

**OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING, MONTPELIER, VT
BOARD OF NURSING
APPROVED MINUTES
July 9, 2012**

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM by Jeanine Carr, Chair; Board Members present: Alan Weiss, Sandra Norton, Ellen Watson, Virginia Hudson, Sheila Davis, Douglas Sutton, John Todd; Board Members absent: Deborah Swartz, William White, Donarae Metcalf; Staff members present: Nancy Morin - Administrative Assistant, Elizabeth Hansen - Nursing Program Manager, Ellen Leff, Nursing Case Manager, Larry Novins - Board Attorney, Lauren Hibbert and Gabriel Gilman - Prosecuting Attorneys; Others present: Harold Kearsley, Meredith Roberts, Janice Hansen, Raja Ramahatra, William Clements

2. Changes and Additions to the Agenda:

- J. Carr advised the Board that representatives from Vermont Technical College and Norwich University would be attending the meeting to discuss changes in their programs.

3. Approval of Minutes:

A. Weiss moved to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2012 with corrections as noted.

Pass

4. Disciplinary Proceedings:

2011-645 Raylene Pinney was not present. J. Todd moved to continue the hearing until August. J. Carr recused. **Pass**

2010-703 Melissa Morris was not present. E. Watson moved to approve the Stipulation and Consent Order and **WARN AND CONDITION** the license of Licensed Nursing Assistant **Melissa Morris**. **Pass**

2010-650 James Kreis was not present. V. Hudson moved to find James Kreis in **DEFAULT**. **Pass**

J. Todd moved to go into deliberative session at 10:34 a.m. **Pass**
The meeting resumed at 10:40 a.m. While in deliberative session the board voted to **INDEFINITELY SUSPEND** the license of Registered Nurse **James Kreis**. The Board will issue a written order.

2012-300 Julia Lynch was not present. J. Carr moved to approve the Stipulation and Consent Order and **CONDITION** the license of Registered Nurse **Julia Lynch**. **Pass**

2012-298 Cody Burt was not present. J. Todd moved to approve the Stipulation and Consent Order and **REPRIMAND and CONDITION** the license of Licensed Nursing Assistant **Cody Burt**. **Pass**

2011-189 Karen Meyers was not present. A. Weiss moved to approve the Stipulation and Consent Order and **IMPOSE AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY** on the license of

	Registered Nurse Karen Meyers.	Pass
2011-535	Sandra Remick was not present. J. Carr moved to approve the Stipulation and Consent Order and IMPOSE AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY on the license of Registered Nurse Sandra Remick.	Pass
2011-757	Leona Murphy was not present. D. Sutton moved to approve the Stipulation and Consent Order and CONDITION the license of Licensed Nursing Assistant Leona Murphy.	Pass
2010-353	Sharon Dulude was not present. D. Sutton moved to approve the Stipulation and Consent Order and IN-ACTIVE CONDITION the license of Registered Nurse Sharon Dulude.	Pass
2012-216	Zoe Kingsley was not present. E. Watson moved to approve the Stipulation and Consent Order and CONDITION the license of Registered Nurse Zoe Kingsley.	Pass

HEARING OFFICER:

Rocoberte, Harris	J. Todd moved to approve the Findings and Order and uphold the Board's original Order to DENY Harris Rocoberte's application to take the NCLEX RN Examination.	Pass
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Closing Reports:

S. Norton moved to recommend that the following complaints be concluded without charges:

- 2011-527 - J. Carr recused
 - 2011-375 - J. Carr recused
 - 2011-312 - D. Sutton recused
- Pass**

Other Disciplinary Reports:

- The Board received the Analysis of 2010 Vermont Board of Nursing Complaints, the Open Nursing Discipline Cases as of July 2, 2012 and the Board of Nursing Quarterly Licensing Statistics which were provided by E. Leff. E. Leff explained the reports and charts. The Board requested that E. Leff provide the Board with statistics on types of disciplinary actions the Board had taken in the past. The Board asked E. Leff to see if a report could be run from NURSUS on Vermont licensees who did not have a social security number to determine the number of licensees who were not practicing in Vermont or other states. The Board also requested that staff review the question on the initial and renewal application regarding convictions and whether the question should include expunged and deferred sentences.
- D. Sutton moved to request that the Nursing Assistant Education and Practice Committee review the hours and training on interpersonal skills taught in an LNA program since many of the disciplinary complaints on LNA's are related to communication deficits. **Pass**
- A. Weiss moved that the Board commend E. Leff on the great job she did with the charts and reports. **Pass**

5. **Administration, Education, Practice, Licensure**

Executive Director's Report: The Board received the written Executive Director's Report and related documents provided in the Board meeting packet. The report included:

- **Board Meetings:** -The Board of Nursing will be meeting at the Capitol Plaza in August and September.
- **Data Integrity Project:** The NURSUS Data Integrity Project is moving along on schedule. Chelsea continues to work on providing missing education data for RNs.
- **NCSBN Annual Meeting:** The NCSBN Annual meeting will be held August 8-10, 2012 in Dallas, Texas. Thus far, Deborah Swartz and Nancy Morin will be going. Please let L. Davidson know if you would like to attend.
- **Blue Ribbon Commission:** The Blue Ribbon Commission on Nursing met on June 20, 2012 at Central Vermont Medical Center. The Commission has started to formulate the recommendations that will be going forward to the Governor in the final report. One of the recommendations is to mandate the workforce data survey questions into renewals.
- **SANE Board Meeting:** The SANE Board met on June 13, 2012. The Board reviewed the purpose of data collection and the ways in which the data would be used.
- **Nursing Home Visit:** E. Hansen and L. Davidson visited Starr Farm Nursing Home for an LNA site evaluation. This trip accomplished multiple tasks. First, L. Davidson wanted to become familiar with the process of a LNA site evaluation visit. Second, L. Davidson wants to visit numerous long term care facilities in Vermont as the Board starts its work on implementing a LNA Medication Assistant program. Third, L. Davidson wanted to speak with multiple nurses and LNAs in preparation for this program in reference to what their facilities needs are and how they envision a program such as this will enhance the care their residents receive. E. Hansen and L. Davidson had a tour of the facility and met some of the nurses and LNAs.
- **Licensure** – There are no nursing renewal cycles currently in process. The next renewal will be LNAs whose licenses expire on 11/30/12. The Nursing Board Staff has started to review the renewal documents.
- **Discipline** - As of June 30, 2012 there are 199 open cases, 56 follow-up cases and 7 Alternative Program participants.

A. **Public Comments** – There were no public comments.

B. **Education Committee Report:** J. Carr reported that the Committee met on June 18th. J. Carr advised that D. Swartz and J. Carr's terms on the Education Committee run out this summer but both want to continue on the Committee. The Committee discussed the following:

- A survey to send to educators to see what they would like to have at the next educational event.
- Guidelines for approving out-of-state online distance programs
- High stakes testing in nursing programs. The NLN advises these tests should not be used to prevent students from progressing in the program or from graduating. E. Hansen has sent a mailing to the Vermont Nursing educational programs advising them of the NLN position.
- Revisions to the Annual Report forms.
- Discussion on aligning accreditation standards with Board approval standards.
- The required theory and clinical hours for LPN and RN programs.
- The LPN and RN re-entry check list for clinical experience has been revised.

E. Hansen reported that:

- The Professional Development Day for Nursing Assistant Education Program faculty was held on June 20th and more than 40 instructors attended and the evaluations were overwhelmingly positive
- Preparations for the transition to Pearson Vue as an exam vendor for the nursing assistant competency exam are proceeding rapidly. Pearson Vue will begin testing in September.

LNA Program Re-approval: Request for Approval

- **Hartford Area Career & Technology Center (River Valley Community College)** – J. Todd moved to approve Hartford Area Career & Technology Center (River Valley Community College) Program for the Biennium 2012-2014. **Pass**
- **Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center** – J. Todd moved to approve the Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center Program for the biennium 2012-2014. **Pass**
- **River Bend Career and Technical Center (Adult Program)** – E. Watson moved to approve the River Bend Career and Technical Center (Adult) Program for the biennium 2012-2014 with recommendations. **Pass**
- **Starr Farm Nursing Center** - E. Watson moved to approve the Starr Farm Nursing Center Program for the biennium 2012-2014 with recommendations.. 7 Yes 1 No. **Pass**
- **Bennington Health and Rehabilitation** – J. Todd moved to approve the Bennington Health and Rehabilitation Program with recommendations. **Pass**

Licensed Nursing Assistant Program Status Change

- The Board received a copy of the letter that was sent regarding the proposed plan for Barre Technical center to become a satellite of Randolph Technical career Center
- The Board received a copy of the letter that was sent to Greensboro Nursing Home regarding their request for a voluntary closure of their Licensed Nursing Assistant Educational Program

Nursing Education Programs

- **Vermont Technical College Provisional Approval for an Online RN to BSN Program** – Meredith Roberts from VTC appeared before the Board to discuss VTC's request for provisional approval of an online RN to BSN Program. E. Watson moved to grant Provisional Approval Step 1 for an online RN to BSN Program. **Pass**
- **Norwich University's Progress Report and Interim Director Request-** Rija Ramahatra, Harold Kearsley, Janice Hansen and William Clements appeared before the Board to discuss Norwich University's MS program progress report that asked for clarification about the organizational structure, the role of the Assistant Program Director and the fact that Janice Hansen has been appointed Interim Director until a Director with a Doctorate degree can be hired for the program. Dr. Clements described the organizational structure that exists at Norwich and the fact that the School of Graduate Studies and Continuing Studies is a separate entity from the undergraduate programs. Therefore the graduate and undergraduate nursing programs function in separate units

and have a collaborative and consultative relationship, which is illustrated in the organizational chart that was provided. Clarification of the role of the Assistant Program Director for the Master's program was also provided. Rija Ramahatra is the Assistant Program Director and he provided an overview of his responsibilities which are focused on program support for faculty and students. Each graduate program at Norwich has an Assistant Program Director and his responsibilities for support are focused on the on-line master's program in nursing. In terms of the appointment of the interim Director, a search committee has been formed and a national search is underway for a doctorally prepared Director. J. Carr moved that Norwich University must respond to the letter that was sent to them by August 20th and that the Norwich MS program must submit a progress report every 90 days to update the Board on their search for a doctorate prepared Program Director.

C. Practice Committee – D. Sutton reported that the Practice Committee had not met since the June Board meeting.

D. APRN Sub-committee: L. Davidson reported, in her Executive Director's Report, that the APRN Sub-Committee will be meeting on August 22, 2012.

6. Other Business:

- There was no other Business.

7. Adjournment: J. Carr moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Pass

Minutes recorded by: Nancy Morin, Administrative Assistant
Draft minutes reviewed by: Linda Davidson, Executive Director
Date minutes approved by Vermont Board of Nursing: August 13, 2012