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South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Board of Nursing



Henry D. McMaster
Governor

Emily H. Farr
Director

Board Meeting Minutes

JULY 23-24, 2026

Bridget Holder, Chairperson of the South Carolina State Board of Nursing, called the July 23, 2026 meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. Public notice was properly posted at the Board's offices and on its website. A copy was provided to all requesting persons, organizations and news media agencies in compliance with the SC Freedom of Information Act.

A quorum was present at all times.

BOARD MEMBERS' PRESENT & VOTING		
Member	Representing	Attendance
Bridget Enos, DNP, APRN, FNP-C	1 st Congressional District	Present
Frances Pagett, RN	2 nd Congressional District	Present
John Whitcomb, PhD, RN, CCRN, FCCM	Board of Nursing Vice-Chair 3 rd Congressional District	Present
Sallie Beth Todd, RN, MSN-Ed	4 th Congressional District	Present
Lisa James, DNP, RN, MHA, NEA-BC	5 th Congressional District	Present
Bridget J. Holder, DNP, RN, C-ONQS, CPHRM	Board of Nursing Chair 6 th Congressional District	Present
Leslie Lyerly, RN	7 th Congressional District	Absent
Melissa May-Engel, LPN	Board of Nursing Secretary At-Large, LPN	Present
Robert J. Wolff, PhD	Public Member	Present
Lindsey Mitcham	Public Member	Present
Teresa A. Pettigrew, LPN	At-Large, LPN	Present

LLR STAFF PRESENT
Whitney Smith, Board Executive and Program Manager
Maggie Murdock, Program Director, Medically Related Boards
Megan Flannery, Advice Counsel to the Board of Nursing
Mindy Carithers, Nurse Practice Consultant & Compliance Manager
Tierra Sims, Board of Nursing Compliance Administrative Coordinator
Valirie Samuel, Board of Nursing Administrative Coordinator
Tina Brown, Chief Disciplinary Counsel



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Sherrie Butterbaugh, Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
Erica Williams, Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
Leanna McMenamin, Assistant Disciplinary Counsel
Stephen Hoage, Office of Investigations and Enforcement, Lead Investigator
Tina Behles, Court Reporter
Carolyn Sutherland, Office of Advice Counsel

Thursday, July 23, 2026

** Indicates that the Board entered into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal counsel; no votes or official actions were taken while in Executive Session.*

Excused Absences:

Moved to excuse Lesley Lyerly. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved to approve the Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Moved to move the approval of the May 2026 Meeting Minutes to tomorrow's meeting. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Moved to enter close session. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.



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South Carolina Recovering Professionals Program (SCRPP) Questionnaire Review

Presented by Tia Cooper, Dr. Rebecca Payne, and Thomas Smith, Esq.

SCRPP has been renewed for another five-year period. SCRPP appeared before the Board to present and discuss the SCRPP questionnaire, review preferences, and solicit board feedback. SCRPP requests for the Board to provide any feedback by the September 2026 Board of Nursing meeting.

No action was taken.

Moved to exit close session. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Education Appearance

Advisory Committee on Nursing Education (ACONE) Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Presentation - Presented by Jo Kuehn and Ruth Henderson, ACONe Committee Members (*WebEx*)

In January 2026, TOEFL updated their scoring scale. Originally, the scoring scale was 0 to 120, whereas the current scoring scale is now 1 to 6. This change was adopted because it provides more intuitive alignment with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) for languages and provides a better assessment of the English learning experience.

Currently the Board of Nursing accepts an overall score of 83. With the updated scoring scale, the ACONe workgroup recommends maintaining the CEFR level of B-2. The ACONe workgroup recommends the Board adopt a speaking score of level 5 and reading, writing, and listening score of level 4. This would equal a CEFR of B-2 and overall scoring of 4.5.

Moved to approve the ACONe recommendation and select the TOEFL overall score as 4.5; reading, writing, and listening as a 4.0 and speaking as a 5.0. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Moved to enter close session. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.



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Compliance/Application Appearances

These hearings were conducted in closed session in compliance with §40-33 et.seq. and State and federal privacy laws.

Modification (1), 2017-315: Respondent was present for the hearing.

Moved to modify the 2017 Consent Agreement to private. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

*

John Whitcomb recused.

Modification (2), 2017-434: Respondent was present for the hearing.

Moved to modify the existing orders to private. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

John Whitcomb recused.

Modification (3), 2022-229: Respondent was present for the hearing.

Moved to deny the request for modification. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

John Whitcomb recused and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of this hearing.

Disciplinary Hearings

Respondents appeared before the Board to determine disciplinary actions. Hearings are conducted in closed session to meet the statutory requirement that disciplinary actions remain confidential.

2024-572, 2024-626: Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanctions.

Moved to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanction: Permanent revocation of licensure. The nurse's conduct constituted a gross violation of the ethical, moral and



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professional standards of nursing. The severity of the misconduct demonstrated a fundamental disregard for patient safety, professional integrity and the trust placed in licensed healthcare providers. Such actions are incompatible with the responsibilities of nursing practice and raise serious concerns regarding the individual's judgement, accountability and fitness to provide care. To protect the public and preserve the integrity of the profession, the nurse is not safe to practice and permanent revocation of licensure is warranted. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Moved to enter executive session for the purposes of seeking legal advice/lunch. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Moved to exit executive session/lunch. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Lindsey Mitcham exited the meeting for the remainder of the day at 1:40 p.m.

Disciplinary Hearings

2025-303: Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanctions.

Moved to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: A public reprimand, indefinite suspension, evaluation, and compliance with conditions known to the respondent and the Board. Prior to reinstatement, Respondent must reappear before the Board for potential terms and conditions. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

2021-592: Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanctions.

Moved to accept the Memorandum of Agreement and Stipulation of Facts with the following disciplinary sanctions: A public reprimand and continued compliance with conditions known to the Respondent and the Board. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *



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John Whitcomb and Bridget Holder recused.

2025-730: Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanctions.

Moved to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: A private reprimand, a civil penalty in the amount of \$60.00 for investigative costs due within six months and completion of the following Board-approved courses within the next six months: Crisis Management for Healthcare Professionals, Preventing and De-escalating Crisis Situation and Legal Aspects of Nursing. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

2025-728: Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanctions.

Moved to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: A private reprimand, investigative costs in the amount of \$60.00 due within six months, and completion of the following Board-approved courses within the next six months: Crisis Management for the Healthcare Professionals, Preventing and De-escalating Crisis Situation, Legal Aspects of Nursing. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

The Board requested complaints be filed against the medical doctors involved in nursing cases 2025-728 and 2025-730.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) Aged Case Report

Presented by Tina Brown, Chief Disciplinary Counsel

Provided an overview of the Board of Nursing Aged Case Report. The Board discussed concerns related to the aged case report.



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Moved to enter executive session for the purposes of seeking legal advice. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Moved to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Session reconvened with Board providing a disposition for each case listed in the aged case report as follows:

- 2018-524, Letter of Caution
- 2019-354, Letter of Caution
- 2019-394, Letter of Caution
- 2019-519, Pull
- 2019-536, Pull
- 2020-193, Letter of Caution
- 2020-485, Letter of Caution
- 2020-568, Letter of Caution
- 2021-119, Letter of Caution
- 2021-122, Letter of Caution
- 2021-148, Letter of Caution
- 2021-284, Letter of Caution
- 2021-296, Pull
- 2021-378, Letter of Caution
- 2021-404, Pull
- 2021-543, Letter of Caution
- 2021-613, Letter of Caution
- 2022-105, Pull



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- 2022-146, Pull
- 2022-160, Pull
- 2022-186, Pull
- 2022-187, Pull
- 2022-217, Dismiss
- 2022-361, Letter of Caution
- 2022-370, Dismiss
- 2022-430, Pull
- 2022-448, Pull
- 2022-517, Letter of Caution
- 2022-59, Dismiss
- 2022-98, Letter of Caution
- 2022-591, Pull
- 2022-460, Dismiss

Moved to have all pulled cases from the Aged Case Report to remain Formal Complaints. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Moved to proceed to the Administrative Law Court to enforce subpoenas when organizations fail to comply with the Board's subpoena requests for investigative information, specifically case 2022-430 and cases similar in nature. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Moved to adjourn at 6:59 p.m. The motion was seconded.



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Friday, July 24, 2026

Call to Order:

Bridget Holder called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

Excused Absences:

Moved to excuse Leslie Lyerly. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Board requested to see greater summation of details within the minutes, where applicable.

Moved to approve the amended May 2026 Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Moved to enter close session. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Office of Investigations and Enforcements (OIE) Investigative Review Reports

Presented by Kevin Pate & Stephen Hoage, OIE Lead Investigators

Investigation Review Committee (IRC) Report

- (32) cases for dismissal

Moved to accept (32) cases for dismissal with the additions of reviewing cases 2025-54 and 2025-217 as Scope of Practice (S/P) and reviewing case 2026-137 as a Practice Infraction (P). The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Board continued discussion relating to enforcement of investigative subpoenas and options to get organizations to appropriately respond to subpoenas.



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Board requests staff to internally track which organizations do not respond.

Board proposed the following verbiage to be included in OIE Letters of Caution:

“Respondent is reminded to be mindful of their professional responsibility to properly respond to inquiries made by the Board of Nursing and Board staff. Future failures to timely communicate with the Board of Nursing may result in misconduct proceedings and possible sanctions against your license according to the South Carolina Code Section 40-33-110 (6), which states that it is misconduct for a licensee to fail to cooperate with an investigation or other proceeding of the Board.”

Request to add this verbiage to case 2025-714.

Moved to approve (11) Letters of Caution with the additional verbiage as discussed. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Moved to continue to use the language provided to OIE in cases where the Respondent does not respond. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

OIE Statistical Report

- From January 1, 2026 to July 2026:
 - (432) complaints received
 - (386) cases closed
 - (147) active complaints under investigation



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Compliance/Application Appearances:

These hearings were conducted in closed session in compliance with §40-33 et.seq. and State and federal privacy laws. **Application (1) - Reinstatement Application Hearing:** Respondent was present for the hearing.

Moved to reinstate license with the following conditions: RN supervision and no home-based care, staffing agency, tele-nursing or tele-health, and continued compliance with conditions known to the respondent and the Board. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Moved to return to open session. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Education Appearance

Central Carolina Technical College - LPN: Appeared before the Board seeking LPN New Program Full approval.

Presented by Taylor DuBose and Dr. Samuel Geddings

The program was surveyed in February 2026. At the April 2026 ACONE Meeting, the committee recommended full board approval. The program is not nationally accredited and there are no NCLEX scores for 2026 due to when their first cohort graduated. The program has addressed all requested corrections and findings.

The program is expecting 36 students in their fall class.

Moved to grant Central Carolina Technical College LPN Program full approval. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

College of Charleston and MUSC - BSN: Appeared before the Board for approval of Feasibility Study.



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Presented by Drs. Kristen Poston, Catherine Durham and Wes Dudgeon

The program is requesting approval of their feasibility study to offer a joint Bachelor of Science in Nursing pre-licensure program.

The ACONe survey team found that the College of Charleston and Medical University of South Carolina's feasibility study meets the requirements of South Carolina Regulation 91-5 (2) and recommends the program be approved for development.

Moved to approve the feasibility study for the College of Charleston and Medical University of South Carolina's College of Nursing. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Southeastern College, Columbia Campus - LPN Program: Appeared before the Board seeking Initial Program approval.

Presented by Dr. Lauren Jones, Melissa Jackson and Shaquana Amaker

The program was surveyed in May 2026. At its June 2026 meeting, the ACONe committee recommended initial approval. The program has addressed all requested corrections and findings.

Moved to grant initial approval to Southeastern College LPN Program. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Robert Wolff recused.

Southeastern College, Columbia Campus - ADN Program: Appeared before the Board for a New Program Full approval and 2025 ADN NCLEX Deficiency.

Presented by Dr. Lauren Jones, Melissa Jackson and Dr. Donna Estes.



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During the May 2022 Board meeting, the Board granted the initial approval of the program. In January 2026, the program was cited with deficient NCLEX scores and the Board asked the program to appear following site survey.

The program was surveyed in May 2026. At its June 2026 meeting, the ACONE recommended conditional approval due to the 2025 NCLEX scores. In 2025, the program was at a 50% NCLEX pass rate and as of July 2026, the program is at a 100% NCLEX pass rate.

Moved to place Southeastern College Columbia ADN Program on conditional status due to the 50% NCLEX scores from 2025 and ask that they reappear before the Board in July of 2027. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Robert Wolff recused and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of this hearing.

Robeson Community College, NC - ADN: Appeared before the Board for Out-of-State Nursing Programs Clinical Experiences approval.

Presented by Dr. Marie Hedgpeth (*WebEx*)

The program is seeking to do clinicals in South Carolina for their ADN and PN programs. At the June ACONE Meeting, the committee voted to recommend approval to the Board.

The ADN program is currently accredited by NLC CNEA, and the PN program has pre-accreditation candidacy. According to the North Carolina Board of Nursing, has had a 100% NCLEX pass rate since 2024.

Moved to approve Robeson Community College, North Carolina, clinical site in South Carolina. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Spartanburg Community College - LPN: Appeared before the Board for New Program Full Approval.



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Presented by Tiffany Henson and Myra Westbrooks

During the September 2022 Board meeting, the Board granted the program initial approval. The program was surveyed in September 2025. In January 2026, the program was cited for deficient NCLEX scores.

At the April 2026 ACON meeting, the committee recommended conditional approval due to the 2025 NCLEX scores.

Moved to transition Spartanburg Community College – LPN program to conditional status and return to the Board in July 2027 due to 2025 NCLEX scores. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Moved to enter executive session for legal advice /lunch. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.
*

Moved to exit executive session/lunch. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Education Appearance

ECPI, Greenville Campus - LPN: Appeared before the Board for continued Full Program approval.

Presented by Carolyn Miller and Drew McCabe

During the July 2020 Board Meeting, the program was granted full program approval. The program was surveyed in April 2026. At the June 2026 ACON meeting, the committee voted to recommend full board approval.

Moved to continue with full approval for ECPI, Greenville. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Lindsey Mitcham recused and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of this hearing.



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Office of Advice Counsel

Prescribing of Research Grade Peptides

Presented by Kayce Shealy, Board Executive for the Board of Pharmacy and Carolyn Sutherland, Advice Counsel.

Discussion relating to the Board of Pharmacy's most recent e-blast regarding prescribing research grade peptides. E-blast highlighted inspection observations that pharmacy inspectors were seeing in the field. The non-dispensing drug outlets are the ones that are most relevant to the Board of Nursing. These are facilities that house medications, administer to patients on site, but do not dispense. Inspectors are finding a multitude of facilities with compounds, particularly research-grade or FDA-ineligible peptides, some of which are labeled for research use only. These are particularly concerning, as they are manufactured for laboratory or animal research only, and are not intended for human use. The e-blast was a means to education licensees and other providers that these are not intended for patient use and must be quarantined and disposed of. Additionally, the Board of Pharmacy wishes to remind providers that they must resource medications from facilities that are actively permitted with the South Carolina Board of Pharmacy.

From the Board of Nursing perspective, the best way to ensure that licensees remain compliant is to not prescribe or administer anything that is labeled For Research Only and only use legitimate suppliers that have a South Carolina Board of Pharmacy permit.

Moved to approve Board Advice Counsel, to draft a statement that mimics the Board of Pharmacy's peptide statement. This is to be sent out by Advice Counsel via e-blast. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.



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Nurse Practice & Standards Committee (NPSC) Onboarding Process

Presented by Mindy Carithers, Nursing Practice Consultant and Karrie Powell, NPSC Chair

The NPSC Member Onboarding Process was presented to outline the onboarding orientation process for new NPSC members. The committee has had several new members over the last two years and the Board feels the committee is in need of a consistent, clearly defined onboarding process to help new members transition into their roles.

Moved to enter executive session for legal advice. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Moved for the Board to take the information that was presented, review it, provide feedback and bring the information forward to the next meeting. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Moved to enter executive session with Deputy Director Boland. The motion was seconded. Motion carried. *

Moved to exit executive session. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Office of Advice Counsel Discussion

Presented by Megan Flannery, Advice Counsel

NPSC By-Law Proposal: Nurse Informaticist

Discussion brought to the Board for the purposes of adding a nurse informaticist member to the NPSC. The Board requested to develop a workgroup to look at the proposal and make proposed bylaw revisions for a new position.

Moved to have a workgroup draft the proposal for the nurse informaticist position and potentially revise the NPSC bylaws. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.



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Moved to name Lisa James as head of the workgroup with Melissa May-Engel and Teresa Pettigrew as workgroup members. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Board Executive Report

Presented by Whitney Smith

- Board Updates
 - May 2026 – July 2026
 - Newly issued licenses: 1,590
 - Reinstated: 92
 - Total active licensees: 97,005
- Board Member Reappointments
 - Leslie M. Lyerly; Commission Expires: 06/30/2028
 - Melissa May-Engel; Commission Expires: 12/31/2030
 - Lindsey K. Mitcham; Commission Expires: 12/31/2029
 - Frances C. Pagett; Commission Expires: 12/31/2030
 - Robert J. Wolff; Commission Expires: 12/31/2029
- Board Staff Update
 - Board Licensing
 - Welcoming (2) new processors to the team this month
 - Licensing team will be fully staffed with these additions
 - Board Compliance
 - New Administrative Coordinator: Tierra Sims
 - Currently interviewing for the Administrative Assistant position



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Board Education

- Fully staffed
 - Several site surveys this month
- Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) Update
 - Maggie Murdock, Program Coordinator has been elected to the NLC Rules Committee
 - MA enacted, still awaiting full implementation
 - MI & DC most recent states pending NLC legislation
- APRN Compact Update
 - Currently looking at compact redesign aimed at increasing state engagement and better meeting the needs of current APRN workforce
- NCSBN Update Annual Business Book
 - Shared for informational purposes only
- Upcoming Meetings
 - 2026 NLC Commission Annual Meeting, August 18, 2026 Chicago, IL
 - 2026 NCSBN Annual Meeting, August 19-21, 2026 Chicago, IL
 - 2026 NCLEX Virtual Conference, September 10, 2026 Virtual
 - SC Board of Nursing Meeting, September 24 –25, 2026 Columbia, SC
 - 2026 NCSBN Leadership & Public Policy Conference, October 07-09, 2026 Philadelphia, PA
- Human Trafficking Education

Newly enacted Human Trafficking CE Requirements reviewed and initial implementation proposal discussed.



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Moved to review presented Human Trafficking information and defer until the September 2026 meeting. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Moved to enter close session. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) Statistics Report

Presented by Tina Brown Chief Disciplinary Counsel

- As of July 2026:

(470) open cases

(98) closed cases

ODC is currently seeing an increase in the number of complaints.

Moved to return to open session. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Substantive Change Proposal

Presented by Sallie Beth Todd

The Substantive Change workgroup requested for ACONE to review and provide feedback. They observed some overlap between the proposal and chapter 91 regulation.

The following are considered substantive changes that require Board of Nursing approval prior to implementation:

- A change of 25% or more (via clock/credit hours or content) in a program, including:
 - a) curriculum delivery
 - b) semester hours
 - c) modality, including virtual instruction



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- Any change that reflects the philosophy, conceptual framework, goals and objectives of the nursing program
- Offering courses at additional locations
- Changes in degree/diploma offerings
- Hiring a full-time faculty member in an Associate Degree Program that has not completed at least 50% of the course requirements for a Master's Degree in Nursing. Must submit a timeline for completion of the Master's degree.
- Greater than a 50% increase in student enrollment per program type based on the prior year of enrollment.
- Any reduction in financial resources
- Change in faculty composition and, or numbers that affect the goals and the objectives of the nursing program.

Moved to approve the draft with the discussed changes and a finalized copy to be added to the website. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Board Chair Report

Reported by Bridget Holder

Strategic Plan Workgroup

Discussion was brought before the Board to solicit volunteers from the Board to participate in the Strategic Plan Workgroup. The workgroup is be tasked with revising and updating the Board of Nursing Strategic Plan.

Moved to approve the Strategic Plan Workgroup to include Robert Wolff, Frances Pagett and Lindsey Mitcham. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.



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Committee Nominations

Presented by Dr. Robert Wolff

Moved to appoint Johana Patrick for the NPSC Long-Term Care Gerontology RN Position. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Moved to adjourn at 3:29 p.m. The motion was seconded.