

- (a) A person who practices medicine, podiatry, or osteopathy, or who practices as a physician assistant or mobile intensive care paramedic, in a tribal health program in this state must be licensed by the board unless they notify the board that they are practicing under another license in accordance with 25 U.S.C. 1621t (sec. 221, Indian Health Care Improvement Act). Notice required under this section must be received no later than 14 days after employment at a tribal health program in this state, and must include
- (1) proof of a current active license in another state;
 - (2) proof of employment by a tribal health program that is operating under an agreement with the federal Indian Health Service under 25 U.S.C. 450 – 458ddd-2 (Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act).
- (b) A person practicing under the exemption may not practice beyond the scope of the other state license.

The board requested staff conduct further review of the statutes and regulations to confirm exemption for military bases as it was not specifically noted in 12 AAC 40.981.

The Chair requested the board move to Agenda Item 18.

Agenda Item 18 Review of Application Forms

A. Professional Fitness Questions

Dr. Neyhart expressed her concern with current professional fitness questions on the initial application form, stating that they are invasive. Dr. Neyhart reported that Alaska had been specifically called out at the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) for the inappropriateness of these questions.

The board reviewed a sampling of professional fitness questions from initial medical applications from Alabama, Delaware, Kansas, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin.

The Chair asked the members of the board to deliberate over the questions overnight and be prepared to readdress the topic on Friday.

Agenda Item 9. DHSS Topics

Sondra LeClair, Brian Richie, Terry Kadel, and Todd McDowell of the Department of Health and Social Services joined the meeting.

A. POLST Regulations

Ms. LeClair, Chief for the State of Alaska Section of Rural and Community Health System presented the Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST) Program information and proposed form to the board. Ms. LeClair explained the need to provide patients with more choices and improve communication of their needs. The group reviewed the program information and walked through the proposed form. Ms. LeClair explained the intent of the program is a patient driven, voluntary process and that the onus is on the physician to explain options and communicate choices.

Mr. Mertz asked about altering other legal information. Ms. LeClair confirmed that the POLST form is not intended to change other legal documentation, but that EMTs and paramedic would use for it immediate care.

It was noted that protocol for do not resuscitate orders are subject to approval of the State Medical Board, per AS 13.52.065(b). In following, LeClair requested the board's support of the POLST program.

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1 **Upon a motion duly made by Dr. Clift, seconded by Mr. Olson, and approved**
2 **unanimously, the Board approved the POLST program and form as presented.**

3
4 **B. Paramedic Licensure**

5 Ms. LeClair explained DHSS currently oversees all parts of the emergency medical system, except
6 paramedic licensure. Referencing her presentation to the board at their previous meeting, LeClair
7 reiterated the focus is to modernize and transform the EMS system, utilizing best practices in Alaska and
8 nationwide.

9
10 Ms. LeClair and Mrs. Jones confirmed both agencies intend for the transfer, if approved, to be a
11 collaborative process and a smooth transition for licensees is a high priority. EMS Data Manager Mr.
12 Richey and Terry Kadel, EMS Officer addressed the board's questions regarding the application process
13 and noted that a lot of the processes are automated.

14
15 Ms. LeClair asked the board to support the concept of moving the paramedics into the EMS office. The
16 Chair recalled Mr. Mertz' request for an independent study to determine if the transfer of paramedic
17 licensure from the State Medical Board to DHSS was advisable.

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19 **Recess for Lunch**

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21 The board recessed for lunch at 12:18 p.m. The board went back on the record at 1:24 p.m.

22
23 Board members present, constituting a quorum:

24 Cam Carlson, Public Member
25 Brück A. Clift, MD
26 Sai-Ling Liu, DO
27 Doug Mertz, Public Member (*arrived at 1:35 p.m.*)
28 Joy M. Neyhart, DO
29 Catherine Hyndman, MD
30 Timothy Olson, PA-C

31
32 Board staff present:

33 Alysia Jones, Executive Administrator
34 Jason Kaeser, Licensing Examiner

35
36 **Agenda Item 11 Full Board Interviews**

37
38 **On motion duly made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Dr. Clift, and approved**
39 **unanimously, the Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)**
40 **for the purpose of discussing the scheduled Board interviews; with the Executive**
41 **Administrator remaining during the session.**

42
43 The Board entered executive session at 1:24 p.m., and went back on the record at 1:40 p.m.

44
45 **Sandra Speerstra, P.A.**

46 Ms. Speerstra was present to discuss her license application with the board.

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