

North Dakota Board of Podiatric Medicine
Regular Board Meeting
September 24, 2022

Board Members Present: Ashley Evanoff, DPM, Aaron Albers, DPM, Eric Hart, DPM, Gordon Leingang, DO, and Andrew Knudsen, DPM

Absent: Mr. Josh Jeffers

Others Present: Stacy Moldenhauer, JD, attorney and JoDee S. Wiedmeier, Executive Director

Dr. Evanoff served as chairman of the meeting and called the meeting to order at 09:02 a.m. CDT. After welcoming the board members and noting there was a quorum, the Board's mission statement was read. A call for additional agenda items was made. No new agenda items were placed on the agenda.

The proposed minutes from the October 9, 2021 board meeting had been previously distributed to the board members. Dr. Leingang moved to approve the meeting minutes as written. Dr. Hart seconded the motion. Those in favor: Drs. Evanoff, Leingang, Knudsen, Hart and Albers. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

The proposed minutes from the February 6, 2022 special board meeting had been previously distributed to the board members. Dr. Hart moved to approve the meeting minutes as written. Dr. Knudsen seconded the motion. Those in favor: Drs. Evanoff, Leingang, Knudsen, Hart and Albers. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

A review of the temporary permits for residency issued to Pavlo Kolyesnykov, DPM (TP12) and Shane Duggan, DPM (TP13) on July 1, 2022, by approval of the President was had. No concerns were noted. Dr. Hart moved to ratify the newly issued permits TP 12 and TP 13. Dr. Leingang seconded. No further discussion was had. Those in favor: Drs. Evanoff, Leingang, Knudsen, Hart and Albers. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously. It was further noted that Drs. Bierman, Mahowald (formerly Gebert-Oberle), Laney, and Ivey remain in the residency program and therefore met the requirements for renewal. Each respective permit was renewed as of July 1, 2022.

Ms. Wiedmeier gave the licensure report and licensure renewal report. There are currently 40 total podiatric licenses issued. Thirty-three are active licenses and six are temporary permits for residency. One temporary license has also been issued to Dr. Li who is currently applying for full licensure. All full active licensees were renewed for 2022. There are two pending applications before the Board at this time, both which are scheduled for interviews today.

Mr. Jeffers and Dr. Knudsen's terms on the Board both expire in June of 2023. Mr. Jeffers is absent, but has indicated to the Executive Director his willingness to serve a second term. Dr. Knudsen also indicated his willingness to serve a second term. Ms. Wiedmeier will notify the Governor's office and request re-appointment. Dr. Leingang's term was officially completed last year; however, since no replacement has been appointed, he remains on the Board.

Qianlin Li, DPM, who also is known by the first name - Jacky, was present for her personal appearance. Her application materials were previously distributed to the Board for review. She

was issued a temporary license on July 1, 2022 and is currently practicing podiatry in North Dakota under that license. Introductions were made. Dr. Li is currently working at Altru in Grand Forks. She is very busy seeing patients and has started a surgery rotation. Discussion was had regarding Dr. Li's understanding of the scope of practice in North Dakota. Dr. Evanoff explained the Board's functions, Ms. Wiedmeier explained licensing, the renewal process, CME requirements and PDMP. The Board had no questions or concerns regarding Dr. Li's application. Dr. Hart moved to grant full licensure. Dr. Knudsen seconded. No further discussion was had. Those in favor: Drs. Evanoff, Leingang, Knudsen, Hart and Albers. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously. Dr. Li was presented her licensure certificate.

Jennifer Gravos, DPM, was present for her personal appearance. Her application materials were previously distributed to the Board for review. Introductions were made. Dr. Gravos is currently working in Sydney, Montana with Dr. LaPan. She plans to eventually practice in a satellite clinic in North Dakota. Discussion was had regarding her understanding of the scope of practice in North Dakota. Dr. Hart reviewed the scope in depth and where to find it if Dr. Groves has any questions regarding the scope. Dr. Evanoff explained the Board's functions, Ms. Wiedmeier explained licensing, the renewal process, CME requirements and PDMP. The Board had no questions or concerns regarding Dr. Gravos application. Dr. Gravos provided her new mailing address. Dr. Hart moved to grant full licensure. Dr. Leingang seconded. No further discussion was had. Those in favor: Drs. Evanoff, Leingang, Knudsen, Hart and Albers. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously. Dr. Gravos was presented with her licensure certificate.

Stacy Moldenhauer joined the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Dr. Evanoff and Ms. Wiedmeier reported on the topics discussed at the FPMB's fall meeting. Neither of was able to attend the annual meeting in June; however, the meeting recap for both the fall and annual meeting was contained in the materials previously distributed to the Board. No questions or concerns regarding these meetings were voiced by the Board.

The Governor's Red Tape Reduction Announcement and Executive Order was presented and discussed. The Board reviewed its statutes and discussed potential changes that the Board could make to remove barriers to podiatric licensure. It was noted removing barriers and cutting red tape has been a push from the legislature and Governor's office for several years and the Board's application process has been streamlined. Therefore, no new changes were deemed necessary. It was noted that the issuance of a temporary license usually will place the podiatrist into the work force within a week after the application has been completed.

In light of the upcoming legislative session, discussion was had regarding any necessary updates to the North Dakota Century Code. Ms. Moldenhauer had no specific recommendations. Ms. Moldenhauer and the Board's staff will monitor bills introduced and notify the Board of any legislation that would potentially affect the Board.

Dr. Albers made a motion to enter into Executive Session in order to discuss information that contains confidential patient data and to further consult with the Board's attorney in such matters. Dr. Knudsen seconded. Those in favor: Drs. Evanoff, Leingang, Hart, Knudsen and Hart. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously. The Board entered Executive Session at 10:24 a.m. CDT.

The Executive Session concluded at 10:52 a.m. CDT. It was noted that one complaint was reviewed by the Board and dismissed. The regular meeting resumed at 10:52 a.m. CDT.

Discussion regarding Ms. Wiedmeier's resignation letter was had. It was determined no annual review was necessary. Ms. Wiedmeier was thanked for her service to the Board over the years. She will be missed. Dr. Hart made a motion to begin the search process for a new administrator. Dr. Knudsen seconded. Those in favor: Drs. Evanoff, Leingang, Hart, Knudsen and Albers. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Wiedmeier will advertise the position in accordance with state guidelines, and reach out to the community for possible replacements. It was noted that administrative background and legal experience would be beneficial to the position.

Ms. Moldenhauer was dismissed from the meeting at 11:13 a.m. CDT.

The 2020 and 2021 Annual Financial Reports, previously distributed to the Board, were approved by the state auditor's office. No concerns about these reports were voiced. It was reported that the bank account balance as of August 31, 2022 was \$63,286.10. The reserve fund balance is \$20,000 which leaves \$42,286.10 in the Board's operational funds. Discussion was had regarding additional funding for the reserve fund for 2023. Dr. Knudsen recommended that no additional reserve funds be transferred and that it be revisited next year.

The proposed budget had been previously submitted to the Board for review. The Board accepted Dr. Knudsen's recommendation regarding the reserve funds. Dr. Hart moved to approve the budget as written. Dr. Knudsen seconded. No further discussion was had. Those in favor: Drs. Evanoff, Leingang, Hart, Knudsen and Albers. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Election of officers was had. Dr. Hart moved to nominate and elect the slate of officers as follows: President - Dr. Ashley Evanoff; Vice President – Dr. Aaron Albers; and Secretary/Treasurer- Dr. Andrew Knudsen. Dr. Albers seconded. No further discussion was had. Those in favor: Drs. Evanoff, Leingang, Albers, Knudsen and Hart. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held on September 30, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Bismarck. Ms. Wiedmeier will make the necessary arrangements.

Dr. Albers moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Hart seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m. CDT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andy Knudsen, DPM
Secretary/Treasurer

Attest:

Ashley Evanoff, DPM
President