

MINNESOTA BOARD OF NURSING  
 BOARD MEETING MINUTES – PUBLIC SESSION  
 February 5, 2026

President Jessica Mieke called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on February 5, 2026, at 1210 Northland Drive, Suite 120, Mendota Heights, MN 55120. The meeting was hybrid, conducted in person and virtually. A roll call of Board members was completed and a quorum declared. All votes were recorded by roll call.

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>
Sandra Anderson Katlynn Berntson Trisha Jensen Rhonda Johnson Latasha Lee Jacqueline Lloyd Cunningham Katherine Lynch Jessica Mieke Joseph Owen Cindy Petty Tracy Sonterre-Rieger Patrick Soria Maria Tran	
Staff (present at various times)	Staff (present at various times)
Dana Baker Judy Berger Stephanie Cook JaCinda Downs Samantha Eix Mariclaire England Caren Gaytko Sherry Hoffman Karen Holicky Lajeana Iverson Heidi Kostelac	Leslie Larson Megan Leach Sheryl Meyer Luann Pihlstrom Kate Reimers Sandy Shaviss Deb Schuhmacher Stephen Shaffer Kristi Testa Deb Topham Melissa Wolfe
Legal Counsel	
Hans Anderson, AAG Michael McSherry, AAG Daniel Schueppert, AAG	

## Mission Statement

C. Petty read the Board mission statement to remind members of the Board's purpose:  
*"The mission of the Minnesota Board of Nursing is to protect the public's health and safety through regulation of nursing education, licensure and practice."*

## Approval of Board Meeting Agenda

**Motion** by C. Petty, seconded by T. Jensen, to approve the board meeting agenda.

Vote: Yes – 11 (Anderson, Berntson, Jensen, Johnson, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Miehe, Owen, Petty, Sonterre-Rieger, Soria);

No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 2 (Lee, Tran)

Motion Carried

## President's Report

President Miehe asked for a Nursing Practice committee update. M. Leach informed the board that as part of the strategic plan the committee has asked board members for their bios to help members get to know each other better. President Miehe read a statement of her reflection on the death of registered nurse, Alex Pretti, who was killed on January 24, 2026, during the federal immigration unrest in Minnesota. President Miehe informed the board that three board member candidates were recommended to the governor for possible appointment.

## Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Gaytko gave an oral report on the following: Turnaround time to receive a license remains within 24 hours after receipt of all licensure application paperwork. There are >950 discipline/compliance cases open. Number of cases remains consistent with those older than a year and is below from a year ago. Several aging cases will be closed today. Caren introduced Zach Leonard, nurse practice specialist, who recently joined the Board of Nursing.

## NCSBN Midyear Meeting - March 16-19, Phoenix, Arizona

Kate Lynch, LPN, and Latasha Lee, RN, will attend the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) midyear meeting next month. They will provide a report at a future board meeting.

**Board Member Reappointment**

Trisha Jensen, LPN Board member, was reappointed to the board on January 6, 2026. Board members took the reaffirmation oath.

**Consent Agenda**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Attachment</b>
Board Meeting Minutes: December 4, 2025	III.A
Financial Reports: Receipts FY26 & Manager’s FY26	III.B.1, III.B.2
Licensure Statistics FY26: Nov-Dec 2025	III.C
Disposition of Complaints FY26: Nov-Dec 2025	III.D
HPSP Q2 Report FY26: Oct-Dec 2025	III.E
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes: January 20, 2026	III.F
Education Committee Meeting Minutes: December 4, 2025	III.G

**Motion** by C. Petty, seconded by T. Jensen, to approve the consent agenda.

Vote: Yes – 11 (Anderson, Berntson, Jensen, Johnson, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Miehle, Owen, Petty, Sonterre-Rieger, Soria)  
No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 2 (Lee, Tran)

Motion Carried

**Reports/Actions**

**Recommendation for Initial Program Approval of Capella University Pre-Licensure Bachelor of Science Nursing Program**

Deb Schuhmacher, Director for Education, presented Education Survey Team recommendation for the board to grant initial program approval to Capella University Pre-Licensure Bachelor of Science Program. D. Schumacher informed the board that Capella University has met and fulfilled nursing program education standards. Their application was verified at the site visit. The program is accredited and will begin on July 6, 2026.

**Motion** by T. Sonterre-Rieger, seconded by C. Petty, to grant initial program approval to Capella University Pre-Licensure Bachelor of Science Program.

Vote: Yes – 11 (Anderson, Berntson, Jensen, Johnson, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Miehle, Owen, Petty, Sonterre-Rieger, Soria)  
No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 2 (Lee, Tran)

Motion Carried

Request to Grant Approval of Rule Variance Petition – Concordia University St. Paul –  
Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program

Deb Schuhmacher, Director for Education, requested consideration of the Board to grant approval to Concordia University St. Paul to increase simulation use during spring semester 2026, effective February 5, 2026 to April 16, 2026. D. Schuhmacher stated this request is based on the current civil unrest in the Twin Cities and subsequent safety concerns.

**Motion** by S. Anderson, seconded by K. Berntson, to approve the Letter of Intent submitted by Concordia University St. Paul Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program to utilize high fidelity simulation for greater than half of the time designated for meeting clinical learning requirements.

Vote: Yes – 12 (Anderson, Berntson, Jensen, Johnson, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Mieke, Owen, Petty, Sonterre-Rieger, Soria)  
No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 1 (Tran)

Motion Carried  
Attachment IV.E

Request for Plan of Corrective Action Due to One Year Below 2025 NCLEX First-Time Success  
Rate

Deb Schuhmacher, Director for Education, asked the Board to grant request for plan of corrective action due to one year below 2025 NCLEX first-time success rate for the following programs:

- Saint Paul College, St. Paul- Practical Nursing Program
- Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, Cloquet- AD Nursing Program
- Inver Hills Community College, Inver Grove Heights - AD Nursing Program
- Northwest Technical College, Bemidji- AD Nursing Program
- Rasmussen University, St. Cloud- AD Nursing Program
- Metropolitan State University, St. Paul- Baccalaureate Nursing Program
- Minnesota State University, Moorhead- - Baccalaureate Nursing Program

**Motion** by K. Lynch, seconded by K. Berntson, for plan of corrective action due to one year below 2025 NCLEX first-time success rate for the above listed programs:

Vote: Yes – 12 (Anderson, Berntson, Jensen, Johnson, Lee, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Mieke, Owen, Petty, Sonterre-Rieger, Soria)  
No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 1 (Tran)

Motion Carried  
Attachment IV.B

Request for Plan of Corrective Action Due to Two Consecutive Years Below Minimum Standard for 2025 and 2024 NCLEX First-Time Success Rates

D. Schuhmacher, Director for Education, asked the Board grant request for plan of corrective action due to two consecutive years below minimum standard for 2025 and 2024 NCLEX first-time success rates for the following program:

- Northwest Technical College, Bemidji, Practical Nursing Program

**Motion** by T. Sonterre-Rieger, seconded by T. Jensen, to conduct an on-site survey at Northwest Technical College, Bemidji PN program for compliance with all applicable rules and to require a revised plan of corrective action due to two consecutive years below minimum standard for 2025 and 2024 NCLEX first-time success rates.

Vote: Yes – 12 (Anderson, Berntson, Jensen, Johnson, Lee, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Miehe, Owen, Petty, Sonterre-Rieger, Soria)  
No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 1 (Tran)

Motion Carried  
Attachment IV.C

NCLEX Report for 2025

Deb Schuhmacher, Director for Education, gave a PowerPoint presentation on NCLEX results for 2025.

Committee/Task Force Updates

The Complaint Resolution committee is reviewing the NCSBN discipline decision pathway. The Nursing Practice committee is updating the Board of Nursing website with information on certified midwives (CM) due to new CM legislation that goes into effect July 2026. The Education committee has been working on vetting new education programs and working with the programs to have success in getting approval. Executive Director Gaytko informed the Board that the legislative session has begun, and she will keep the Board updated on any new legislation.

Board Development

Kim Navarre, HPSP Program Director, and Pang Yang, HPSP Case Worker, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Health Professionals Service Program Annual Report.

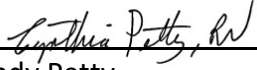
Patty Kaiser, RN, from Nurses Peer Support Network (NPSN), and Francesca Staupe, RN, gave a presentation on the NPSN program which focuses on substance use disorder.

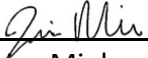
**Core Values – Collaboration**

President Miehe informed board members of the core value of collaboration – pursuing alliances with internal and external stakeholders.

**Adjourn**

President Miehe adjourned the public board meeting at 11:51 a.m.

Recorder:   
Cindy Petty  
Secretary

Attest:   
Jessica Miehe  
President