

SC Board of Medical Examiners - Respiratory Care Committee Minutes

Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP) Committee Meeting
July 11, 2025, 10:00 a.m. WebEx Meeting
Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act by notice emailed to the media and all other requesting persons, organizations, or news media. In addition, notice was posted on the Board's website and on the bulletin board located at the main entrance of the Kingstree Building where the Board office is located. The meeting was held via videoconference and the public who wished to attend could email medboard@llr.sc.gov for login instructions.

Committee Members Present:

Joseph Ariale, RCP
Michael Fields, MD
Sonya Bracone, RCP, Secretary
Rahul Argula, M.D.
April Sawyer, RCP, Vice Chair
Vinod Jona, MD

S.C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation Staff Present:

Candace Parnell, RCP Program Administrative Assistant
Robynn Devine, Program Coordinator I
Jessica Beise, Board Executive
Bob Horner, Advice Counsel

Also Present

Tina Behles, Court Reporter, Capital City Reporting, LLC.
Tracy Cook, Newberry College, Bachelor of Science, Respiratory Therapy Program
Holly Lever, SCSRC Secretary, Program Committee/Exhibitors

Minutes Friday, July 11, 2025

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. (Quorum present)

Review and adoption of the agenda.

Approval of January 10, 2025, minutes. Motion to approve the minutes. Motion seconded; motion carried.

Election of Officers:

Motion to elect A. Michele Parker-Sawyer, RCP Chairman, and Michael Fields, MD, Vice Chairman. Motion carried.

Respiratory Care Practitioners with Temporary Licenses applying for Permanent Licensure:

Approval of temporary to permanent licensees. Motion to approve all applications with no issues.

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Motion seconded; motion carried. The applicants with “yes” answers (5) were addressed individually. Motion to approve the applicants with “yes” answers except Briana Small, pending additional information requested by the committee. Motion seconded; motion carried.

Committee Chair Report and Administrator’s Report: Board Executive Beise spoke briefly on the status of the renewal process for 2025 and asked how the committee would like to move forward concerning further discussion on what a nurse can and can’t do related to BIPAP/CPAP. The Committee discussed a special meeting and a poll would be sent for available dates.

Holly Lever and Tracy Cook expressed their concerns related to the Board of Nursing practices within the scope of respiratory care. Advice Counsel Horner, explained the proposed advisory opinion of the Nursing Board.

Motion to adjourn; motion carried.

**Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: Friday, October 10, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.
via WebEx.**