

Maine Board of Osteopathic Licensure  
142 State House Station  
161 Capitol Street  
Augusta, ME 04333-0142  
Phone: (207) 287-2480/Fax: (207) 536-5811

**Minutes of December 10, 2020 Board Meeting – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

Members Present: Scott Thomas, DO., Board Chair; Melissa Michaud, PA-C, Vice Chair; James Pisini, DO; Brian Gillis, DO.; Ryan Smith, DO.; John Gaddis, DO, Board Secretary; Marty McIntyre, Public Member; John Brewer, DO

Others Present: Susan E. Strout, Executive Secretary; Lisa Wilson, Assistant Attorney General; Nikolette Alexander, Consumer Assistant; Det. James Gioia, Office of the Attorney General; Detective Michael Durham, Office of the Attorney General; Amanda Richards, Executive Director, Maine Osteopathic Association; Christopher Taintor, Esquire; Gordon Smith, Director of Opioid Response; Laurie Deerfield, D.O.; Heidi Wright

**I. Complaints/Investigations**

**A. CR2020 26**

Ms. Michaud, Case Reporter, provided a brief overview of the of the matter. Following review and discussion, Board members took this action:

**MOTION:** Made by Dr. Gaddis and seconded by Dr. Pisini with the vote, via roll call being unanimous to dismiss the complaint as it did not rise to a level which would warrant any action against the licensee. Ms. Michaud, Case Reporter, abstained from voting.

**B. IN2020 45**

Dr. Smith, Case Reporter, provided an overview of the matter. Following review and discussion, Board members took this action:

**MOTION:** Made by Dr. Thomas and seconded by Ms. Michaud with the vote, via roll call being unanimous to close the matter as no Board action was warranted. Dr. Smith, Case Reporter, abstained from voting.

**C. COVID-19 Alleged Non-Compliance Issues**

Board members reviewed the materials including a report from Det. Gioia of a local police officer having randomly stopped by the licensee's office and finding no apparent non-compliance issues. Following discussion, the Board took this action:

**MOTION:** Made by Dr. Gaddis, seconded by Dr. Brewer with the vote, via roll call being unanimous to dismiss the complaints.

At this time, Dr. Thomas reminded the Board that he had previously recused himself from any participation in the upcoming matter and because meetings are not currently held in person, he entered the virtual 'Waiting Area'.

**D. CR2020 40**

Ms. Michaud, Case Reporter, provided an overview of the materials which now included the licensee's response to the complaint filed on the Board's own motion. Following review and discussion, the Board took this action:

**MOTION:** Made by Ms. McIntyre and seconded by Dr. Brewer with the vote, via roll call being unanimous to move to an Adjudicatory Hearing with the offer of a Consent Agreement in lieu of a hearing with terms as outlined during the discussion, including but not limited to participation in the Maine Professionals Health Program with regular reports from that office, continuation with the counselor he has been seeing (if approved by the Case Reporter or Board) and reports from the counselor as well. The Board also ordered a mental health evaluation. Ms. Michaud, Case Reporter, abstained from voting.

Dr. Thomas was admitted back into the meeting following the vote.

## II. Consent Agreement Compliance & Updates

There are currently no open Consent Agreements.

## III. Minutes/Revenue & Expense Report

### A. Review of October 2020 Minutes

Following review, the Board took this action:

**MOTION:** Made by Ms. McIntyre and seconded by Ms. Michaud to accept the minutes of the October 2020 meeting as written.

### B. Revenue & Expense Report

The Board reviewed and accepted the report. No action necessary; the reports are created and provided by DAFS<sup>1</sup>.

## IV. Old/New Business/Miscellaneous

### A. Extra Meeting Dates Needed

AAG Wilson and Ms. Strout noted that additional dates would be necessary for, hopefully, the month of February 2021 for a hearing that is anticipated to take multiple days. Board members offered an assortment of dates of availability for the parties to work with.

### B. Vanderbilt Announcement

Board members noted the announcement of the retirement of the program Co-Director, a new Course Director and a new website. No action was necessary.

## V. Licensure Matters

### A. License Renewal/CME Issues

Board members reviewed requests for extensions of time to obtain the required Continuing Medical Education for the following licensees and took these actions:

### B. Continuing Medical Education ('CME') Shortages

The Board reviewed renewal applications for those who were short some hours on their required CME. Following discussion, the Board took this action:

**MOTION:** Made by Dr. Gaddis and seconded by Ms. McIntyre with the vote, via roll call being unanimous to offer administrative (non-reportable) Consent Agreements each to Gopinatha Albert, D.O. and Farid Ghouri, D.O. for a period of 6 months. Both physicians will still need to meet their statutory requirement for the next renewal period.

### C. Permanent Licensure Applications

Following circulation and review, the Board took this action:

**MOTION:** Made by Ms. McIntyre and seconded by Ms. Michaud with the vote, via roll call being unanimous to approve the licensure applications submitted by Corey Cole, D.O., Emily Sigsbee, D.O., Clara Lee, D.O. Michael Mishkin, D.O.; Shayla Toombs-Withers, D.O. and Laurie Deerfield, D.O.

**MOTION:** Made by Ms. McIntyre and seconded by Dr. Thomas with the vote, via roll call being unanimous to invite applicant Emily Harvey-Garcia, D.O. to attend an Informal Conference at the January 2021 meeting to discuss Board questions regarding her application.

---

<sup>1</sup> Division of Administrative & Financial Services

**Continued from Page 2 of 3 – December 10, 2020 Osteopathic Board Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Gaddis left the meeting following the above votes on applications.

**VI. Gordon Smith, Director of Opioid Response**

Mr. Smith spoke regarding the increasing numbers of opioid deaths, that a new initiative begins next month and that he would like to speak to the Board again regarding the specifics of that initiative. Mr. Smith also noted that he had been asked by Governor Mills to assist the Director of Boards and Commissions with Board appointments of which the Board needs several.

**VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Board took this action:

**MOTION:** Made by Ms. McIntyre and seconded by Ms. Michaud with the vote, via roll call being unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan E. Strout, Executive Secretary