

MINNESOTA BOARD OF NURSING
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – PUBLIC SESSION
April 2, 2026

President Jessica Miehle called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on April 2, 2026, at 1210 Northland Drive, Suite 120, Mendota Heights, MN 55120. The meeting was conducted 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 Miehle Joseph Owen Cindy Petty Patrick Soria Maria Tran	Tracy Sonterre-Rieger
Staff (present at various times)	Staff (present at various times)
Dana Baker Judy Berger JaCinda Downs Samantha Eix Mariclaire England Caren Gaytko Lynne Haggard Sherry Hoffman Karen Holicky Heidi Kostelac Leslie Larson	Megan Leach Zachary Leonard Sheryl Meyer Kate Reimers Sandy Shaviss Deb Schuhmacher Angela Serfling Kristi Testa Deb Topham Melissa Wolfe
Legal Counsel	
Erin Farmer, AAG Molly Kleist, AAG	

Mission Statement

K. Berntson 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 K. Berntson, seconded by C. Petty, to approve the board meeting agenda.

Vote: Yes – 12 (Anderson, Berntson, Johnson, Lee, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Mieke, Owen, Petty, Soria);

No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 3 (Jensen, Sonterre-Rieger, Tran)

Motion Carried

President's Report

President Mieke asked for an update from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing midyear meeting attendees. M. Leach gave an update on the current nursing workforce and impact of upcoming retirements. K. Lynch said discussion was held on raising the NCLEX testing fee from \$200 to \$350. Fee has not been raised in 25 years. M. Leach stated the increase in NCLEX fee cost is due to security costs. Fee increase will be voted on at the August annual meeting. Another area for discussion at the August annual meeting will be area elimination and making it more equitable. Areas is based on geographical area. Three states will become part of the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC): Alaska, Hawaii, Illinois. This leaves three states that are not part of the NLC: Minnesota, New York, and Michigan. K. Lynch said there was discussion on AI and how it will change health care. L. Lee said there was a lot of discussion about IV hydration. NCSBN is working on verbiage and gathering data so nurses work within their scope of practice.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Gaytko gave an oral report on the following: Licensing continues with turnaround time of 24 hours to receive a license after receipt of all licensure application paperwork. Nurse Practice continues move cases efficiently. Two open nurse practice specialist positions and are currently interviewing. New hires will start probably mid-May, which will shift 300 more cases to be moved through. The Board of Nursing has been involved in legislation that impacts the agency this legislative session.

Consent Agenda

Agenda Item	Attachment
Board Meeting Minutes: February 5, 2026	III.A
Financial Reports: Receipts FY26 & Manager's FY26	III.B.1, III.B.2
Licensure Statistics FY26: Jan-Feb 2026	III.C
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes: March 18, 2026	III.D
Education Committee Meeting Minutes: January 16, 2026	III.E
Education Committee Meeting Minutes: February, 5, 2026	III.F

Motion by K. Berntson, seconded by C. Petty, to approve the consent agenda.

Vote: Yes – 11 (Anderson, Berntson, , Johnson, Lee, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Miehe, Owen, Petty, Soria, Tran)

No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 2 (Jensen, Sonterre-Rieger)

Motion Carried

Reports/Actions

Continuing Program Approval of Accredited Programs

Deb Schuhmacher, Director of Education, requested the Board grant continuing program approval to the following nursing program based on compliance with all applicable rules:

- St. Cloud Technical and Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program

Motion by J. Miehe, seconded by S. Anderson, to grant continuing program approval to St. Cloud Technical and Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program.

Vote: Yes – 11 (Anderson, Berntson, Johnson, Lee, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Miehe, Owen, Petty, Soria, Tran)

No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 2 (Jensen, Sonterre-Rieger)

Motion Carried
Attachment IV.A

Recommendation – Letter of Intent Winona State University Direct Entry Master's Degree Program

Deb Schuhmacher, Director of Education, stated the Education Committee recommends the Board approve the Letter of Intent submitted by Winona State University College of Nursing and Health Sciences to establish a pre-licensure direct entry master's degree nursing program.

Motion by J. Miehe, seconded by K. Lynch, to approve the Letter of Intent submitted by Winona State University College of Nursing and Health Sciences to establish a pre-licensure direct entry master's degree nursing program.

Vote: Yes – 11 (Anderson, Berntson, Johnson, Lloyd Cunningham, Lee, Lynch, Miehe, Owen, Petty, Soria, Tran)

No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 2 (Jensen, Sonterre-Rieger)

Motion Carried
Attachment IV.B

Recommendation to Revise Score Requirements on TOEFL English Proficiency Examination

Deb Schuhmacher, Director of Education, stated the Education Committee recommends the Board approve the change in TOEFL score requirement to an overall score of 4.5 with a minimum score of 5.0 in the speaking module and a minimum of 4.0 in all other modules.

Motion by J. Miehe, seconded by K. Berntson, to approve the change in TOEFL score requirement to an overall score of 4.5 with a minimum score of 5.0 in the speaking module and a minimum of 4.0 in all other modules.

Vote: Yes – 12 (Anderson, Berntson, Jensen, Johnson, Lee, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Miehe, Owen, Petty, Soria, Tran)

No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 1 (Sonterre-Rieger)

Motion Carried
Attachment IV.C

Request to Review Rule Variance Petition – BAYADA Education

Deb Schuhmacher, Director of Education, asked the board to review a request from BAYADA Education for variance to Minnesota Rule Chapter 6301.2340, Subpart 1.A. to consider pursuit of initial program approval of a new nursing program without having achieved institutional accreditation at the time of program proposal.

Motion by P. Soria, seconded by M. Tran, to approve rule variance to allow BAYADA Education to pursue initial program approval without having achieved institutional accreditation at time of program proposal. Variance is time limited to 36 months (3 years) with close monitoring by the Board of Nursing:

1. Notification of accreditation application status
2. Quarterly updates on progress toward institutional accreditation

3. Minnesota Board of Nursing copied on correspondence with the accreditor
4. Annual review of progression of program development or initiation prior to institutional accreditation decision
5. Nursing student updates per semester once enrollment occurs until institutional accreditation is determined

Vote: Yes – 9 (Anderson, Berntson, Johnson, Lee, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Mieke, Soria, Tran)

No – 3 (Jensen, Owen, Petty); Abstain – 0; Absent – 1 (Sonterre-Rieger)

Motion Carried

Attachment IV.D

Report to Board with Consent of APRN Program Reprimand – Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN

Deb Schuhmacher, Director of Education, stated the Review Panel recommends issuance of a reprimand to Metropolitan State University Advanced Practice Nursing Program for non-compliance with Minnesota Rule that relates to the need for faculty to have a current unencumbered registered nurse license and as an advanced practice nurse with current registration in the State of Minnesota.

Motion by J. Mieke, seconded by C. Petty to issue a reprimand to Metropolitan State University Advanced Practice Nursing Program for non-compliance with Minnesota Rule 6301.2340, subpart 3.A.(9)(f).

Vote: Yes – 12 (Anderson, Berntson, Jensen, Johnson, Lee, Lloyd Cunningham, Lynch, Mieke, Owen, Petty, Soria, Tran)

No – 0; Abstain – 0; Absent – 1 (Sonterre-Rieger)

Motion Carried

Attachment IV.E

Report to Board with Consent of Associate Degree Program Reprimand – South Central College, North Mankato, MN

Deb Schuhmacher, Director of Education, stated the Review Panel recommends issuance of a reprimand to South Central College Associate Degree Nursing Program for non-compliance with Minnesota Rule that requires associate degree nursing faculty to have a baccalaureate or graduate degree in nursing.

Motion by J. Miehe, seconded by C. Petty to issue a reprimand to South Central College Associate Degree Nursing Program for non-compliance with Minnesota Rule 6301.2340 subpart 3.A.(11).

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

Motion Carried
Attachment IV.F

2025 Annual Nursing Education Program Report

Deferred to June board meeting.

2025 Annual Workforce Data Report

Deferred to June board meeting.

Motion by J. Miehe, seconded by K. Berntson to approve the 2025 Annual Nursing Education Program report and 2025 Annual Workforce Data Report.

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

Motion Carried
Attachment IV.G & H

Department Updates

The following gave a PowerPoint presentation report from their respective departments: Deb Topham, Director of Practice & Compliance; Megan Leach, Director of Research and Public Relations; Sheryl Meyer, Director of Operations (Licensure Department), and Lynne Haggard, Operations Licensure Supervisor.

Committee/Task Force Updates

M. Leach from the Nursing Practice Committee, D. Topham from the Complaint Resolution Committee, and D. Schuhmacher from the Education Committee gave updates on their committees.

Board Development

A PowerPoint presentation was given by Dr. Jessica Huber, Dean of Nursing and Health Sciences at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College Associate Degree Program, and Tracy Moshier, Interim Director of the Associate Degree Nursing program and Director of the Practical Nursing program at Lake Superior College. This is part two of the series on nursing education and nursing education programs in the State of Minnesota.

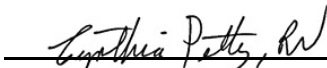
Core Values – Collaboration

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

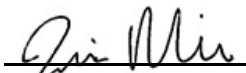
Adjourn

President Miehe adjourned the public board meeting at 11:54 a.m.

Recorder:


Cindy Petty
Secretary

Attest:


Jessica Miehe
President