

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 6, 2023**

ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Physician Assistant Committee was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Tamara Dolphens, PA-C, Chairperson in the Husker Conference Room, of the Hampton Inn & Suites, located at 7343 Husker Circle, Lincoln, Nebraska 68504. The meeting was held In-Person and by WebEx. The following members answered the initial roll call:

Tamara Dolphens, PA-C, Chairperson
Nicole Schwensow, PA-C - Vice Chairperson
Merle Henkenius, Secretary

Absent: Corrigan McBride, MD
John Massey, MD

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened. Present from the Department was Jesse Cushman, Program Manager and Jan Gadeken-Harris, Health Licensing Coordinator; T. J. O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General; Suzanna Glover-Ettrich, Department Attorney via WebEx and Dennis Scott, Program Manager with the Investigation Unit by WebEx.

Dolphens announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Committee members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>, and posted in the Licensure Unit on December 21, 2022.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Henkenius moved, seconded by Schwensow, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Massey and McBride. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Henkenius moved, seconded by Schwensow to approve the meeting minutes of September 30, 2022 as written. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Massey and McBride. Motion carried.

DESIGNATION OF THE METHOD BY WHICH THIS BODY WILL GIVE PUBLIC NOTICE OF ITS MEETINGS

Jan Gadeken-Harris explained that the Committee needs to inform the public each year of the method by which the Committee will provide notice of their meetings. In the past, the Committee had chosen to post meeting agendas on the Bulletin Board at the Nebraska State Office Building, to e-mail agendas to the interested parties list, and to post agendas on the Department's website. Henkenius moved, seconded by Schwensow, to continue the same method that the Department has been using to provide public notice of this Committee's meetings by posting meeting agendas at the Nebraska State Office Building, by e-mailing agendas to the interested parties list, and by posting agendas on the Department's website. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Massey and McBride. Motion carried.

2023 LEGISLATION UPDATES

There were no comments at this time.

REGULATIONS UPDATE

Title 172 Chapter 90 Licensure and Supervision of Physician Assistants proposed draft revisions regarding the passage of LB390 Reciprocity were reviewed by the Committee. Henkenius moved, seconded by Schwensow to approve the proposed draft regulations as written. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Massey and McBride. Motion carried.

INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS – CLOSED SESSION

Henkenius moved, seconded by Schwensow to go into closed session at 2:13 p.m. for the purpose of review and discussion of investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Massey and McBride. Motion carried.

The committee members returned to Open Session at 2:39 p.m.

APPLICATION(S) REVIEW – OPEN SESSION

There were no applications for review at this time.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Henkenius moved, seconded by Schwensow to elect new officers for 2023 as follows:

Chairperson: Nicole Schwensow, PA-C

Vice Chairperson: Tamara A. Dolphens, PA-C

Secretary: Merle J. Henkenius

Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius and Schwensow. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Massey and McBride. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

The next Physician Assistant Committee meeting is scheduled March 31, 2023.

The schedule for 2023 is listed on the DHHS website:

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Dolphens, Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

signature available upon request

Merle Henkenius, Secretary
Physician Assistant Committee