

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: January 16, 2025

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/89891215757?pwd=L0sneNI533DRClINknh0OwEMeEMXRy.1>

Zoom Recoding Link: https://youtu.be/eFsAog-7_9s

Present: Danny M. Takanishi, M.D., Chairperson, Honolulu Member
Gary Belcher, Vice Chairperson, Public 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”)
Chelsea Fukunaga, Executive Officer
Dawn Lee, Administrative Assistant
Johnny Li (Technical Support)

Excused: Andrew “Rick” Fong, M.D., Hawaii Member

Zoom Guests: May Weber
Raymon Nelson
James Teet
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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 1:08 p.m., at which time quorum was established.

Chair Takanishi 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.

Chair Takanishi asked if anyone from the public would like to provide oral testimony on this agenda item. There was none.

Approval of the December 12, 2024, Minutes: Mr. Belcher stated that there were several typographical and grammatical mistakes in the executive session meeting minutes. Mr. Belcher suggested that the approval of the executive session minutes be deferred until the February meeting.

It was moved by Dr. Young, seconded by Dr. Jaffe, and carried by a majority, with the exception of Chair Takanishi, who abstained from the discussion and vote on this matter, to approve the open session minutes and defer the executive session minutes of the December 12, 2024, meeting. The vote to approve the open session minutes and defer the executive session minutes are as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Belcher, Dr. Jaffe, Dr. Ignacio, Dr. Mun, Dr. Pratt, Dr. Sawai, Dr. Young, and C.

Abstentions: Chair Takanishi.

Chair Takanishi informed meeting attendees that applicants whose applications were on the agenda would be invited to join the executive session to provide their testimony.

Chair Takanishi asked if anyone from the public would like to provide oral testimony on this agenda item. There was none.

Applications for License/Certification:

A. Applications:

It was moved by Dr. Jaffe, seconded by Dr. Hatten, and unanimously carried to enter into executive session at 1:12 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).

Chair Takanishi 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. James John Teet, D.O.

James John Teet, D.O. entered the Zoom Breakout Room at 1:31 p.m.

James John Teet, D.O. exited the Zoom Breakout Room at 1:33 p.m.

- b. Michael Maruska, D.O.
c. Ikshvanku Amrutlal Barot, M.D.
d. Raymon Kevin Nelson, M.D.

Raymon Kevin Nelson, M.D. entered the Zoom Breakout Room at 1:47 p.m.

Raymon Kevin Nelson, M.D. exited the Zoom Breakout Room at 1:52 p.m.

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

- a. Johnson Kevin Lay, M.D.
b. Tochi Ajiwe, M.D.

It was moved by Dr. Sawai, seconded by Dr. Young, and unanimously carried to return to the open session meeting at 2:35 p.m. Board members and staff returned to the main Zoom meeting. All Board members confirmed that they were present and alone. Chair Takanishi asked if anyone from the public would like to provide oral testimony on this agenda item. There was none.

(i) Physician (Permanent/Endorsement):

- a. James John Teet, D.O.

After due review of the information received, Chair Takanishi stated that Dr. Teet's endorsement application did not meet the statutory criteria required for the endorsement pathway and was thus, not considered by the Board.

b. Michael Maruska, D.O.

After due review of the information received, Chair Takanishi stated that Dr. Maruska's endorsement application did not meet the statutory criteria required for the endorsement pathway and was thus, not considered by the Board.

d. Raymon Kevin Nelson, M.D.

After due review of the information received, Chair Takanishi stated that Dr. Nelson's endorsement application did not meet the statutory criteria required for the endorsement pathway and was thus, not considered by the Board.

c. Ikshvanku Amrutlal Barot, M.D.

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

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

a. Johnson Kevin Lay, M.D.

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

b. Tochi Ajiwe, M.D.

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

Chair Takanishi asked if anyone from the public would like to provide oral testimony on this agenda item. There was none.

B. Ratification List (See attached list)

(i) January 16, 2025, 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 January 16, 2025.

2025 Legislative
Session:

A. Proposed Legislation Relating to Foreign Medical Graduates

The Board discussed the proposed legislation.

The purpose of this bill is to amend HRS section 453-4.5. The amendments would authorize the Hawaii Medical Board to provide graduates of foreign medical schools with alternate methods of qualifying for a Hawaii medical license.

It was moved by Chair Takanishi, seconded by Dr. Jaffe, and unanimously carried to defer rendering a position on this bill until the next meeting. In the interim between meetings, Chair Takanishi stated that he will seek explanatory information from the Education Commission regarding foreign medical graduates. This is to ensure that any revisions to the statutes align with the practices of that organization.

B. S.B. 107 RELATING TO MEDICAL INFORMED CONSENT

The Board discussed this bill.

The purposes of this bill are to: require the Hawaii Medical Board to establish standards for health care providers to ensure that a patient's consent to treatment is an informed consent, require that informed consent for a proposed medical or surgical treatment or a diagnostic or therapeutic procedure shall be obtained before the day of that treatment or procedure, and specify that if the treatment or procedure is to occur on the same day it is scheduled, the informed consent shall be obtained at the time the decision is made to schedule that treatment or procedure.

It was moved by Chair Takanishi, seconded by Dr. Pratt, and unanimously carried to oppose this bill as outlined in prior years when similar measures were introduced.

Chair Takanishi stated that Subchapter 4 of Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), chapter 16-85, addresses the purpose of informed consent, general standards of categories of information, manner of disclosure, refusal of information, etc. This was mandated by Act 114, Session Laws of Hawaii 2003.

Executive Officer
Report:

A. Implementation of Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission (IMLCC)

Ms. Fukunaga reported:

- On January 1, 2025, the IMLC went into effect.
- As of January 9, 2025, 16 Non-State of Principal Licensure licenses were issued

- 6 Osteopathic Physician (DOS) Licenses
- 10 Physician (MD) Licenses
- Average processing time of four (4) business days
- The Board's staff are currently working to add information to the Hawaii Medical Board's website that will provide information regarding the IMLCC and will provide a direct link to the IMLCC's website for interested applicants.

Interstate Medical
Licensure Compact
Commission (IMLCC):

Ms. Fukunaga reported that Mr. Ho's departure has left a commissioner position vacant. Typically, the executive officer serves as one of the commissioners to ensure continuity of information and knowledge. Ms. Fukunaga stated that the final decision is subject to a Board vote.

Chair Takanishi asked the Board members if they had any questions or comments.

It was moved by Mr. Belcher, seconded by Mr. Mun, and unanimously carried to nominate Ms. Fukunaga to serve as the second commissioner alongside Dr. Jaffe.

Chair Takanishi stated that he believes it is a wonderful opportunity for the new executive officer to become involved in this important process. He commented that the IMLCC has taken some time to gain traction, and there are many who are very happy with the progress.

Federation of State
Medical Boards
(FSMB):

A. Reentry to Practice: Report of the FSMB Workgroup on Reentry to Practice, Draft, January 2025

Chair Takanishi stated that there are two items for informational purposes. The first item included in the board members' packets, is about the re-entry to practice. He stated that the FSMB did an excellent job constructing this document which is currently open for public comment. Chair Takanishi stated that comments may be added via Federation's website or they may be sent to Ms. Fukunaga, who will ensure that they reach the Federation. Any feedback related to this work group, particularly regarding the final draft document, is welcome.

Chair Takanishi stated that the Federation is seeking input from member boards and various organizations which include a diverse group of individuals with extensive backgrounds. Participants come from the Federation, medical boards, and notable organizations such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, and the American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation among others.

This information was provided for the Board's awareness.

B. Invitation to USMLE Workshop for State Board Members:

Chair Takanishi stated that the second item is the USMLE Workshop for State Board members which is scheduled for March 14, 2025. He stated that this opportunity is open to all state medical board members interested in serving on one of the USMLE committees. He added that the USMLE is always seeking members from the state medical boards and are very welcoming in this regard.

Chair Takanishi directed Board members to contact Ms. Fukunaga if they are interested. Chair Takanishi noted that serving on these committees requires a significant time commitment. He explained that depending on the specific test development committee you join, (i.e. acute care, chronic care, behavioral health, professionalism, or patient safety) you may be assigned 50 questions to write. The USMLE typically provides about six months to complete this task, and each question takes approximately one hour to write. The questions are then reviewed by a series of three editors; the questions are then returned to the writer for approval of suggested revisions.

Chair Takanishi stated that members generally convene in Philadelphia for two and a half days for collaborative discussions. He added that all expenses including: round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations, ground transportation, and meals provided on-site are covered. Additionally, the FSMB will pay for travel expenses. Chair Takanishi encouraged those interested to consider this opportunity.

This information was provided for the Board's awareness.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 13, 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 2:50 p.m.

Reviewed and Approved by:

/s/ Chelsea Fukunaga

Ms. Chelsea Fukunaga
Executive Officer

Taken and Recorded by:

/s/ Dawn Lee

Ms. Dawn Lee
Administrative Assistant

(X)

Minutes approved as is.

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Minutes approved with changes: