

**OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
89 MAIN STREET 3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR MONTPELIER, VT  
BOARD OF NURSING  
UNAPPROVED MINUTES  
March 8, 2021  
Remote Meeting**

**1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by Ellen Watson — Chair

**Board members present:** Ellen Watson, Luana Tredwell, Deborah Swartz, William White, Jennifer Laurent, Daniel Coane, Douglas Sutton, Kelly Sinclair, Wendy Thurston, Krystal Bernier

**Board members absent:** None

**Staff members present:** Shiela Boni, Nursing Board Executive Officer, Carrie Phillips, Pharmacy Board Executive Officer; Gabriel Gilman, General Counsel; George Belcher, Administrative Law Officer; Kristin Donnelly, Licensing Administrator; Beth Kneen, Docket Clerk; Ellen Leff, Case Manager; Michael Warren, Chief Investigator

**Prosecuting Attorneys:** Elizabeth St. James, Jennifer Colin, Benjamin Novogroski, Traci Leibowitz

**Guests:** Rebecca Blake, Lavanda Lewis, Sophia Taylor, Carley Sedlar, Corey Bennett, Favour Mgbeahurike, Kyrsten Schreiber, Liam Coffey, Reagan Sanborn, William Pettersen

**Changes and Additions to the Agenda:**

- A discussion of emergency licensing provisions was added.

**2. Approval of Minutes from February 8, 2021**

- Daniel Coane moved to approve the minutes as written. William White seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Executive Officer Report**

- Shiela Boni shared the February 2021 Executive Officer report with Board members present.

**4. Discipline**

**a. 2021-28– Taylor, Sophia- Request for Summary Suspension**

Sophia Taylor was present. Krystal Bernier moved to summarily suspend the license of RN Sophia Taylor. Wendy Thurston seconded. The motion passed unanimously; Douglas Sutton recused from voting.

**b. 2020-28– Van Alstyne, Anna – Stipulation & Consent Order**

Anna Van Alstyne was not present. Deborah Swartz moved to accept the proposed Stipulation & Consent Order to indefinitely suspend the license of LPN Anna Van Alstyne. Jennifer Laurent seconded. The motion passed unanimously; Douglas Sutton recused from voting.

**c. 2020-107 – Blake, Rebecca – Stipulation & Consent Order**

Rebecca Blake was present. Daniel Coane moved to approve the proposed

Stipulation & Consent Order to warn the license of LPN Rebecca Blake. Luana Tredwell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

d. 2020-74 – **Ayres, Jessica** – Stipulation & Consent Order

Jessica Ayres and her counsel were present. The Board went into deliberation at 10:05 and reconvened at 10:24. Jennifer Laurent moved to reject the proposed Stipulation & Consent Order. Krystal Bernier seconded. The motion passed unanimously; Douglas Sutton recused from voting.

e. 2021-3 – **Lewis, Lavanda** – Stipulation & Consent Order

Lavanda Lewis was present. Douglas Sutton moved to accept the proposed Stipulation & Consent Order to warn the license of RN Lavanda Lewis. Deborah Swartz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

f. 2020-27 – **Murray, Stephanie** – Stipulation & Consent Order

Stephanie Murray was not present. Jennifer Laurent moved to accept the proposed Stipulation & Consent Order to indefinitely suspend the license of LNA Stephanie Murray. Wendy Thurston seconded. The motion passed unanimously; Kelly Sinclair recused from voting.

g. 2020-123 – **Sullivan, Wade** – Stipulation & Consent Order

Wade Sullivan was not present. Douglas Sutton moved to accept the proposed Stipulation & Consent Order to condition the license of RN Wade Sullivan. The motion passed unanimously; Ellen Watson recused from voting.

h. 2020-46 – **Patenaude, Taylor** – Stipulation & Consent Order

Taylor Patenaude was not present. Daniel Coane moved to accept the proposed Stipulation & Consent Order to indefinitely suspend the license of LNA Taylor Patenaude. William White seconded. The motion passed unanimously; Krystal Bernier recused from voting.

i. 2020-79 – **Nelson, Marietta** – Stipulation & Consent Order

Marietta Nelson was not present. Krystal Bernier moved to accept the proposed Stipulation & Consent order to indefinitely suspend the license of LNA Marietta Nelson. Deborah Swartz seconded. The motion passed unanimously; Ellen Watson recused from voting.

j. 2020-121 – **Bouffard, Beverly** – Default Order

Beverly Bouffard was not present. William White moved to accept the proposed Default Order to revoke the license of LNA Beverly Bouffard. Douglas Sutton seconded. The motion passed unanimously; Luana Tredwell abstained from voting.

## 5. Topics for Discussion

- a. Emergency Licensing: The current emergency licensing provisions expire on 3/31/21 and OPR anticipates the legislature will vote to extend this date further. Gabriel Gilman confirmed the emergency license is intended for nursing graduates who cannot reasonably schedule their NCLEX exam during the State of Emergency. Upon final confirmation that the NCLEX is broadly available without undue delay, there will be no legal basis to issue new

emergency nursing licenses, and OPR will switch off that path to licensure.

**6. Public Comment:** None

**7. Adjournment**

Deborah Swartz moved to adjourn the meeting; Daniel Coane seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:22 AM.

Next Scheduled Meeting –April 12, 2021 at 9:00 AM.  
Please check the office [website](#) for updates