himself, representing the State of Hawaii Regulated Industries Complaints Office (“RICO”). He stated that this is a case where the respondent, Ms. McDermott, was remorseful from the beginning and took responsibility. The settlement agreement terms were pretty extensive because they mirror a criminal case. He added that RICO received the letter from her probation officer that she is in full compliance with the terms of her probation. Mr. Barr explained that because the course was available when the settlement agreement was put together, the Board approved it February 3<sup>rd</sup> of this year and this course was discontinued on or about January 31<sup>st</sup> of 2023. Mr. Barr stated that he did receive another certificate of compliance from the respondent for a similar course. Mr. Barr added that RICO has no objection on what the Board decides to do, but believes that Ms. McDermott has complied with the settlement agreement.

Following the Board’s review and deliberation on these matters pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS, the Chair announced that the Board reconvenes to its Chapter 91, HRS, meeting at 9:30am.

Upon a motion by Mr. Kuo, seconded by Mr. Aratani, it was voted on and unanimously carried to accept the compliance course for Joann M. McDermott.

Executive Officer’s  
Report:

**Emergency Proclamation Relating to Wildfires – Report on Current Emergency Proclamation**

EO Fukunaga stated the Seventh Proclamation Relating to Wildfires was issued on September 8, 2023 and is set to expire on November 6, 2023. The Emergency Proclamation suspends licensure under certain circumstances to allow for nurses to practice in the State. More information can be found on the governor’s website.

**Amendments to Hawaii Administrative Rules (“HAR”) Chapter 89, Relating to Nurses – Proposed**

EO Teshima reported that the draft is currently under review by the Board’s Deputy Attorney General for any substantive edits. As soon as it gets back the Board will start the Rules doption process.

**“Veterinary Nurses” – Use of the term, “Veterinary Nurse” – Inquiry from Dr. Sara Federschmidt, DVM – Deferred from September 7, 2023 Meeting**

EO Fukunaga stated that the Board received an inquiry from Sara Federschmidt a veterinarian, who is inquiring about the use of the term “vet nurse”.

Dr. Federschmidt, raised her hand and was promoted to panelist.

The Chair welcomed Dr. Federschmidt into the meeting and informed her that she had five minutes to present her testimony.

Dr. Federschmidt stated that she is here to discuss the importance of the title of, “nurse” and implored the Board to consider the implications of creating rules that impact medical workers of a different flavor. Especially implications that directly impact the livelihood a niche group dominated by hard working women. She stated that her understanding is that the board is opposed of the use of, “veterinary nurse” and she hopes that the Board will reconsider it’s position.

Dr. Federschmidt stated that she is a veterinarian and founder of Polina Vet which is a small animal general practice in Kailua. The mission of Polina Vet is to guide families in the pursuit of health and wellbeing for their animal family members. She stated that she knows how important animals are to many families and added that there is an increasing demand for caring and compassion in veterinary medical care. She stated that she is passionate about providing that care.

Dr. Federschmidt stated that she is also passionate about wellness in her field. Dr. Federschmidt added that she aspires to pay her team a livable wage so that they can pay for their child’s daycare, make their ever-increasing rent payments, and attempt to turn a calling into a sustainable career. Unfortunately, the profession is riddled with burn out and mental health issues. Similar to human nursing, vet med experiences a suicide rate of over double that of the general population. As the profession deals with the trauma, heartache, passion of serving families and patients the average non-DVM professional makes a mere \$18 an hour. Dr. Federschmidt asserted that a seemingly small but critical component to being able to pay these professionals a competitive wage is educating their client about the value that they provide.

Dr. Federschmidt stated that as a doctor, she is lost without her team and would not be able to sustainably perform three core functions without them. These team members monitor anesthesia, perform cytology’s, intubate geriatric felines, take radiographs, and place IV catheters in sick puppies. They stay late when a client calls desperate to have their animal family members healed and then because veterinarians is a cash-based business, they field complaints from clients about the bill.

Dr. Federschmidt stated that the words that are used to describe their roles matter. The use of the term, “veterinary nurse” is not intended to degrade the nursing profession or confuse the public; rather, it issued to elevate, educate, and clarify the roles that her team plays. Dr. Federschmidt added that she is a mother of three and during her most recent labor and deliver, she could not express how grateful she was for the care and attention from the incredible nursing team that assisted her. Similarly, Dr. Federschmidt’s team sits and holds the hands of kupuna as their only companion is euthanized. Both Dr. Federschmidt and her staff have to administer death to dearly loved family members and do it humanely and compassionately every single time.

She stated that the nursing field is a calling not just a job. Her team members feel the same passion nurses do for their patients. She conceded that there are substantial differences in human medicine and veterinary medicine, but they are both forms of

medicine and share more in common than not. Dr. Federschmidt added that her patients have femurs, tracheas, nasal passageways, and genitalia. They suffer from dermatitis, heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. Dr. Federschmidt added that the staff that she refers to as, “vet nurses”, similar to nurses, see it all and they are there for their patients and families every step of the way. To enable licensed veterinary technicians to use the universally respected title of, “nurse” could never diminish that title; adding that it will and always should be held in high esteem.

However, Dr. Federschmidt stated that there are many true experts who aren’t paid what they are worth, don’t get the credit they are due, and struggle because of their constant under estimation. A title isn’t everything but the words that used to refer to them matter. Dr. Federschmidt stated that she believes it is her duty as a leader who is in the trench with these professionals every day to advocate for them. Dr. Federschmidt asked the Board of Nursing to support their fellow medical professionals by enabling them to use the term, “veterinary nurse”. She added that she believes that the term aligns their professional competence with the respect that competence is due. She asked the Board to please consider this small good that could be done for these courageous and dedicated medical professionals who scrub in everyday just like nurses while compassionately delivering care to family members of a different species.

The Chair asked if there are any questions for Dr. Federschmidt.

EO Teshima asked if there is a difference in scope of practice between a veterinary tech and a “veterinary nurse”, is there a difference in their education and training.

Dr. Federschmidt replied that there is no difference in scope. She clarified that what is being proposed is that the license veterinary technicians who are licensed by the State of Hawaii as a veterinary technician be able to use the term. It is not Dr. Federschmidt’s intention to change the title officially but to informally allow for veterinary techs to be referred to in practice as “veterinary nurses”. There will be no difference in scope as a veterinary tech.

EO Teshima confirmed that Dr. Federschmidt is wanting to use the term, “vet nurse” in lieu of “vet tech”, and that the scope of practice is the same.

Dr. Federschmidt confirmed that EO Teshima’s clarification was correct. She added she believes that the public understands the role of a nurse in human nursing and what they do for us there. She stated that she is of the opinion that the role of vet tech practice as it relates is more in line with the vet nurse as the role they serve. Using that term will help communicate with the public those team members play.

Ms. Boyer asked whether the organization that accredits veterinary technician programs is the American Veterinary Medical Association (“AVMA”) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education Activities (“CVTEA”) and whether it is a requirement that veterinary technicians graduate from programs accredited by the AVMA’s CVTEA. She also inquired whether the State of Hawaii refers to licensees as, “veterinary technicians”.

Dr. Federschmidt agreed and stated yes, to her understanding they have to graduate from an accredited program, pass their Veterinary Technician National Exam (“VTNE”), submit

the registration paperwork, and get approved by the state of Hawaii.

Mr. Aratani asked if Dr. Federschmidt was aware of any other States that use the term, "vet nurse".

Dr. Federschmidt stated that there are other countries like New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and Australia that use the term. She stated that it is a trend but is unable to name a specific State; she added that there are a few other states that are allowing the use of the term, "vet nurses". She stated that she will be able to get the specific terms and States to the Board in a follow up email.

Chair Oliveira asked if there was any evidence that would suggest that adopting the use of another profession's title would improve the well-being for people in the veterinary medicine field.

Dr. Federschmidt replied that she has no data to substantiate this but believes that the public is better able to describe the role of a "nurse" as opposed to a "veterinary technician". She asserted that the term, "veterinary technician" is ambiguous and that there are a lot more questions about what that person does and what their role is. To pay them and charge them appropriately for their time, being able to communicate that to the public is important. The more they are able to charge the more that they will be paid for their time. Dr. Federschmidt stated that she does not have any data but is willing to do research and report back to the board.

EO Teshima asked for clarification referring to EO Kerrie Shahan's email dated July 14, 2023. In that email EO Shahan referred to HRS chapter 472 Veterinary Technician Program. EO Teshima asked for clarification whether the Veterinary Technician Program is separate from the Veterinary Board.

Dr. Federschmidt stated that it is her understanding they are separate; there is a Veterinary Technician Program and a Veterinary Board.

EO Teshima asked whether the vet tech program has weighed in on this matter. Has it been brought to their attention?

Dr. Federschmidt replied that she had not brought this specifically to the Veterinary Technician Program or Veterinary Board's attention. She added that she received a letter informing her that the Board of Nursing was copied on the correspondence due to the usage of the term, "nurse"; which is why she brought this matter to the Board of Nursing. She had decided to bring this up to the Board of Nursing first before bringing it to the attention of the other program. She found it difficult to get a response from the Veterinary Board or Veterinary Technician Program.

Mr. Kuo asked if there is any license in the State of Hawaii that calls themselves anything other than what is stated on their license.

EO Teshima replied not to her knowledge. In a lot of the laws and rules for the professions there is a title protection, which states unless licensed under this chapter you cannot use the term blank or use these acronyms.



The Chair asked if there are any questions for Dr. Federschmidt, there were none.

The Chair thanked Dr. Federschmidt for her testimony.

The Chair stated that the Board had previously decided in 2019 that the term, “veterinary nurse” was not consistent with title protection according to Hawaii’s Nurse Practice Act. She then asked the Board if Dr. Federschmidt presented anything new that would give cause to reverse course in that opinion.

Mr. Kuo, Ms. Boyer, Ms. Shields-Hansen, and Mr. Aratani stated no. Ms. Riggs stated that she does not have any disagreement with the other Board members but mentioned that there appears to be other schools on the mainland that are calling themselves Veterinary Nursing Programs.

The Chair asked if there was any further questions or discussion. There were none.

### **NCSBN Nursys e-Notify Database**

EO Teshima announced that she came across an article regarding the e-Notify Database in Nursys. EO Teshima stated that nurses who up for this data base will be notified when their license is about to expire.

The Chair had added that it is a free service provided by NCSBN.

EO Teshima was curious to know if the e-notices include the requirements for renewing licenses.

### **Random Audit**

EO Teshima announced that two percent of licensees who renewed will be audited. Also, letters will be sent out sometime this month, giving auditees sixty days to respond; however, the Board’s staff will continue accepting responses until the end of the year.

The Chair asked whether nurses will be receiving hardcopy mail notices if they were selected for audit.

EO Teshima confirmed that hardcopy mail notices will be sent to the address on file for those selected. EO Teshima stated that the Board’s website will have a listing of those who were randomly selected to be audited. She asked whether there were any concerns for posting the list of nurses that were randomly selected to provide proof of compliance of continuing competency requirement.

Mr. Kuo stated that licenses are public information and has no concerns.

The Chair had also stated that no there are no concerns, the list does not have any licensure status updates so it doesn’t concern her.

*Ms. Shields-Hanson stepped out at 9:55am*

## **2024 Legislative Session**

### **Credentialing for Healthcare Providers – Proposal that adds a new selection to chapter 321, HRS to reduce duplicative administrative burden in the healthcare system**

EO Teshima stated that a proposed legislation was received for the 2024 Legislative Session. This bill applies more to APRN's trying to uniform credentialing requirements and reimbursements across the board.

No further questions or comments.

*Ms. Shields-Hanson reentered at 9:56am*

## Reports:

### **Hawai'i State Center for Nursing**

No representative present to report for the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing.

### **Hawai'i American Nurses Association – Linda Beechinor, Executive Director and Vice President**

Ms. Beechinor reported on the following:

- Currently has 440 RN members in the state
  - Biggest support is from the neighbor island nurses.
- Currently in the middle of an election.
  - President elect candidates are both from Maui.
- Fundraising efforts to help with the nurses on Maui.
  - Working with a uniform shop
  - Providing stethoscopes
  - Garments.
- Hawaii ANA 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on October 28<sup>th</sup> 7am – 4pm at the Hawaii Country Club to be live streamed.
  - Up to 6 CEU available.
  - Keynote speaker is Dr. Jennifer Kennedy the ANA President.
  - VIP Reception from 5 – 7pm with nursing leaders and legislative leaders to get together to meet and greet the ANA president.

### **Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses – Jeremy Creekmore, President**

Mr. Creekmore reported on the following:

- Planning a small get together at the end of the year possibly November 18, tentative venue, and other logistics.
  - Free gathering, lunch in to spend time together as professionals.
  - Dr. Jamie Boling will be heading this get together.
  - No CEU available.
- Trying to plan a small conference next year, summertime, with a local organization, more to follow.

At this time, the Chair announced that the Board will be reviewing applications for Hawaii nurse license and asked if any applicants, provided they were on the agenda, were in attendance to please raise your hand now and informed them that the Board will be discussing their application and if should the Board have any questions, we will call on you so that you can address the Board.

There were no raised hands.

Executive Session:

At 10:04 a.m., upon a motion by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Kuo, it was voted on and unanimously carried to move into executive session in accordance with HRS §92-4 and §92-5 "To consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for professional or vocational licenses cited in section 26-9 or both;" and "To consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities;," and that the Board will vote on the applications after coming out of executive session.

At 10:44 a.m., upon a motion by Mr. Kuo, seconded by Mr. Aratani, it was voted on to move out of executive session.

Applications:

**Ratification Lists**

Upon a motion by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Aratani, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following ratification lists:

LPNs, license numbers 20781-20823;  
RNs, license numbers 114372-114834; and  
APRNs and APRNs with prescriptive authority

**Applications**

The Chair called for a motion regarding the applications.

Licensed Practical Nurses

Upon a motion by Mr. Kuo, seconded by Ms. Boyer, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following applications LPN license:

**Rita Ann Jackson  
Brandie Victorino  
Melissa Young**

Registered Nurses

Upon a motion by Mr. Kuo, seconded by Ms. Boyer, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following applications for RN license:

**Yvette Feltus  
Kristina Jones  
Caroline Ledbetter**

Upon a motion by Mr. Kuo, seconded by Ms. Boyer, it was voted on and unanimously carried to defer the following RN application for additional information:

**Maureen Murphy**

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

Upon a motion by Mr. Kuo, seconded by Ms. Boyer, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following applications for APRN license:

**Kristina Jones  
Jason Kissick**

New Business:

**Regulated Industries Complaints Office – Advisory Committee Membership**

Upon a motion by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Kuo, it was voted on unanimously and carried to approve the list for the Regulated Industries Complaints Office Committee Membership for nursing as amended.

Next Meeting:

Date: Thursday, November 2, 2023  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
In-Person: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room  
King Kalakaua Building, 1st Floor 335 Merchant Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Virtual: Zoom Webinar

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

Taken by:

Reviewed by:

/s/ Marc Yoshimura

/s/ Chelsea Fukunaga

Marc Yoshimura  
Secretary

Chelsea Fukunaga  
Executive Officer

CLF/my

10/20/2023

[ X ] Minutes approved as is.

[ ] Minutes approved with changes; see minutes of \_\_\_\_\_