



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery  
Meeting Minutes**

**\*\*DRAFT\*\***

June 2, 2023  
9:00 a.m.

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On June 2, 2023 the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery held a hybrid meeting at Lacey Community Center, 6729 Pacific Ave. S.E., Olympia, WA 98503.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Alex Sobel, DO, Chair  
Lisa Galbraith, DO  
Patrice Konschuh, Public Member  
Tania Hernandez, DO  
Kevin Ware, DO  
Kim Morrisette, DO  
Yuri Tsirulnikov, DO

**STAFF PRESENT**

Becky McElhiney, Program Manager  
James Chaney, Executive Director  
Cassandra Gerard, Administrative Assistant  
Heather Carter, Assistant Attorney General  
Heather Cantrell, Policy Analyst  
Pam Bright, Case Manager  
Ashley Maxwell, Supervising Staff Attorney  
Roman Dixon, Chief Health Law Judge

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Shannon Phipps, DO, Vice Chair  
Ralph Laraiso, DO

**GUESTS**

Amelia Boyd

**1. Call to Order/Introductions – DISCUSSION/ACTION**

Alex Sobel, Chair, called the open public meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

- 1.1 Introductions were made of the board, staff, guests, and audience.
- 1.2 Approval of agenda

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the June 2, 2023 business meeting agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

- 1.3 Approval of March 27, 2023 business meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the March 27, 2023 business meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

**2. Open Forum—DISCUSSION**

The purpose of the open forum is to provide the public an opportunity to address the board on issues of significance to or affecting osteopathic medical practice and that are not related to topics for which a rules hearing was or will be scheduled.

No public comments were received.

**3. Health Equity Continuing Education Rules Workshop -DISCUSSION/ACTION**

The board reviewed draft rule language regarding health equity continuing education requirements in response to Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5229.

Ms. McElhiney shared the draft language of the health equity continuing education requirements. The board discussed the frequency of renewal hours. Dr. Ware shared his discomfort with the new requirement. Dr. Sobel suggested omitting the sentence in Section 2 which referred to the categorial rule section.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the draft rule language stating two hours of health equity continuing education is required every four years. The motion was seconded and passed.

**4. Osteopathic Physicians' Assistant Rule Amendments-DISCUSSION/ACTION**

The board discussed rule amendments to remove references to osteopathic physicians' assistants throughout chapter 246-853 WAC in response to Substitute House Bill 2378, which eliminated the osteopathic physicians' assistant license.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to file the CR-103 Rule-Making Order to remove references to osteopathic physicians' assistants. The motion was seconded and passed.

**5. Elected Official Term/Limits/Ascension Planning – DISCUSSION/ACTION**

The board discussed possible term limits for elected positions and ascension planning ideas for members interested in future elected positions.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to follow one-year terms limits for the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson positions with an expectation of the Vice Chairperson to ascend to the Chairperson position and the past Chairperson to provide support for one year following their term. The motion was seconded and passed.

**6. Elections – DISCUSSION/ACTION**

The board held elections for officer positions for the next year.

Dr. Sobel nominated Dr. Phipps for the Chairperson position. Dr. Tsurulnikov nominated Dr. Galbraith for the Vice Chairperson position.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to elect Dr. Phipps to the position of Chairperson. The motion was seconded and passed.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to elect Dr. Galbraith to the position of Vice Chairperson. The motion was seconded and passed.

**7. Opioid Exclusions Rules Hearing-DISCUSSION/ACTION**

The board considered public comment and the adoption of proposed rule WAC 246-853-661 Exclusions, filed as WSR 23-09-063 on April 18, 2023.

No written comments were received.  
No public comments were received.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to adopt WAC 246-853-661 Exclusions. The motion was seconded and passed.

**8. 2024 Meeting Dates – DISCUSSION/ACTION**

The board was presented with the proposed 2024 business meeting dates.

- January 26, 2024
- March 25, 2024
- June 7, 2024
- September 13, 2024
- October 25, 2024
- December 6, 2024

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the 2024 meeting dates. The motion was seconded and passed.

**9. Operational/Delegation-DISCUSSION/ACTION**

9.1 The board reviewed an updated signature delegation form.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to accept the updated signature delegation form. The motion was seconded and passed.

9.2 The board reviewed an updated decision-making delegation form.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to accept the updated decision-making delegation form. The motion was seconded and passed.

**10. Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Annual Meeting – DISCUSSION**

The attending board members and staff reported to the board on the May 4-6, 2023, FSMB annual meeting in Minneapolis, MN.

Dr. Tsurulnikov shared his experience as the voting delegate on behalf of the board. Dr. Hernandez gave the highlights of the presentations she attended. Mr. Chaney thanked the board for allowing him to attend and explained what he gained by networking with his peers. Ms. McElhiney received helpful information from a session based on navigating the State legislature system.

**11. Correspondence – DISCUSSION/ACTION**

The board reviewed and discussed any correspondence received since the last meeting.

No correspondence was received.

**12. Program Reports-James Chaney, Executive Director; Becky McElhiney, Program Manager; Heather Carter, AAG Adviser**

**12.1 Recruitment update**

Ms. McElhiney stated an appointment packet was submitted for four professional position vacancies and is currently waiting for final agency approval.

**13. CONSENT AGENDA**

Items listed under the consent agenda (informational items) are considered routine matters and are approved without discussion upon approval of the agenda. If separate discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the regular business agenda for discussion.

There were no consent agenda items.

**14. Future Business – DISCUSSION**

The board discussed agenda items identified or suggested for future meetings.

- Dr. Sobel requested a review of the board members' role in the legislative process and where board members' opinions can be expressed.

**15. Adjournment of public meeting—ACTION**

**MOTION:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:58am. The motion was seconded and passed.

**16. Discipline, Settlement Presentations and Licensing**

The board attended to licensing, disciplinary matters, and settlement and/or agreed order presentations in closed session.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky McElhiney, Program Manager

NOTE: Please visit the web site for future agendas and minutes - [www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov). Go to licensing and certification and you will find a list of the health care professions, go to osteopathic physicians for agendas and minutes.