

**South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (SCLLR)**  
**South Carolina Panel for Dietetics**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 29, 2009**

Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Room 105  
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210

**PANEL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rona B. Ewart, MEd, RD, Chair  
Nancy R. Taylor, MS, RD, Vice Chair  
Phyllis A. Allen, MPH, RD  
G. Robert Bowers, RD, MBA  
Mary Etta Moorachian, PhD, RD, CCP, CFCS  
Karen G. Schwartz, MS, RD

**LLR STAFF PRESENT:**

Sheridon Spoon, Office of General Counsel  
Angie M. Combs, Administrator  
Janice D. Meetze, Administrative Assistant

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the South Carolina Panel for Dietetics office and was provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the 1976 South Carolina Code, as amended, relating to the Freedom of Information Act. A quorum was present at all times.

**PANEL MEETING CALL TO ORDER / ATTENDANCE:** The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m. by Panel Chair, Rona Ewart.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda for the May 29, 2009 Regular Panel Meeting was presented for review and approval. A **motion** was made to accept the order of the Agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 27, 2009 PANEL MEETING MINUTES:** A **motion** was made by Ms. Schwartz to add under Review Licensure Requirements, page two, the language “or apply for licensure by examination.” The motion was seconded and passed. A **motion** was made by Ms. Moorachian to accept the March 27, 2009 minutes, as amended. The motion was seconded and passed.

**REPORTS / INFORMATION**

**Administrative Report:** Ms. Combs reported there are 732 South Carolina licensed dietitians; 62 are residing out of state. To date, 605 licensees have renewed their licenses; the renewal deadline is May 31, 2009. Licensees can renew during June with a late fee.

**Complaint Status Report:** There are no pending complaints to report.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Unlicensed Registered Dietitians:** Prior to the March 27, 2009 meeting, a letter was mailed to unlicensed Registered Dietitians residing in South Carolina notifying them of license requirements effective July 1, 2008. The Panel discussed the need to again address those individuals that are Registered Dietitians but not licensed in South Carolina. The Panel concurred to defer the matter until the next Panel meeting; at that time the license renewal and the Commission on Dietetic Registration renewal, due August 31, 2009, will have been completed. **Motion:** Ms. Moorachian made a motion that once the updated Commission on Dietetic Registration list is available after their August 31, 2009 registration renewal, the Panel recommends comparing unlicensed Registered Dietitians to narrow the scope of that list, and those names will subsequently be given to Ms. Combs, Administrator, for investigative purposes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schwartz. The motion carried.

**Licensure Notification to Organizations:** Discussion was held at the March 27, 2009 meeting concerning sending letters to the South Carolina Hospital Association, the Nursing Home Association, the School Nutrition Association, and Head Start notifying them that effective July 1, 2008 licensure was required of those engaging in activity that may constitute the practice of dietetics, as defined by South Carolina Law. Ms. Combs was asked to proceed with sending the aforementioned letter.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**New Graduates Obtaining Licensure:** Ms. Combs questioned if a new graduate could be issued a South Carolina provisional license based on being considered exam eligible by the Commission on Dietetic Registration; discussion followed. Ms. Schwartz was asked to address this topic with the Hospital Association. The Board concurred that all applicants for licensure are required to have a current Commission on Dietetic Registration in order to be granted a license to practice dietetics in South Carolina.

**Reinstatement Requirements:** Ms. Combs requested clarification of the Regulation that states an expired license shall lapse after June 30 of the renewal year, is subject to reinstatement at the discretion of the Panel, and to reinstate one must complete an application for reinstatement. The Panel agreed to delegate the task of approving license reinstatements to Panel staff after receiving evidence of a current registration with the CDR and the completed application with fees due. A current registration with CDR will ensure the licensee has obtained continuing education.

**Scope of Practice:** Rona Ewart, Chair, stated that the Panel will eventually need to define the scope of practice. Discussion followed stipulating that the wording in Section 40-20-20 (g) "implementing nutrition-related orders under a protocol approved by the medical staff of a licensed health care facility," has enough flexibility to write specific orders and can be approved as protocol by the medical staff at a medical executive meeting each year. The Panel recommended due diligence to study what the scope of practice is for states that have already defined scope of practice.

**Announcements**

The next scheduled Panel Meeting is October 30, 2009, 10:00 a.m., Kingstree Building, Room 105, Columbia, South Carolina.

There being no further business or announcements, Ms. Ewart adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

*Meeting recorded and minutes transcribed by Janice D. Meetze, Administrative Assistant.*  
*Minutes reviewed and edited by Angie M. Combs, Administrator.*  
*Minutes presented to the Board for final approval.*