



**MINUTES OF THE
ADVANCED PRACTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

November 13th, 2007

DRAFT

(Final minutes will be available on the Board's website <http://www.nevadanursingboard.org> after ratification by the committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting).

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Nevada State Board of Nursing Advanced Practice Advisory Committee was called to order by Debra Scott, MSN, RN, APN, Executive Director, at 3:05 p.m., via videoconference at the Board of Nursing, 5011 Meadowood Mall Way, #300, Reno, Nevada, 89502, and the Board of Nursing, 2500 W. Sahara, #207, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89102.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Debra Scott, MSN, RN, APN, Executive Director, Chair
Amy Booth, MSN, RN, APN
Tricia Brown, MSN, RN, APN
George Cox, MS, RN, CRNA
Phyllis Suiter, MA, RN, APN
Rhigel Jay Tan, MSN, RN, APN
Susan VanBeuge, MSN, RN, APN

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ronnie Wing, MSN, RN, CRNA

OTHERS PRESENT

Fred Olmstead, Board General Counsel
Jeanette Belz, Nevada State Society of Anesthesiologists (NSSA)
Gina Kronenberg, CRNA, Nevada Association of Nurse Anesthetists
Jonathan Zucker, MD, NSSA

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by D. Scott, committee chair.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 29, 2007: It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2007 meeting of the APN Advisory Committee as written.

B. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Report from the July, September, and November 2007 Board meetings: D. Scott reported on the outcomes of the last three Board meetings as related to APN issues, including the Board's approval of the Affidavit-APN policy and procedure which requires the applicant to submit an official transcript before being issued a permanent APN certificate of recognition.
2. Discussion regarding APN protocols (specifically drug list): D. Scott discussed the proposed regulation change regarding the necessity of APNs having a "drug list" as part of their protocols. The proposed wording recommends that the regulation be changed to say that the APN must have a "drug class list" rather than what is now in regulation, "a drug list."
3. Review, discussion and action regarding regulation changes to clarify protocol language: D. Scott reiterated the proposed changes and recommended that the committee members and any other interested persons attend the regulation workshop on November 30, 2007, at 10:00 am which will be videoconferenced between the NSBN's Reno and Las Vegas office sites. She also suggested individuals submit written testimony to be read into the record if they are unable to attend the workshop or hearing. The hearing is scheduled during the January 16-18, 2008, Board meeting in Las Vegas.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review and discussion regarding scope of practice question regarding APNs doing colonoscopies: D. Scott discussed the results of a survey done by NCSBN related to APN scope of practice related to colonoscopies. The committee members stated that had no knowledge of APNs performing colonoscopies in Nevada, but at least one committee member was aware of certification courses for APNs to learn to do them. The committee concluded that, in order for APNs in Nevada to perform this procedure, they would need to follow the scope of practice decision tree, be competent to do the procedure, and be certified to do so. D. Scott also recommended that an APN research nursing articles to determine if APNs across the country were doing this procedure, utilizing the CINAHL process.
2. Review and discussion regarding anesthesiologist assistants: D. Scott introduced this agenda item, requesting that the committee utilize this time to discuss any information that they were aware of regarding anesthesiologist assistants (AAs). G. Kronenberg, CRNA, president of the Nevada Association of Nurse Anesthetists (NVANA), provided information from the literature about the role of AAs, comparing their scope of practice with that of CRNAs. J. Zucker, MD, president of the Nevada State Society of Anesthesiologists (NSSA), relayed further information about this type of practitioner. The intent of the discussion was to make the committee members more aware of AAs for further discussion at a later time.
3. Discussion regarding having board certification be a requirement for APNs in Nevada to be certified: D. Scott and T. Brown gave a historical perspective of Nevada's decision to not require all APNs to be certified in their specialties. A. Booth suggested that it is important to "raise the bar" as far as qualifications for certification. The committee discussed the use of "grandfathering" current APNs. D. Scott offered to bring information back to the committee about how many states require specialty certification for licensure/certification of advanced practice nurses. P. Suiter offered to bring further information about the requirements for certification in her specialty.

4. Discussion regarding *Changes in Healthcare Professions' Scope of Practice: Legislative Considerations*: D. Scott gave a quick overview of this publication, but since the committee members had not received this document, the committee suggested that it be put on the next committee agenda for further discussion.
5. Discussion regarding CRNA/APN audits: D. Scott distributed the forms that the NSBN staff utilized for auditing advanced practice nurses. She described the process and answered questions that the committee members had regarding the audit process. She stated that audits were done on individuals on a purely random basis, a process devised by the Board's information technology officer. She stated that noncompliance in responding to an audit letter may result in discipline, but that Board staff work closely with APNs to meet the audit criteria, allowing adequate time for individuals to produce the required documents.
6. Discussion and action regarding 2008 committee meeting schedule: The committee decided on the following 2008 meeting dates: February 12, May 20, August 26, and November 4, 2008.
7. Suggestions for agenda items for next meeting: The committee recommended that the *Changes in Healthcare Professions' Scope of Practice: Legislative Considerations* document and further information about requiring specialty certification for APNs be put on the next meeting's agenda.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.