

President Keith Vance called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Due to the COVID-19 state of emergency, the meeting was convened by teleconference. Board Members Robert Graves, Andy Bowman, Gene Minton, Ashley Duggins, and Bill Mixon on the call. Members of the public also attended the meeting via teleconference.

Ethics Statement & Welcome

President Vance read the Ethics Statement regarding conflicts of interest and/or appearances of conflicts of interest of any Board member. No conflicts were noted by Board members.

Consideration of Minutes of the March Board Meeting and March 24, 26 2020 Conference Calls

The members received the March 17, 2020 meeting minutes and the minutes of the March 24 and March 26, 2020 teleconference meetings for review. It was moved by Mr. Mixon, seconded by Dr. Bowman, to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Report on NABP Passport Implementation

Missy Betz, Director of Licensing, reported that NABP Passport had approved 1,400 pharmacists and 700 pharmacy technicians. Mr. Campbell explained that not all applicants were working in North Carolina, but were probably applying to all states that are recognizing the Passport credential during the COVID-19 crisis. With NABP's help, Board staff will be posting weekly updated lists of Passport holders so that employing pharmacies can easily verify that credential.

Temporary License Reactivations

Ms. Betz reported there have been only been two temporary reactivations of recently-inactivated pharmacist licenses as allowed under the terms of the Board's March 20, 2020 waiver pursuant to NCGS § 90-85.15(a).

New Pharmacy Graduates

Testing Center Availability Currently, Pearson Vue has 150 testing centers open, with priority for seating slots (reduced total seats in each center to comply with social distancing requirements) going to essential service providers – which includes pharmacists. After May 1st, more sites will come on-line. There will be capacity for testing but just not as robust. Board staff continue to monitor the testing landscape and report to the members as needed.

MPJE Remote Proctoring Efforts NABP is exploring the possibility of test-at-home MPJE options with remote proctoring. NABP will be reaching out to the individual states concerning their desire/concerns about a remote-proctored version of the MPJE. After concerns were voiced, Mr. Campbell asked Dr. Bowman to join future conversations with NABP on topic. Dr. Bowman agreed and suggest including Dr. Charles Scott Asbill, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at Campbell.

High Point University Accreditation Status Notwithstanding the COVID-19 caused delay in High Point University's final accreditation visit, High Point graduates will be eligible under North Carolina law to sit for licensure. Per ACPE standards, High Point's candidate status means that its graduates are treated as graduates of an "accredited" program, as required by North Carolina law.s

UNC Health Care Waiver Request for Remote Supervision of Technician Compounding

UNC Health Care (vis Tim Weber) has submitted a request for waiver of rules to allow remote supervision of technicians performing compounding functions. UNC has asked for two waivers: (1) allow technicians performing compounding functions at a UNC facility that provides 24/7 services to be supervised remotely by pharmacist at that facility, but not necessarily stationed outside the cleanroom; and (2) allow technicians performing compounding functions at a UNC facility that does not provide 24/7 services to be supervised remotely even though a pharmacist is not on site at all times. After discussion Mr. Mixon moved to grant the request limited to the express terms of the proposal submitted and for the length of the declared COVID-19 state of emergency. Mr. Graves seconded. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

RespirTech Request for Partial Waiver of 21 NCAC 46.2504, .2610, and .2611

DME supplier RespirTech submitted a request for the waiver of rules that require in-person demonstration, assessment, and fitting requirements for DME products. After significant discussion, the members concluded that lack of in-person instruction on the respiratory care devices and equipment provided by the requestor posed too great a risk to the public health and safety. Mr. Mixon moved to refuse the waiver request. Mr. Graves seconded. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Inquiries Concerning Waiver of Pharmacy Permit Requirement

Board staff have received a handful of inquiries concerning potential waiver of the requirement for on out-of-state pharmacy to obtain a permit to provide services in North Carolina. No such waiver is currently in place. Board staff does not see any need to

implement one. There is no evidence that pharmacies holding North Carolina permits are unable to meet demand. Moreover, Board staff is concerned that the lack of a vetting process for pharmacies poses a substantially high risk to the public than does waiver of individual license requirements (coupled to the Passport vetting process).

Rulemaking Update

Revamp of DME Committee The DME appointment rule (21 NCAC 46 .1207) is now in effect, replacing the election of DME Subcommittee members. The Board will appoint members of the DME Subcommittee along with the members of the Board's other subcommittees at the May meeting. All of the current (non-Board member) DME Subcommittee members have said that they would like to continue to serve. The Board may, but is not required to, reappoint the existing members. If the Board members or members of the public have other nominations, we would request that those nominations and any supporting documents be communicated to Cindy Parham by May 12 (two weeks in advance of the May meeting), so that they may be circulated.

The emergency COVID-19 Drug Preservation Rule is now in place. The Board will hold a public hearing on May 8 by teleconference to determine whether to extend this rule as a temporary rule. Due to the unique timing requirements of temporary rulemaking, that public hearing will be a standalone hearing that will not take place in connection with a normal Board meeting. The Board members are invited to participate, or Board staff will collect and communicate any comments when the Board votes at the May 26 meeting. Call-in information will be circulated.

The public hearing on the procedural hearing rules is scheduled for the May 26 Board meeting. Because it was noticed before the state of emergency, this hearing is noticed as an in-person hearing at the start of that meeting, as usual. At this point, the Board staff proposes to leave that public hearing as scheduled. The Governor's stay-at-home order is still set to expire before that meeting. Board staff will make changes to that plan as necessary, which may include (a) moving the public hearing to conference call (which requires revised notice through the Rules Division) or (b) holding the public hearing in-person (potentially outdoors) as scheduled and communicating the comments to the Board. The Board staff will do what is best to encourage comments, consistent with public safety, in light of the previous noticed time, place and method of the public hearing.

Technical Change to 21 NCAC 46.1601 The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy has re-branded its Verified Internet Pharmacy Practice Site ("VIPPS") program as "Digital Pharmacy Accreditation." 21 NCAC 46 .1601 refers to VIPPS by name. In order to update the rule, Board staff recommends adoption of the attached rule amendment. The Rules

Division advises that, because there is no change in the substance of the rule, there is no need for notice and comment, and the Codifier of Rules can simply change the name in the rule if the Board adopts the amendment. Mr. Graves moved to adopt the amendment. Dr. Vance seconded. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Board Member Elections Runoff Results

Wallace Nelson Elected to Northeastern District Seat

Recognition of Gene Minton, 10 Years of Board Service Mr. Campbell expressed his appreciation and that of the Board staff for Mr. Minton's 10 years of service with the Board. Each of the Board members also gave tribute to Mr. Minton for his work. Mr. Minton said it was the most rewarding thing he had ever done – truly a remarkable experience.

Appointment Process Mr. Campbell explained the appointment process and where we are in the process.

Northeastern and Central District Seats As a returning member, Dr. Duggins simply continues her service. Mr. Nelson must be commissioned and Mr. Minton will continue to serve until that has been done.

Public Member Position Mr. Campbell reminded the Board that the Governor would either renew Mr. Graves' appointment or select a new Public Member. Until then Mr. Graves remains with the Board.

Financials

The members received the monthly financial report prior to this meeting. The members reviewed the report and had no questions.

Investigative Statistics

Krystal Stefanyk, Director of Investigations, presented the March 2020 investigations report.

2020 Renewal Update

Pharmacy Closure Data Ms. Betz presented the pharmacy closure data Mr. Mixon requested at the last Board meeting.

Board Member Retreat Planning, July 20-21, 2020, Chapel Hill, NC

Mr. Campbell reported that he was continuing to monitor the situation.

NABP Annual Meeting The annual meeting has converted to a one-day virtual meeting on Thursday, May 14, 2020.

Delegate Confirmation Dr. Vance will be the NCBOP delegate and Dr. Duggins will be the alternate. There will be a streaming service for the remaining members, which Mr. Campbell will publish when available.

Reports to the Board

No one spoke during the Reports to the Board agenda item.

Consent Agenda

On a motion from Mr. Minton, seconded by President Vance, the Board approved the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

The following items were approved.

Prehearing Conference**Consent Orders****Reciprocity Candidates**

License Number	First Name	Last Name	License Type	Licensed Date
29423	Christopher	Burris	Pharmacist	3/19/2020
29426	Ramez	Hanna	Pharmacist	3/19/2020

29425	Kathryn	Deschner	Pharmacist	3/19/2020
29429	Jennifer	Yarbray	Pharmacist	3/19/2020
29427	Ashley	Saumell	Pharmacist	3/19/2020
29428	Katie	Teplitskaya	Pharmacist	3/19/2020
29424	Joseph	Chun	Pharmacist	3/19/2020
29436	Kyrillos	Elsobky	Pharmacist	4/16/2020

CPP Candidates

LicenseNumber	FirstName	LastName	LicensedDate
700243	Cortney	Mospan	3/30/2020
700244	Laura	Mincemoyer	3/30/2020
700242	Ethan	Sebring	3/30/2020
700245	Manal	Elnabity	3/30/2020
700246	Courtney	Harper	3/31/2020

Increase in Pharmacists to Technician Ratio

Permit Number	Pharmacy	ProcessType	Complete Date
4955	Blue Ridge Pharmacy Midtown	PT Ratio Change 1:4	3/18/2020
12706	Publix	PT Ratio Change 1:3	3/27/2020

12218	Walgreens	PT Ratio Change 1:4	3/27/2020
13942	Anderson's Drug Store	PT Ratio Change 1:4	3/27/2020
3075	Hardin's Drug	PT Ratio Change 1:4	3/27/2020
13134	Publix	PT Ratio Change 1:3	4/1/2020
13999	Drexel Discount Drug	PT Ratio Change 1:4	4/6/2020
13079	Realo Discount Drugs	PT Ratio Change 1:3	4/14/2020
14264	Walgreens	PT Ratio Change 1:4	4/16/2020

Closed Session

On a motion from Mr. Graves, seconded by Dr. Vance with no dissenting votes, the Board moved into closed session to discuss possible summary suspensions.

When open session resumed on a motion from Dr. Vance, seconded by Mr. Graves with no dissenting votes. Dr. Vance stated that the Board summary suspended Registration No. 56325 issued to Kristina Ledbetter and Permit No. 01711 issued to JJ Medical dba Ramat Medical.

On a motion from Dr. Bowman, seconded by Mr. Mixon with no dissenting votes, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:55 am.

Dr. Keith Vance, President

Gene Minton

William A. Mixon

Robert Graves

Dr. Andy Bowman

Dr. Ashley Duggins