

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF NURSING
COMMITTEE OF THE JOINT BOARDS OF NURSING AND MEDICINE
Minutes
April 9, 2014**

TIME AND PLACE: The meeting of the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine was convened at 9:00 A.M., in Board Room 2, Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 201, Henrico, Virginia.

PRESIDING: Allison Gregory, RN, FNP-BC; Board of Nursing

COMMITTEE OF THE JOINT BOARDS OF NURSING AND MEDICINE MEMBERS PRESENT:
Allison Gregory, RN, FNP-BC, Board of Nursing, Joint Board Member
Louise Hershkowitz, CRNA, MSHA; Board of Nursing, Joint Board Member
Robert Hickman, MD; Board of Medicine, Joint Board Member
Stuart Mackler, MD; Board of Medicine, Joint Board Member
Wayne Reynolds, DO; Board of Medicine, Joint Board Member

STAFF PRESENT: Jay P. Douglas, RN, MSM, CSAC, Executive Director
Gloria D. Mitchell, RN, MSN, MBA, Deputy Executive Director
Darlene Graham, Senior Discipline Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT: Erin Barrett, Assistant Attorney General
Tammie Jones, Adjudication Specialist (joined later)

CONSIDERATION OF AGENCY SUBORDINATE RECOMMENDATIONS:

CLOSED MEETING: Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine convene a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 9:03 A.M. for the purpose of consideration of agency subordinate recommendations. Additionally, Ms. Hershkowitz moved that Ms. Douglas, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Graham and Ms. Barrett attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary, and their presence will aid the Committee in its deliberations.
The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RECONVENTION: The Committee reconvened in open session at 9:21 A.M.

Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened.
The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ameanthea Blanco, LNP 0024-166866, Authorization to Prescribe 0017-138520

Ms. Blanco did not appear.

Ms. Hershkowitz moved to reject the recommended decision of the agency subordinate and to refer the matter regarding Ameanthea Blanco to a formal

hearing. The motion was seconded and carried. Ms. Gregory, Ms. Hershkowitz, DR. Hickman and Dr. Reynolds were in favor of the motion. Dr. Mackler opposed the motion.

Julie A. Chitty, LNP 0024-164586; Authorization to Prescribe 0017-137397
Ms. Chitty did not appear.

Dr. Hickman moved to accept the recommended decision of the agency subordinate to indefinitely suspend the nurse practitioner license and authorization to prescribe of Julie Chitty until such time as she can demonstrate that she is capable of resuming the safe and competent practice as a nurse practitioner. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Paulette E. Fitzgerald, LNP 0024-164756
Ms. Fitzgerald did not appear.

Dr. Reynolds moved to accept the recommended decision of the agency subordinate to indefinitely suspend the nurse practitioner license of Paulette Fitzgerald until such time as she can provide evidence of successful completion of 40 hours of continuing education in the area of specialty practice approved by one of the certifying agencies designated in the regulations or provide evidence of holding a current professional certification. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ms. Jones joined the meeting

FORMAL HEARING:

Lee S. Phillips, RN 0001-072656; LNP 0024-167440; Authorization to Prescribe 0017-138884

Ms. Phillips appeared, represented by attorney, Margaret Hardy.

Tammie Jones, Adjudication Specialist, represented the Commonwealth. Ms. Barrett was legal counsel for the Board. Ann Marie Nelson, court reporter from Crane Snead and Associates, recorded the proceedings.

Patricia Harte-Byers, Senior Investigator, Department of Health Professions; Andy Inge, Investigative Assistant, Department of Health Professions; Dr. Richard Willard; Dr. Pamela Zane; and Dr. Udaya Shetty were present and testified.

CLOSED MEETING:

Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine convene a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the *Code of Virginia* at 11:01 A.M. for the purpose to reach a decision in the matter of Ms. Phillips. Additionally, Ms. Hershkowitz moved that Ms. Douglas, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Graham and Ms. Barrett attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary, and their presence will aid the Committee in its deliberations.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

RECONVENTION:

The Committee reconvened in open session at 12:11 P.M.

Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened.
The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine accept the findings of fact and conclusions of law as presented by Ms. Jones and amended by the Committee. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ACTION:

Ms. Hershkowitz moved that the Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine accept issue an order of reprimand to Lee Phillips with additional terms and conditions. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

Gloria D. Mitchell, RN, MSN, MBA
Deputy Executive Director
Board of Nursing