

### MARCH 27-28, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Sallie Beth Todd, Chairperson of the South Carolina State Board of Nursing, called the March 2025 meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. on March 27, 2025. Public notice was properly posed at the Board offices, as well as 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.

Member	Representing		BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT & VOTING
Bridget Enos, DNP, APRN, FNP-C	1 <sup>st</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Frances Pagett, RN	2 <sup>nd</sup> Congressional District	Present	
John Whitcomb, PhD, RN, CCRN, FCCM	Board of Nursing Secretary 3 <sup>rd</sup> Congressional District	Excused	
Sallie Beth Todd, RN, MSN-Ed	Board of Nursing Chair 4 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Samuel McNutt, RN, CRNA, MHSA	5 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Excused for 3/27 only	
Bridget J. Holder, DNP, RNC-MNN, C-ONQS	Board of Nursing Vice- Chair 6 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Leslie Lyerly, RN	7 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District	Present	
Melissa May-Engel, LPN	At-Large, LPN	Present	
Robert J. Wolff, PhD	Public Member	Present	
Lindsey Mitcham	Public Member	Present	
Vacancy	At-Large, LPN	Vacant	

Carol Moody, Board Executive, Board of Nursing	LLR STAFF PRESENT
Megan Flannery, Advice Counsel for the Board of Nursing	
Tara Nixon, Office of Advice Counsel	
Peter Kubas, Nurse Education Consultant	
Mindy Carithers, Nurse Practice Consultant & Compliance Manager	
Shannon Stricklin, Office of Compliance Administrative Coordinator	
Tierra Sims, Office of Compliance	
Jennifer Mitchell, Board of Nursing Administrative Coordinator	
Tina Brown, Assistant Disciplinary Counsel	
Sherri Butterbaugh, Assistant Disciplinary Counsel	
Bianca Smith, Lead Investigator	
Kevin Pate, Lead Investigator	
Tina Behles, Court Reporter	

#### **EXCUSED ABSENCES:**

Motion to excuse Dr. John Whitcomb and Mr. Sam McNutt. Motion carried.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

## **BOARD MINUTES:**

Deferred until Friday.

## **EDUCATION APPEARANCES**

**University of South Carolina, Beaufort:** Dr. Lynne Hutchinson, Department Chair & Associate Professor of Nursing presented a request to add an additional location. Motion to approve the request was made by Dr. Wolff. Motion carried.

**Southeastern College Charlotte:** Dr. Edwin Delgado, Chief Academic Officer presented a request to conduct clinical experiences in South Carolina. Motion to approve the request was made by Dr. Wolff. Motion carried.\*

**ECPI (Columbia Campus) Associate Degree in Nursing Program:** Ms. Gilliam Sims, Director of Nursing Education presented an update on their NCLEX deficiency. Dr. Holder made a motion to accept the presentation for informational purposes. The Board appreciates the work that has been done and the program will remain on initial status. Motion carried.\*

*Ms. Mitcham was recused from the presentation and rejoined the meeting at the conclusion of the appearance.*

**Coker University:** Dr. Eileen Klang, Acting Dean, College of Health Professionals and Dr. Susan Henderson presented on the program's NCLEX deficiency. Dr. Wolff made a motion for Coker University to remain on initial approval and to accept the presentation of materials as information. Motion carried.

*Ms. May-Engle left during the presentation for an appointment as a result she did not vote on this matter.*

## **CLOSED SESSION:**

Motion to move into Closed Session to discuss pending disciplinary actions. Motion carried.

## **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.

**2022-338:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: issuance of a public reprimand, investigative costs in the amount of \$100 due in six months, single state license to practice in SC (secondary to felony), successfully take and pass the eBAS Fraud and Professional Standards course within six months. Motion carried. \*

**2023-401:** This case was before the Board for a Final Order Hearing and was previously before the Board of Nursing Hearing Panel. A report has been issued by the Hearing Panel with recommendations regarding violations of the Nurse Practice Act and disciplinary sanction. The Board had an opportunity to review the transcript of the full evidentiary hearing and the recommendation of the Panel. Respondent did not appear before the Board for this final order hearing. After first determining that proper notice was provided to the Respondent, the Board proceeded with the hearing.

Motion to accept the Panel's findings and their recommendations. Motion carried.

*Ms. May-Engle was not present for this hearing.*

#### **Executive Session:**

Motion made by Dr. Holder to go into executive session for the purpose of legal counsel. Motion carried.

Motion out of executive session by Dr. Holder. Motion carried.

Motion by Dr. Holder that the Board will direct disciplinary cases to be opened for those nurses that failed the competency audit, and those cases can go directly to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. Motion carried.

*Dr. Wolff exits proceedings and Ms. May-Engle returns to the proceedings during the executive session.*

**2022-65:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: issuance of a private reprimand, investigative costs in the amount of \$100 due within six months of the date of the Order. Motion carried.\*

*Introduction of Erica Williams and Sarah Printz; new ODC staff.*

**2024-151:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: issuance of a public reprimand, suspension for two years immediately stayed with probation for two years. Narcotics restriction, quarterly reports from nurse employer, worksite approval, investigative costs in the amount of \$175 due within six months (and once license is reinstated to active status), and compliance with other terms and conditions known to the Respondent and the Board Motion carried. \*

**2023-601:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanction.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: issuance of a private reprimand, completion of the following Board-approved courses within the next six months: Legal Aspects of Nursing, Documentation, Critical Thinking. Motion carried.\*

**2018-90 & 2005-20:** Respondent appeared before the Board seeking a modification request to make her prior order(s) private.

Motion to grant the request to make the orders private. Motion carried.\*

**2023-258: Case** continued.

*Ms. Mitcham exits the meeting at 5:26PM*

**2023-270:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary action.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: issuance of a private reprimand, a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000 to be paid within a year, payment of the investigative cost in the amount of \$50 due within six months. Completion of the following Board-approved courses within the next six months: Upholding the Standard of Professional Accountability in Nursing, Critical Thinking, Documentation, and Medication Error Prevention. Motion carried.\*

Motion to adjourn for the evening at 6:20PM.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2025**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Todd called the meeting to order at 8:32AM on Friday, March 28, 2025. It is noted that a quorum was present at all times.

#### **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

Motion to excuse Dr. John Whitcomb. Motion carried.

#### **BOARD MINUTES:**

Motion to approve the January 23-24, 2025 Meeting Minutes with corrections. Motion carried.

#### **CLOSED SESSION:**

Motion to move into Closed Session to discuss pending disciplinary actions in compliance with the statutory requirement that disciplinary actions remain confidential. Motion carried.

#### **OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT:**

Lead Investigator, Bianca Smith presented the Investigative Review Conference Report for approval.

Motion to approve 18 Dismissals. Motion carried.

Under formal complaints, note case 2024-484, page 10, the respondent is now deceased. The case will be administratively closed. On page 12, case 2024-542 has been pulled and placed back in active investigation as OIE has obtained significant information that affects the outcome of this case. Motion to approve 32 formal complaints (amended from 34 cases). Motion carried.

Motion to approve 14 Letters of Caution. Motion carried with one abstention.

Ms. Smith then presented the Statistical Report.

Ms. Smith announced Kasey Williams is leaving the nursing team and welcomed Olivia Bernard.

*Ms. Mitcham recused from the formal complaint section of the OIE Report and returned to the proceedings for the remainder of the OIE Report.*

*Ms. Lyerly arrived at 8:41AM*

### **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.

**2011-02 & 2011-438:** Respondent appeared before the Board to make a modification request.

Motion to deny the request for modification. Motion carried.\*

*Ms. Tara Nixon replaced Ms. Megan Flannery as Advice Counsel for this hearing.*

**2022-465:** Respondent appeared before the Board having executed a Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of determining disciplinary sanctions.

Motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement with the following disciplinary sanctions: Indefinite suspension until compliant with terms and conditions known to the Respondent and the Board. Once those terms and conditions are met, the licensee must appear before the Board. Waive the investigative costs. Motion carried with one abstention.\*

### **Open Session:**

Motion made to go back to open session. Motion carried.

### **Compliance/Application Appearances:**

**Michelle Mays:** Applicant came before the Board seeking approval to endorse her APRN license, although she does not hold a national certification in her area of specialty.

Motion to deny the request; the Board cannot provide exceptions to statutory requirements. In extremely rare cases, it has happened, but that was because the certification no longer existed and there was no path forward. Motion carried.\*

### **Closed Session:**

Motion was made to go back in to closed session based on the need to protect confidential health information. Motion carried.

**Applicant 1:** Applicant appeared via WebEx seeking RN endorsement in to South Carolina.

Motion to deny the request for licensure in South Carolina based on the Arizona action.  
Motion carried.\*

*Dr. Holder and Dr. Enos exit the proceedings at 12:11PM*

**ODC Statistical Report:**

Ms. Brown gave an updated report; no motion made.

**Open Session:**

Motion was made to go back to open session. Motion carried.

**CHAIRPERSON REPORT:**

Board Chairperson, Sallie Beth Todd, then presented her Chairperson's Report.

**NCSBN Mid-Year Meeting:**

Ms. Todd shared highlights from the meeting held mid-March in Pittsburgh, PA; requested this topic be added to the May agenda for other Board member attendees to share their experiences. No motion made.

**Strategic Plan:**

A draft of a strategic plan compiled by the workgroup has been given to Advice Counsel for further review/consideration. No motion made.

**Pre-Licensure Education Survey:**

ACONE has a work group reviewing this survey with particular focus on simulation questions. No motion made.

**BOARD EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:**

Board Executive, Carol Moody, then presented her report to the Board. It encompassed a statistical update of the number of active licensees, Board member update, Board staff update, an update on the Nurse Licensure Compact, the status of the APRN compact, a reminder for Board members to complete their Statement of Economic Interest prior to March 31<sup>st</sup>, and a review of forthcoming meetings. No motion made.

Prior to adjournment, the Board requested Dr. Carithers, Practice Consultant, further explore refresher programs for APRN's, courses appropriate for APRN's receiving disciplinary sanctions, self-help course work for any licensee and other disciplinary course offerings; her findings are to be shared at the May Board meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:47PM

\*Indicates that the Board entered into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal counsel. No official actions were taken while in Executive Session.