

The **Board of Examiners for Nursing** held a meeting on August 15, 2012 at the Legislative Office Building, Room 1-A, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Tarah Cherry, Public Member
Heidi Darling, LPN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN *via telephone from 8:40 AM to 9:00 AM*

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary M. Brown, RN
Jennifer Long, APRN
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ALSO PRESENT: Stacy M. Schulman, Counsel to the Board, DPH
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, DPH
Pamela Pelletier, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Joelle Newton, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
David Tilles, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Ralph Efird, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:40 AM.

Currently there are only six Board Members appointed by the Governor's Office. Therefore, 4 Board Members meets the quorum of 51%. The CT Board of Examiners for Nursing is a twelve Member Board whose Members are appointed by the Governor.

STUDENTS

There were no students in attendance at this meeting.

SCHOOL ISSUES:

WAIVER REQUEST: FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY

There was no one present from the program. Pam Pelletier apprised the Board that the Nursing Program is requesting a permanent waiver for Diane Avery, RN, MA, and provided the Board with Ms. Avery's educational background.

Tarah Cherry moved and Heidi Darling seconded that Ms. Avery be granted permanent waiver status at the Fairfield University Nursing Program only. Permanent Waivers are not portable to another institution. The motion passed unanimously.

Heidi Darling moved, seconded by Maria Pietrantuono, to grant the request with the understanding that Ms. Avery will only have clinical rotations within the VA setting. The motion passed unanimously.

WAIVER REQUEST: NAUGATUCK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (NVCC)

Eileen George, Academic Director of Allied Health and Nursing at NVCC, was present for this discussion. Pam Pelletier apprised the Board that the NVCC Nursing Program is requesting a one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Heidi Aleman, RN, BSN, who is currently enrolled in the MSN Program at Sacred Heart University, has an anticipated graduation date of December 2012.

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Tarah Cherry seconded to grant the program's six month waiver request for Ms. Aleman. The motion passed unanimously.

WAIVER REQUEST: THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE (TRCC)

Ellen Freeman, Director of Nursing and Allied Health at TRCC, was unable to attend today's Board meeting. Pam Pelletier provided the Board with Ms. Freeman's request for a one-year temporary faculty education waiver for Michelle Bull, RN, BSN. Ms. Bull is currently enrolled in the CNL MS Program at Sacred Heart University and is currently on track with her plan of study and scheduled to complete degree requirements during the spring term for the 2013/2014 academic year.

Heidi Darling moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to grant the program's one-year temporary waiver request for Ms. Bull. The motion passed unanimously.

WAIVER REQUEST: QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

Pam Pelletier apprised the Board of the educational background for all three candidates. There was no one present from the program.

KATHLEEN CALVO

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Tarah Cherry, to deny the permanent waiver request for Ms. Calvo. The Board referred to Section 20-90-51(e)(2) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. The motion passed unanimously.

LISA GUERRIERI

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Tarah Cherry, to deny the permanent waiver request for Ms. Guerrieri. The Board referred to Section 20-90-51(e)(2) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. The motion passed unanimously.

NANCY STANTON

Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Tarah Cherry, to grant the permanent waiver request for Nancy Stanton. The motion passed unanimously.

PORTER AND CHESTER INSTITUTE – NEW SUPERVISOR – WATERTOWN CAMPUS

Present from the program were Audrey Szczesiul, Interim Corporate Director, Robin Thebarger, the new LPN Program Supervisor at the Watertown Campus, and Patricia Donovan the new Practical Nursing Program Director for all campuses.

Tarah Cherry moved, seconded by Heidi Darling, to accept the credentials of Patricia Donovan as the new Practical Nursing Program Director. The motion passed unanimously.

Tarah Cherry also moved, which was seconded by Heidi Darling, to accept the credentials of Robin Thebarger as the new LPN Program Supervisor, and Audrey Szczesiul will return to a faculty position at the Enfield campus. The motion passed unanimously.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION:

Janice E. Wojick presented the Board with the following Memoranda of Decision:

BEVERLY A. BURKE, LPN

Heidi Darling moved and Tarah Cherry seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to place Ms. Burke's license on probation for one year. The motion passed unanimously.

RENEE KROFFSIK, RN

Heidi Darling moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Ms. Kroffsik's license. The motion passed unanimously.

LESLIE MATEJEK, RN

Maria Pietrantuono moved and Tarah Cherry seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to continue Ms. Matejek's probation through February 1, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

VIRGINIA PAYTON, RN

Heidi Darling moved and Tarah Cherry seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Ms. Payton's license. The motion passed unanimously.

TANIA THOMAS, LPN

Tabled to the September 5th Board Meeting.

PATRICIA YURKAS, RN

Heidi Darling moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to place Ms. Yurkas' license on probation for six months. The motion passed unanimously.

Break 9:40 AM – 9:55 AM

HEARING – CAROLE RUGGIERO-RUIZ, RN

Legal Office Attorney Joelle Newton was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Ruggiero-Ruiz was present with counsel, Attorney Martha Murray. Testimony was provided by the Respondent and Mr. Kenneth Wein, CRNA and brother-in-law to Ms. Ruggiero-Ruiz. Due to lack of a quorum, the record will be kept open for additional questioning from Board Members who were not in attendance at the hearing. This will take place at the September 5, 2012 Board Meeting and Fact Finding will also take place at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 10:50 AM.

Patricia C. Bouffard, Chair
Board of Examiners for Nursing