

VIRGINIA BOARD OF MEDICINE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Friday, April 3, 2026

Department of Health Professions

Henrico, VA 23233

- CALL TO ORDER:** Dr. Apel called the Executive Committee to order at 8:36 a.m.
- ROLL CALL:** Ms. Brown called the roll; a quorum was established.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter Apel, MD – President
John R. Clements, DPM
William Hutchens, MD
L. Blanton Marchese
Kenneth McDowell, DO – Sec-Treas
Jennifer Rathmann, DC
Leroy Vaughan, Jr., MD – Vice President
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Deborah DeMoss Fonseca
- COUNSEL PRESENT:** M. Brent Saunders, JD – Senior Assistant Attorney General
- STAFF PRESENT:** William L. Harp, MD - Executive Director
Jennifer Deschenes, JD – Dep. Executive Director for Discipline
Michael Sobowale, LLM – Dep. Executive Director for Allied Professions Licensing
Colanithia Morton Opher – Dep. Executive Director for Medical Licensing and Administration
Barbara Matusiak, MD - Medical Review Coordinator
David Brown, DC - DHP Agency Director
Erin Barrett, JD - Director for DHP Legis & Reg Affairs
Deirdre Brown – Board of Medicine Executive Assistant
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Tamika Hines – Board of Medicine Case Manager
Roslyn Nickens – Board of Medicine Licensing Supervisor
Kathleen LaMotte – Board of Medicine Administrator
Denise Christian – Board of Medicine Licensing Specialist
Sonya Armstead – Board of Medicine Licensing Specialist
W. Scott Johnson, JD – Hancock Daniel & Johnson, LLC
Allyson Flinn – Medical Society of Virginia

EMERGENCY EGRESS INSTRUCTIONS

Dr. Apel provided the emergency egress instructions.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR REMOVING PHYSICIAN NAMES FROM PA PRESCRIPTIONS

Dr. Apel opened the floor for a public hearing on proposed regulations regarding the removal of physician names from PA prescriptions. No public comment was offered. Dr. Apel closed the hearing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 1, 2025

Dr. Vaughan moved to approve the meeting minutes from August 1, 2025, as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Clements and carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Dr. Rathmann moved to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. McDowell and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

DHP DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Brown shared that during the terms he has served as DHP Director, each Governor has been challenged with a specific healthcare focus. Governor McAuliffe focused on the opioid crisis, Governor Northam on the COVID epidemic, and now the current Governor will continue the progress that the former administration under Governor Younkin made in strengthening the Healthcare Workforce in Virginia.

Dr. Brown questioned the Board Certification requirement for physicians who apply through the endorsement pathway, since this is not a requirement for those who go through the traditional pathway.

Lastly, Dr. Brown outlined several strategies to support employees who wish to advance in a healthcare career while remaining in their current positions. He also discussed creating opportunities for high school students to shadow professionals in healthcare fields in which they are interested.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There was no President's report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There was no Director's report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Legislative Report as of March 18, 2026

Ms. Barrett reviewed the legislative update as of March 18, 2026. She mentioned that Governor Spanberger has until April 13th to sign or veto bills from the General Assembly. If the Governor takes no action on a bill by 4/13, it will become law on July 1, 2026.

This report was for informational purposes only and did not require any action.

2. Regulatory Actions as of March 16, 2026

Ms. Barrett reviewed the Current Regulatory Actions as of March 16, 2026.

This report was for informational purposes only and did not require any action.

3. Consideration of Petition for Rulemaking – Implanted Medical Devices

Ms. Barrett reviewed the letter that former DHP Director Owens had received from Ms. Lozano requesting the Board of Medicine amend its regulations to require physicians to record serial numbers and other pertinent information about implanted medical devices in their records and to make such information available to patients.

Dr. Hutchens stated that this information is better handled by hospitals and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). Ms. Barrett agreed that any regulations should come from VDH.

Mr. Marchese noted that if the doctors were required to maintain these records, it would only be for 6 years.

Dr. Apel shared that maintaining such information has not been the province of physicians, but rather the hospitals which do retain medical implant device

information. Device manufacturers also retain records on their products.

MOTION: Dr. Hutchens moved to recommend that the full Board take no action on the petition. The motion was seconded by Dr. McDowell and carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of amendment to election date, terms of office for officers of the Board

Ms. Barrett reviewed Article V of the Board of Medicine's bylaws which explains the current process of elections.

Dr. Apel said that if the date was changed to the October meeting, it would allow members who were reappointed in June to be considered for nomination. After discussion and consideration by the Board members, no motion was made to amend the current bylaws.

5. Possible Consideration of Pre-Hearing Consent Orders

Ms. Deschenes presented two Consent Orders for reinstatement. The Committee approved both by unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Apel informed the Board of the updated guideline for travel reimbursement. Effective immediately, Board members need to submit their request for reimbursement within 30 days for approval. After 30 days, no exceptions will be granted.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be August 7, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

William L. Harp, MD
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Medicine