

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: December 12, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m.

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

Virtual Participation: Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar

<https://dcca-hawaii.gov.zoom.us/j/88312280889?pwd=ifzI7dZqVz3f31P3SFrDbyJCdbQOia.1>

Zoom Recoding Link: <https://youtu.be/yNUYgDg1iKE>

Present: Gary Belcher, Vice Chairperson, Public Member
Andrew R. Fong, MD, Hawaii County Member
Michael Jaffe, D.O., Honolulu, Osteopathic Member
Elizabeth “Lisa Ann” Ignacio, M.D., Maui Member
Wesley Mun, Public Member
Angela Pratt, M.D., Honolulu Member
Rebecca Sawai, M.D., Honolulu Member
Geri Young, M.D., Kauai Member
William Brian Hatten, D.O., Osteopathic Member
Shari J. Wong, Deputy Attorney General (“DAG”)
Ahlani K. Quiogue, Licensing Administrator
Randy Ho, Executive Officer
Dawn Lee, Administrative Assistant
Johnny Li (Technical Support)

Excused: Danny M. Takanishi, M.D., Chairperson, Honolulu Member

Zoom Guests: Andras Bratincsak
Guest
Hiroo Kinami
Jennifer Armstrong
Sanjeev Ravipudi
Sydney Johnson
John Lamberti
Kyle Ladao
Oren Ganor
Michael Van Dyke
Dmitry Sukenik

In-Person Guest(s): No in-person guests.

Agenda: The agenda for this meeting was posted to the State electronic calendar as required by Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) section 92-7(b).

A short video was played to explain the meeting procedures and how members of the public could participate in the virtual meeting.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m., at which time quorum was established.

Mr. Belcher welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded with a roll call of the Board members. All Board members confirmed that they were present and alone.

Mr. Belcher asked if anyone from the public would like to provide oral testimony on next agenda item. There was none.

Approval of the October 10, 2024, Executive Session Minutes: It was moved by Dr. Pratt, seconded by Dr. Young, and unanimously carried to approve the executive session meeting minutes of October 10, 2024.

Approval of the November 14, 2024, Open Session and Executive Minutes: It was moved by Dr. Pratt, seconded by Dr. Sawai, and carried by the majority, except for Dr. Jaffe and Mr. Mun, who abstained from the discussion and vote on this matter, to approve the meeting minutes of the open session and executive session of the November 14, 2024, meeting, as follows:

Mr. Belcher, Dr. Fong, Dr. Hatten, Dr. Ignacio, Dr. Pratt, Dr. Sawai, and Dr. Young voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Jaffe and Mr. Mun abstained from the vote.

Ch. 91, HRS, Adjudicatory Matters: Mr. Belcher called for a recess from the meeting at 1:12 p.m., to discuss and deliberate on the following adjudicatory matters pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS (Note: Board members and staff entered the Zoom Breakout Room).

Mr. Belcher proceeded with a roll call of the Board members in the Zoom Breakout Room. All Board members confirmed that they were present and alone.

A. In the Matter of the Physician’s License of Timothy McLaughlin, D.O.; Settlement Agreement Prior to Filing of a Petition for Disciplinary Action and Board’s Final Order; Exhibit “1”; MED 2024-233-L.

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Jaffe, seconded by Dr. Young, and unanimously carried, to approve the aforementioned 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, Mr. Belcher announced that the Board reconvenes to its Chapter 92, HRS, meeting at 1:19 p.m. Board members and staff returned to the open session Zoom meeting. All Board members confirmed that they were present and alone.

Applications for
License/
Certification:

A. Applications:

It was moved by Dr. Pratt, seconded by Dr. Jaffe, and unanimously carried to enter into executive session at 1:21 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 the Zoom Breakout Room).

Mr. Belcher proceeded with a roll call of the Board members in the Zoom Breakout Room. All members confirmed that they were present and alone.

(i) Physician (Permanent/Endorsement):

a. Jennifer Armstrong, M.D.

Angela Pratt, M.D. exited the Zoom Breakout Room at 1:26 p.m.

Jennifer Armstrong, M.D. entered the Zoom Breakout Room at 1:33 p.m.

Jennifer Armstrong, M.D. exited the Zoom Breakout Room at 1:44 p.m.

Angela Pratt, M.D. entered the Zoom Breakout Room at 1:46 p.m.

b. Gerald Kim Rowland, M.D.

c. Oren Ganor, M.D.

Oren Ganor, M.D. and Michael J. Van Dyke, Esq. entered the Zoom Breakout Room at 2:00 p.m.

Oren Ganor, M.D. and Michael J. Van Dyke, Esq. exited the Zoom Breakout Room at 2:11 p.m.

(ii) Physician (Permanent/Non-Endorsement):

a. Hiroo Kinami, M.D.

Hiroo Kinami, M.D., John Lamberti, M.D., Sydney Johnson, M.D., and Andras Bratincsak, M.D. entered the Zoom Breakout Room at 2:35 p.m.

Hiroo Kinami, M.D., John Lamberti, M.D., Sydney Johnson, M.D., and Andras Bratincsak, M.D. exited the Zoom Breakout Room at 2:54 p.m.

b. Sanjeev Ravipudi, M.D.

Sanjeev Ravipudi, M.D. entered the Zoom Breakout Room at 2:58 p.m.

Sanjeev Ravipudi, M.D. exited the Zoom Breakout Room at 3:08 p.m.

The Board took a brief recess from 3:08 p.m. to 3:13 p.m.

c. Dmitry Sukenik, M.D.

(iii) Podiatrist (Permanent):

a. Neil Patel, D.P.M.

B. Conditional License:

(i) Sung S. Yang, M.D., License No. MD-14745

It was moved by Dr. Sawai, seconded by Dr. Jaffe, and unanimously carried to return to the open session meeting at 3:45 p.m. Board members and staff returned to the main Zoom meeting. All Board members confirmed that they were present and alone.

(i) Physician (Permanent/Endorsement):

a. Jennifer Armstrong, M.D.

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Sawai, seconded by Dr. Hatten, and carried by the majority, with the exception of Dr. Pratt, who abstained to approve Dr. Armstrong's application for licensure as follows:

Mr. Belcher, Dr. Fong, Dr. Jaffe, Dr. Ignacio, Mr. Mun, Dr. Sawai, Dr. Young and Dr. Hatten, voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Pratt abstained from the vote.

b. Gerald Kim Rowland, M.D.

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Jaffe, seconded by Dr. Young, and unanimously carried to approve Dr. Rowland's application for licensure.

c. Oren Ganor, M.D.

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Mr. Belcher, seconded by Dr. Sawai, and unanimously carried to defer Dr. Ganor's application for licensure.

(ii) Physician (Permanent/Non-Endorsement):

a. Hiroo Kinami, M.D.

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Fong, seconded by Mr. Belcher, and unanimously carried to defer Dr. Kinami's application for licensure.

b. Sanjeev Ravipudi, M.D.

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Ignacio, seconded by Dr. Jaffe, and unanimously carried to approve Dr. Ravipudi's application for licensure.

c. Dmitry Sukenik, M.D.

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Ignacio, seconded by Dr. Hatten, and unanimously carried to approve Dr. Sukenik's application for licensure.

(iii) Podiatrist (Permanent):

a. Neil Patel, D.P.M.

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Young, seconded by Mr. Belcher, and unanimously carried to defer Dr. Patel's application for licensure for additional information.

B. Conditional License:

(i) Sung S. Yang, M.D., License No. MD-14745

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by Dr. Fong, seconded by Dr. Hatten, and unanimously carried to accept the recommendation of Healthcare Coding Consultants of Hawaii to extend the 100 percent chart review for an additional 60 days.

C. Ratification List:

(i) December 12, 2024, Ratification List

It was moved Dr. Ignacio, seconded by Dr. Jaffe, and unanimously carried to ratify the attached lists of individuals for licensure or certification from December 12, 2024.

Mr. Belcher asked if anyone from the public would like to provide oral testimony. There was none.

2025 Legislation:

A. Proposed Legislation Relating to Administrative Licensure Actions Against Sex Offenders

The purpose of this bill is to allow the timely revocation of a license and denial of renewal, restoration, or reinstatement of a license for certain professions when the licensee is a registered sex offender.

Mr. Ho explained that the document is a bill proposing an act regarding administrative licensure actions against sex offenders.

The purpose of this bill is to enable the timely revocation of a license and the denial of renewal, restoration, or reinstatement of a license for certain professions when the licensee is a registered sex offender. This includes the practice of medicine according to Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) Chapter 453, which pertains to Medicine and Surgery. The justification for this bill is that current laws do not provide a prompt process for denying or revoking a professional license when the license holder becomes or is identified as a registered sex offender. This bill allows for the automatic denial of applications to renew or restore licenses or the revocation of certain professional licenses when the license holder is a registered sex offender. The proposed language enables the board to take action against individuals who are convicted of and registered as sex offenders.

Mr. Belcher thanked Mr. Ho and asked if any Board Members had questions.

Ms. Quiogue wanted to clarify that this would also amend HRS Chapter 463E, which pertains to Podiatry.

Mr. Belcher asked Mr. Ho or Ms. Quiogue for their recommendation on how the Board should proceed with this bill and whether to support it and monitor it.

Ms. Quiogue explained that since this issue directly affects two professions or statutory chapters regulated by the Board, she would recommend that the Board either support this measure or provide comments on it. This proposed measure would enable a quicker process for taking action against a licensee while still ensuring that their due process rights are upheld.

Mr. Belcher stated that the Board is in support of this legislation.

Dr. Jaffe stated that the bill sounds like a good idea but was wanted clarification about certain specifics. He asked DAG Wong if being a registered sex offender includes lesser offenses, such as lewd behavior or being caught with pornography on a state computer.

DAG Wong stated that she is unsure but it must meet the criterion of HRS Chapter 846 mentioned in the bill.

Ms. Quiogue explained that HRS Chapter 846E-1 defines the various types of violations that was used as a basis. It specifically states, “A crime that falls under the definition of ‘crimes against minors’ in this section,” and continues to outline additional offenses.

Mr. Belcher asked Ms. Quiogue whether the Board should first

support this bill, gather more information, and then reconsider it.

Ms. Quiogue emphasized that this is a working draft and is still under consideration by the department, the attorney general's office, and the governor's policy office. It is a solid concept, but the measure has yet to be formally introduced. The Board should establish an official position so that it is clear how to proceed when it is formally introduced and reviewed by legislative committees.

Mr. Belcher retracted his previous statement and clarified that the Board supports the decision.

Mr. Belcher requested a vote, and the Board was unanimously in favor of supporting this bill.

B. Legislative Liaison(s)

The Board will consider appointing legislative liaison(s) to assist in providing positions and testifying on legislative proposals.

Mr. Belcher mentioned that the Board reviews this annually before the legislative session. He asked Mr. Ho to briefly outline the responsibilities of this position, after which he will seek volunteers.

Mr. Ho stated that volunteers are being sought for the upcoming 2025 legislative session. This term lasts for the duration of one session. The Board can have up to five (5) members volunteer, as long as the number does not reach a quorum. The responsibilities will include being available to answer questions, assisting with drafting language and testimony, and possibly testifying on behalf of the board in cases of very technical topics. Additionally, if board staff members are unavailable to represent the board, volunteers may step in to help.

Mr. Belcher requested volunteers to serve as a legislative liaison.

Ms. Quiogue also recommended the Board's Chairperson.

The 2025 legislative liaisons are Dr. Young, Mr. Mun, Dr. Jaffe, and Chair Takanishi.

Executive Officer
Report:

A. 2025 Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Ho provided the Board schedule for the upcoming year, 2025. The meeting dates are as follows: January 16, February 13, March 13, April 10, June 12, August 14, October 9, and December 11. All meetings are scheduled for Thursdays and will tentatively

be held in the same meeting room, as well as virtually via Zoom.

Interstate Medical
Licensure Compact
Commission
(IMLCC):

A. Michael Jaffe, D.O., Hawaii Interstate Medical Licensure Compact
Commission Commissioner, Annual IMLCC Conference Report

Mr. Ho requested Mr. Li to display the slideshow.

Dr. Jaffe gave a presentation on information he gathered from the annual IMLCC conference that was held this year in Phoenix, Arizona. Dr. Jaffe discussed these points regarding the compact license:

- An Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (“IMLC”) license is essentially another pathway for M.D.’s and D.O.’s to acquire medical licensure, particularly for those who want to practice in multiple states.
- The IMLC Commission (“IMLCC”) operates the compact and is a quasi-governmental organization or “government instrumentality.”
- The traditional pathway is to apply directly to the State of Hawaii, and the compact pathway is to apply through the IMLC.
- The compact provides an expedited process for physicians to apply for full and unrestricted medical licenses.
- There are currently 40 states signed up with the IMLCC, which includes 54 state boards, and 124,000 licensees who have already completed the compact licensure process.
- The compact facilitates physician licensure portability, which can help with issues such as physician shortages.
- The process reduces license processing times to usually within 7 to 10 days.
- HRS Chapter 453B provides statutory authority for Hawaii to participate in the IMLC.
- For commission oversight, there are two (2) commissioners from each state board who attend IMLCC meetings. The IMLCC commissioners for Hawaii are Dr. Michael Jaffe and Mr. Randy Ho, who are on the technology committee and budget committee, respectively.
- Licensure by compact for the State of Hawaii will be available through the IMLCC in January or February 2025.
- The process requires that qualified physicians apply directly through the IMLCC website and designate a home state, also known as state of primary license (“SPL”). The SPL will receive notification from the IMLC, and the applying physician will need to be fully vetted, to include a

criminal background check, by the designated SPL to determine eligibility for medical licensure. If the applicant is deemed qualified, the SPL issues a full and unrestricted medical license by compact and a letter of qualification (“LOQ”). Then, the compact licensed physician can apply directly through the IMLCC for licenses with participating states.

- Fees differ amongst the states, many ranging between \$400 and \$700 for each state.
- Many states are seeing a 5% to 10% increase in qualified physicians seeking licensure, which has generated increased licensing revenue for some states.
- In the event of a license revocation, surrender, relinquishment in lieu of discipline, or suspension in one state, member states will be notified by the IMLCC, and any issued licenses will be suspended for 90 days to allow for investigations.
- For compact related questions, the correct points of contact are the IMLCC staff and their executive director Mr. Marschall Smith.

Next Meeting: January 16, 2025

In-Person Meeting Location: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room
King Kalakaua Building, 1st Floor
335 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

Reviewed and Approved by:

Taken and Recorded by:

/s/ Randy Ho

/s/ Dawn Lee

Mr. Randy Ho
Executive Officer

Ms. Dawn Lee
Administrative Assistant

(X)

Minutes approved as is.

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Minutes approved with changes: