

Nevada State Board of **NURSING**

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2020

The Nevada State Board of Nursing Board Meeting was called to order by President, Mary-Ann Brown, MSN, RN, at 9:00am. on April 14, 2020 via telephonic conference call.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mary-Ann Brown, MSN, RN, RN Member, President
Jacob Watts, CNA, CNA Member, Vice President
Ovidia McGuinness, LPN, LPN Member, Secretary
Deena McKenzie, MSN, RN, RN Member
Susan VanBeuge, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, CNE, FAANP, RN Member
Richelle O'Driscoll, Consumer Member
Branden Murphy, MSNed, CPN, CCRN, RN Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHER'S PRESENT

Cathy Dinauer, MSN, RN, Executive Director
Fred Olmstead, General Counsel
Kimberly A. Arguello, General Counsel
Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General
Sam McCord, BSN, RN, Director of Nursing Practice
Michelle Johnson, EdD, RN, CPNP-PC, Director of Nursing Education
Sydney Chappell, Executive Assistant
Rhoda Hernandez, IT Technician
Gail Trujillo, CP, Director of Licensure and Certification, Human Resources

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am, on Tuesday, April 14, 2020.

Public Comment:

- Carla Wright, Program Director of the nursing assistant course at the College of Southern Nevada, personally thanked C. Dinauer, M. Johnson, and staff for supporting schools and nurses during the current events. Governor Sisolak's Directive of Emergency sections 1-13 have not addressed Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certifications and there is a lack of acknowledgement for CNAs at this time. Testing for CNAs is stalled and some CNAs have experienced difficulties rescheduling testing before their one-year from graduation expires. Nursing assistants with expired certifications who wish to rejoin the workforce are not able to reactivate their certificates under current rules. The number of CNAs available to work in Nevada will not be able to keep up with the demand.

A. Board Governance and Administration

1. Review, discussion, and possible action regarding the role of Virtual Simulation as a means of providing simulated clinical experience in nursing programs in the State of Nevada: C. Dinauer reminded Board Members of the limited authority previously granted to the Executive Director allowing flexibility in clinical placements in response to the Nevada State of Emergency. F. Olmstead and Dr. M. Johnson presented this agenda item. F. Olmstead explained the history and policies surrounding the practice of virtual simulation in nursing education. Nursing education requires nursing students to participate in a certain number of hours of hands-on clinical experience. Some of that clinical experience can be obtained by participation in a clinical simulation laboratory on mannequins. During this Nevada State of Emergency, nursing students cannot participate in hands-on clinical experience because clinical sites have closed that option. Additionally, nursing students cannot participate in nursing school clinical simulation laboratories because the nursing schools have closed their physical locations. There was discussion about the merits and validity of virtual simulation experiences. It is requested that nursing schools be allowed to use virtual simulation in place of clinical experience. Dr. M. Johnson answered questions from Board Members. Dr. M. Johnson clarified that Certified Nursing Assistant programs are not allowed to utilize virtual simulation. It was moved and seconded to allow a 2:1 ratio of clinical practicum hours with virtual simulation in nursing programs in the State of Nevada. This use of virtual simulation in place of clinical experience is permitted until the date 90 days after the termination of the Nevada State of Emergency. MOTION CARRIED.
2. Executive Directors Report: C. Dinauer notified the Board Members of Emergency Directive 013. C. Dinauer explained that Board Staff reading and implementing changes if applicable in response to each Emergency Directive. Emergency Directive Order 011 waived certain licensure requirements thereby allowing nurses who have an active, unencumbered license in another state to come to the State of Nevada to practice. A notice letter has been developed for nurses to complete and then submit to the Board in order to track individuals coming to the state. At this time, 224 waivers have been submitted. Each individual who has submitted the notice letter will be contacted to inquire if they want to be licensed in the State of Nevada after the State of Emergency has ended. The Nevada State Board of Nursing website is continuously updated including COVID-19 memos and notifications. National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) testing sites have opened in Las Vegas and Reno. Interim permits are still being issued to new graduates of nursing programs. These permits are valid for ninety (90) days and will be extended if needed. Headmaster has also opened two (2) testing sites for certified nursing assistant students, one in Las Vegas and one in Reno. F. Olmstead explained federal regulations and the CMS waiver provided is for Nursing Aides, which the Board of Nursing do not regulate. Information regarding F. Olmstead's presentation was requested to be posted on the Nevada State Board of Nursing website. Battle Board Medical Corps currently has an additional 220 volunteer nurses in Nevada. The Board Staff is keeping social distancing by continuing to have both offices closed to the public and limiting staff in office to five at a time. Financials regarding COVID-19 will be presented next Board Meeting. S. McCord explained to the Board Members all scope of practice questions are still being handled by staff and addressed. Board Members thanked C. Dinauer and staff for information posted on website.

ACTION

- B. Nursing Practice- No Business
- C. Education- No Business
- D. Discipline Programs

1. Applications (initial and renewal in question)

a. Antimo, William, RN applicant: K. Arguello presented this item. Applicant was present telephonically. W. Antimo made a statement. It was moved and seconded to accept the application for licensure. MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION

b. Feicht, Heidi, CNA applicant: K. Arguello presented this item. Applicant was present telephonically. H. Feicht made a statement. It was moved and seconded to accept the application for licensure. MOTION CARRIED

ACTION

c. Govian, Alonzo, CNA applicant: K. Arguello presented this item. Applicant was present telephonically. A. Govian made a statement. It was moved and seconded to accept the application for licensure. MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION

d. Becker, Richard, RN applicant: K. Arguello presented this item. Applicant was present telephonically. R. Becker made a statement. It was moved and seconded to accept the application for licensure. MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION

e. Sabatini, William, RN applicant, CRNA applicant: Applicant requested agenda item to be pulled and continued to next Board Meeting. It was moved and seconded to continue agenda item to next appropriate Board Meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION

Public Comment:

- Board President, M. Brown thanked all nurses of Nevada for care and proud to be a nurse and part of a state that has responded eloquently to the pandemic. She also thanked the Board Staff for their work.
- Angela A. from the University of Las Vegas thanked the Board for being responsive during current events.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:21am on Tuesday, April 14, 2020.