



**Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians
 Department of Consumer Affairs
 Board Meeting Minutes**

<https://youtu.be/2cBe8DX7mys>

DATE: Friday, February 7, 2025

**BOARD MEMBERS
 PRESENT:**

- Dr. Mountain, President, Education Member
- Mr. Dierking, Vice President, Public Member
- Ms. Carpenter, Public Member
- Mr. Hill, Psychiatric Technician Member
- Ms. Guzman, Licensed Vocational Nurse Member
- Ms. Moore, Psychiatric Technician Member

STAFF PRESENT:

- Ms. Yamaguchi, Executive Officer
- Mr. Ito, Assistant Executive Officer
- Ms. Wood, Enforcement Chief
- Mr. Prouty, Discipline Manager
- Ms. Vierra, Probation Manager (Webex)
- Ms. Higashi, Supervising Special Investigator
- Dr. McLeod, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant
- Ms. Brown, Licensing Division Manager
- Mr. Hall, Licensing Division Supervisor
- Ms. Arreola, Licensing Division Supervisor (Webex)
- Dr. Fairchild, Nursing Education Consultant
- Ms. Gomez, Nursing Education Consultant
- Ms. Devila, Nursing Education Consultant (Webex)
- Dr. Swanson, Nursing Education Consultant (Webex)
- Ms. Barrett, Nursing Education Consultant
- Dr. Thomson, Nursing Education Consultant
- Ms. Maracino, Education Analyst
- Mr. Gonzales, Education Analyst
- Mr. Weiler, Administration Manager
- Ms. Brady, Board Administration Analyst
- Mr. Knight, Probation Analyst (Webex)
- Ms. Ramos, Licensing Analyst (Webex)

DCA STAFF PRESENT:

- Ms. Butu, Board General Counsel
- Mr. Clifford, DCA Executive Office
- Mr. Fournier, DCA Office of Public Affairs

Agenda Item 1 Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of Quorum

Dr. Mountain called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Mountain shared housekeeping instructions and information pertaining to the meeting.

Absent Members: Mr. Maxey, Ms. Nieblas, Ms. Sonson.

Agenda Item 2 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Hill led the room in the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Item 3 Introduction of Board Staff

Ms. Yamaguchi introduced Board staff. Ms. Yamaguchi introduced the Board’s new General Counsel, Ileana Butu.

Agenda Item 4 Board Officer Elections

Ms. Yamaguchi explained a quick overview of the Board election process. Ms. Yamaguchi shared that the Sunset Bill gave the Board an option to make two-year appointments. Mr. Dierking made a motion to ratify a two-year term for the Board Officers’ term.

Motion: To approve the Board’s new two-year term elections.

Moved/Seconded: Mr. Dierking/ Mr. Hill.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Dierking	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes

Motion carried.

Ms. Yamaguchi opened the floor for nominations for Board President. Mr. Dierking nominated Dr. Carel Mountain as Board President.

Motion: To approve Dr. Carel Mountain as Board President.

Moved/Seconded: Mr. Dierking/ Ms. Carpenter.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Abstain
Mr. Dierking	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes

Motion carried and passed by 5.

Ms. Yamaguchi opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice President. Dr. Mountain nominated Mr. Abraham Hill as Board Vice President.

Motion: To approve Mr. Abraham Hill as Board Vice President.

Moved/Seconded: Dr. Mountain / Mr. Dierking.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Dierking	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Mr. Hill	Abstain

Motion carried and passed by 5.

Agenda Item 5 Review and Approval – Meeting Minutes for November 22, 2024

Motion: To approve the November 22, 2024, Board Meeting minutes.

Moved/Seconded: Mr. Dierking/ Ms. Carpenter

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Dierking	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 6 Fiscal and Budgets Update.

A. Fund Condition and Budget Updates

Mr. Ito, Assistant Executive Officer, explained how the budget process works and how the board’s funds do not start from zero every year. He advised the DCA Budget Office used many drills to build the budget to construct the numbers we see today. He explained Budget Letter 24-20, the vacancy drill and how the Governor’s office was going to eliminate ten thousand positions across the state. Mr. Ito updated that the Budget Office worked hard with our Board and with Department of Finance to lower the costs to the board. The board was able to give up a couple of positions that did not affect the Board’s operational needs. The Board is looking at other possibilities as in Budget Change Proposals that could help the Board’s operational needs if we need to add positions or if we need to increase our funding. Mr. Ito reviewed the board expenditures, board revenue, and board fund condition. He reviewed how to read the documents and gave high-level overviews as he went through the data provided on each spreadsheet.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Agenda Item 7

Education - Recommendation, and Possible Actions.

A. Dr. McLeod, Supervising Education Consultant, provided highlights from the Division Report provided in the meeting packet. Dr. McLeod stated the Nursing Education Consultants (NECs) performed 13 site visits since October 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, and three remote program visits. Dr. McLeod mentioned that the Education Division is revising the statistical measures included in the Board report to better reflect the workload of the division. The changes will include measuring the reasons for site visits by the NECs and types of violations, in anticipation of creating new cite and fine regulation. The Education Division continues to work on projects such as updating forms for regulations and fees changes, reviewing Article 5 with counsel to improve VN and PT regulations and the creation of a dashboard with the Office of Information Services to relay analytics to prospective students and the public. Dr. McLeod also updated that the Education Division has been working with the Enforcement and Licensing divisions to create a process for auditing licensees' compliance with continuing education requirements.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment:

Dr. Andrew Sanchez asked where the new Psychiatric Technician program was going to be located. Dr. McLeod replied that the new program will be located at the College of the Redwoods.

- I. Review, Ratification and Approval of Executive Officer Program Decisions for period from October 15, 2024, to December 10, 2024.

Motion: To approve and ratify the Executive Officer Program Decisions for the period from October 15, 2024, to December 10, 2024, as provided in the meeting packet.

Moved/Second: Mr. Dierking /Mr. Hill.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Dierking	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes

Ms. Moore	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes

Motion carried.

B. Request to Admit Students, Request to Revise Curriculum.

I. Summit College, San Bernardino, Nursing Education Program

Dr. Thomson, Nursing Education Consultant, shared her submitted report recommending approval of the request to admit a class of 30 students to commence on February 24, 2025. This would be an additional added class for the program. Dr. Thomson shared that the director, Alicia Lamour has resigned, and the Assistant Director will be taking over until the program can find a permanent replacement.

Motion: To approve the report and adopt the NEC recommendations.

Motion/Second: Mr. Dierking/ Ms. Carpenter.

Ms. Guelin, representing the program, wanted to thank the Board and Dr. Thomson for her hard work. She stated her program has come a long the way to ensure that the VN program is where it needs to be today. She stated she was grateful and thanked the Education Division for the support and the direction, the mentoring for her program to be at today's success, and thanked Dr. Thomson, Ms. Silverman, and Dr. McLeod.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Dierking	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes

Motion carried.

C. Consideration of Placement on Provisional Approval

I. Integrity College of Health Vocational Nursing Program

Ms. Barrett shared her submitted report recommending that the Program’s provisional approval be removed, be returned to full continuous approval and be allowed to admit the class in May as they requested. Ms. Barrett shared new information about the program in that no site visit was done as is customary prior to releasing provisional approval. Integrity College was one of the few vocational nursing programs directly impacted by the LA fires. Jessica Gomez and Ms. Barrett were in the area poised to make the site visit and the car was turned around by blockades less than half a mile from the campus, at which point the site visit was tabled. All reports requested from the NEC about Integrity College have been turned in complete in final form and well before the time indicated on the report along with the fact that they have stable and compliant pass rates.

Motion: To approve the report and adopt the NEC recommendations regarding the removal from provisional approval.

Motion/Second: Mr. Dierking /Ms. Carpenter.

Alice Thompson and Michelle Welch spoke as representatives from the program. They stated they were honored to be able to attend and are grateful for the opportunity to be included here today. They stated they had wonderful interactions with all the NECs, especially Ms. Barrett, that has really helped them grow and tighten the program.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Dierking	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes

Motion carried.

II. Cypress College Psychiatric Technician Program

Ms. Devila shared her submitted report for Cypress College with a request for removal from provisional approval and return to full continued approval. Ms. Devila’s recommendation was to approve the request to grant that continued full approval for a four-year period, beginning with February 3, 2025, and issue that approval accordingly.

Motion: To approve the report and adopt the NEC recommendations regarding the consideration of removal from provisional approval.

Motion/Second: Mr. Dierking /Mr. Hill.

Cynthia Acosta, representing the program, expressed her appreciation for Ms. Devila's guidance and patience answering her questions.

Jamie Ramos, representing the program, thanked Ms. Devila. He stated the program went through challenging times over the last few years in traditional accreditation, but the program faculty took this challenge seriously. He advised the program has gone through renovation and change and believes they have set the foundation that will keep the program's passion and scores and in excellent standards for a long future to come.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Dierking	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 8 Executive Officer's Report.

A. Update, Discussion and Possible Actions.

I. Strategic Plan 2025-2030 Update. Ms. Yamaguchi updated that in November the Board approved the Strategic Plan and since then, staff has met with the consultants to put working goals into motion. Ms. Yamaguchi mentioned that progress was already made on several of the goals.

II. Transition to NURSYS for License Verification Updates. Ms. Yamaguchi updated that it has taken effect, and that the Licensing Division may give a further update in their report.

III. Transaction Fees. Ms. Yamaguchi shared that Mr. Ito discussed this topic in the Budget report. Ms. Yamaguchi also wanted to share that most of DCA's Boards made the same decision to add the fees as well.

IV. Respiratory Care Board Upcoming Board Meeting. Ms. Yamaguchi shared that RCB would move to approve their regulatory language during their upcoming March Board Meeting. Ms. Yamaguchi also updated that RCB published their annual rulemaking calendar as it contains the updated proposals. The updates in the rulemaking about the home health community and the services have not been 100% vetted yet. Since RCB has been working on this for quite some time Ms. Yamaguchi expects that RCB would have a solid draft language to start moving ahead.

Board Discussion for Agenda Items 8.A.I - VI: None

Public Comment for Agenda Items 8.A.III - VIII:

Mr. Coby Pizzotti with the California Association of Psychiatric Technicians (CAPT) shared that he wanted to discuss the distribution of Naloxone in Correctional facilities. Mr. Pizzotti mentioned it has been an issue that dates back quite a few months, and it has given his members concern as to what their liability is. Mr. Pizzotti also shared that Corrections has stepped back and authorized all inmates to have Naloxone. Mr. Pizzotti stated his concern is if they have liability as a licensed body as a licensed Psychiatric Technicians to administer the Naloxone to inmates. He requested CAPT be included with discussions with Corrections as they care about their members and what their liabilities and exposures may be.

Ms. Yamaguchi replied to Mr. Pizzotti that the board's leadership has not yet scheduled a date to discuss this topic. Ms. Yamaguchi will be in touch with CAPT and will update them when they start those discussions with Corrections.

B. Dr. Mountain offered to answer any questions from the Executive Committee Report. No questions were received.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Agenda Item 9 Licensing and Evaluations

Ms. Brown shared since the last Board Meeting that the Licensing Department has migrated to the Microsoft Teams. The MS Teams phone system software is allowing the

Board access to real time inquiry phone line and statistical data. Ms. Brown also shared that this update enables licensing management to access live phone queue status, such as calls in the queue and active calls, and track total calls received, answered, and phone queue wait times.

Board Discussion: None

Public Comment: None.

Agenda Item 10 Legislative and Regulations

A. 2025 Legislative Concepts

Ms. Yamaguchi invited the Board to comment upon and add to the Legislative Concepts list. Ms. Yamaguchi recommended to direct staff to assess the Legislative Concepts list for the benefits and drawbacks of the matters, determining a timeline, and prioritization.

I. Codifying Detailed Scopes of Practice. Ms. Yamaguchi offered for Board consideration the benefits of codifying areas within licensed vocational nurses' and psychiatric technicians' scopes of practice. This codification asserts clarity into statutes that regulations could not and reduces external interference upon scope of practice.

II. Limiting NCLEX and CAPTLE Exam Attempts. Ms. Yamaguchi described previous Board discussions about whether examinees should have unlimited NCLEX and CAPTLE exam attempts. Ms. Yamaguchi noted where California stands relative to other states and other nursing boards on this issue. Our Board may be able to partner with the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) to craft this language.

III. Number of Instructional and Clinical Hours. Ms. Yamaguchi referred to previous discussions on tailoring the Board's required theory and clinical hours. Ms. Yamaguchi noted that if a change in the minimum statutory program hours is desired, then a bill will be required.

IV. Revising Existing Alternate Pathways to Licensure. Ms. Yamaguchi relayed to the Board an uptick in programs advertising a CNA-LVN bridge.

V. Authorization to Regulate Preparatory Programs. Ms. Yamaguchi noted the inability of our Board to assess such programs. Ms. Yamaguchi then explained the current nature of Method 5 examinees and their relationship to the Board.

VI. Codifying Licensee Training Requirements and Scope of Cosmetic, Dermatological, Respiratory, and/or Naturopathic Work. Ms. Yamaguchi explained that individuals applying for LVN examination coming from backgrounds other than attending an LVN program vary greatly in what skills, knowledge, and work experience are present and lacking. Ms. Yamaguchi recommends codifying specific expectations of training.

VII. Changing 'Psychiatric Technician' Title and Scope. Ms. Yamaguchi referred to previous discussions within the Board regarding the potential change of title for "psychiatric technicians" and the possible change to their scope. Ms. Yamaguchi noted that the name doesn't identify the breadth of the job expectations. Ms. Yamaguchi concluded on the notion that this may be addressed within the Board's next sunset hearing.

VIII. Adding Bill Language to Omit Boards Whose License Processing Times Are Within a Specified Number of Days. Ms. Yamaguchi described a trend in bills offering expedited applications for various populations. Ms. Yamaguchi noted that within the BVNPT this would only be detrimental to the speed of such applications.

IX. Authorizing a Fee for School Programs Placed on Provisional Approval and/or Substantial Curriculum Changes. Ms. Yamaguchi explained that the subject did not get taken up within the past sunset bill. Ms. Yamaguchi wants to have the programs pay to some degree the cost to the Board in managing all of the changes that programs request. Dr. Mountain noted that the Board of Registered Nursing has a fee structure for each program change.

X. Authorizing a Tiered Fee Structure to Align School Fees with Actual Processing Costs. Ms. Yamaguchi described this inequity as neither sustainable nor fair. Ms. Yamaguchi calls for a fee analysis to make the fee schedule both sustainable and fair.

XI. Authorization for Cite and Fine Continuing Education and Intravenous-Blood Withdrawal Providers. Ms. Yamaguchi noted that while cite and fine has been authorized for vocational nursing programs and psychiatric technician programs, the Board does not have authority to cite and fine post-licensure education providers. Ms. Yamaguchi expressed a potential need for such authority to reduce the irregularities of providers.

XII. Creation of Post-Licensure Certification for Respiratory Care. Ms. Yamaguchi noted that the Board never gave certification for specific fields of practice, such as respiratory care. Ms. Yamaguchi advised consideration of such certifications in the future.

XIII. Sentence Enhancements for Abuse of Developmentally Disabled Patients. Ms. Yamaguchi expressed to the Board that it may be important for the Board to raise the subject of sentence enhancement for abuse of developmentally disabled patients.

XIV. Codifying the ABC Test for Licensees Working as Independent Contractors. Ms. Yamaguchi described the growing concern of LVN or PT agencies that have inadequate supervision and work outside of the scope of practice. Ms. Yamaguchi believes that the supervision and narrow scope of practice for these professions may bar them from being treated as independent contractors.

B. Discussion and Possible Action to Initiate a Rulemaking to Adopt Title 16, California Code of Regulations Sections 2509.1 and 2569 Regarding Retired Licenses

Ms. Yamaguchi updated the Board regarding the development of the license retirement approved within the last sunset hearing. Ms. Yamaguchi stated that the teams working on it have begun to design the language.

Dr. Mountain addressed the beginning of COVID-19 when nurses throughout California were asked by the State to return to service. Dr. Mountain believed retirement status will simplify this process for nurses in the future.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Butu offered that changes to scope of practice should be handled in statute. Ms. Yamaguchi agreed that language within forthcoming regulations should be placed in statute.

The Board discussed research in the field regarding outcomes of these changes, and the research on the inverse relationship between time outside of training and passing exam results. The Board also discussed the BRN's statutes regarding scope of practice. Mr. Hill noted the interest of board members as Psychiatric Technician instructors.

Public Comment:

Brian Tuttle, representing California Preparatory College (CPC), addressed the Board and wanted to discuss topics in the previous meeting topics. The Board asked clarifications of Mr. Tuttle, including questions regarding the nature of his program and what Mr. Tuttle would like in terms of increased regulations. Mr. Dierking asked if we have data correlating exam attempts to discipline or other issues. Dr. Mountain noted

that test anxiety and time are known factors for test results. Dr. Mountain further noted that expense is also a significant factor to potential licensees. Dr. Mountain commented that refresher courses are appropriate to include in future considerations.

Mr. Tuttle addressed Revising Existing Alternative Pathways to Licensure. Mr. Tuttle described CPC as providing the pharmacy class required under Method 5 and as giving further resources towards successful completion for a Method 5 application. Mr. Tuttle declared support for greater regulation supporting Method 5 examinees including clarification of expectations. Mr. Tuttle explained the cost of his program and commented on the suitability of his students to take the NCLEX-PN.

Ms. Butu recommended that the Board table discussion and later, upon receipt of a specific request, to put the topic of discussion on a future agenda.

Coby Pizzotti, representing CAPT, first addressed changing 'Psychiatric Technician' title and scope. Mr. Pizzotti expressed concern on the part of CAPT regarding the potential name change. He opined CAPT is not opposed to a name change, but a change in scope of practice may lead to concerns. CAPT requested to be included in such discussions and that Ad Hoc meetings be open for public participation. CAPT would also like PTs to align with Federal expectations for funding.

Mr. Pizzotti addressed psychiatric technicians as instructors of theory. Mr. Pizzotti requested data supporting the decision to remove PTs from teaching theory, including 15 years of pass rate data. Mr. Pizzotti believed the concern for falling pass rates is misdirected at instruction versus systemic concerns.

Ms. Butu asked if Mr. Pizzotti's request was a Public Records Act request. Mr. Pizzotti stated he would like to make a PRA request. Ms. Butu directed him to contact BVNPT staff.

Mr. Pizzotti addressed the Board again regarding "Authorizing a Tiered Fee Structure to Align School Fees with Actual Processing Costs." Mr. Pizzotti praised the Board in trying to place more fees on the Programs. Mr. Pizzotti expressed that the fees are disproportionately placed on the licensees. Mr. Pizzotti offered to cosponsor any potential bill that may come from this legislative concept.

Mr. Pizzotti also addressed concern regarding "Codifying the ABC Test for Licensees Working as Independent Contractors." Mr. Pizzotti described anecdotes where individuals that resigned to curtail punishment for inappropriate actions get hired by staffing agencies to work in the same place they resigned from without accountability.

Robert Knolls, a psychiatric technician, addressed "Limiting NCLEX and CAPTLE Exam Attempts." Mr. Knolls requested that the Board be generous in its limitations for taking exams.

Agenda Item 11

Enforcement

A. Enforcement Division Report. Ms. Wood shared information regarding the Administrative Procedure Act, which is a decision that contains a significant legal or policy determination of a general application that's likely to reoccur maybe designated as presidential by the BBM. Ms. Wood mentioned once the presidential decision has been established BVNPT is able to move forward to make decision on cases in front of the board. Ms. Wood provided information about a Licensed Vocational Nurse that formally owned a residential care facility in which a respondent was a care giver in the establishment. Ms. Wood went into further detail about an incident that involved a death of a resident and the investigation that took place. Based on the findings of the investigation BVNPT was asked to see if any discipline action needed to be addressed. In the findings a LVN is highly regulated and must follow the statues and regulations to practice as a Nurse. Although the Respondent was not providing care at the time of the incident, she was responsible for the well-being of a vulnerable person at the care facility. The respondent failed to comply with the regulations and the wellbeing safety of the resident. The outcome was that the respondent's license was revoked and was placed on probation. Ms. Wood shared that with the substantiated complaints pertaining to the BVVPT licenses working in DSS facilities, BVNPT are able to work more closely with the Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing division.

Board Discussion: None

Public Comment: None.

B. Investigation Division Report. Ms. Higashi shared that her report was given to the Board members prior to the Board Meeting.

Board Discussion: None

Public Comment: None.

C. In Mr. Maxey's absence, Ms. Moore provided an update on the Enforcement Committee Report. Ms. Moore highlighted the Enforcement Division is working on outreach in an effort to help licensees avoid being subject to an enforcement action and to being able better understand the enforcement process. Ms. Moore provided an update to educate the licenses in that BVNPT sent out an email reminder before Christmas and New Year's about intoxicated driving, updated the board's website to include more information about the enforcement process and working with new public service announcements. Ms. Moore and the Enforcement Division hope that by providing more information to licensees about actions in the enforcement process, we will see fewer cases. Ms. Moore also reported that the Investigations

Division discussed cost recovery and have started the implementation of recovery for cases as of January 15, 2025.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment:

Brandy Coward, who had technical issues with Webex earlier in the meeting was able to join and she shared about PT and the teaching theory that there may be a problem for the LVNs and the other potential changes. She has concerns about potential changes on clinical ratios and it could be punitive. She stated she understands there will be more discussion going forward but, would like to have the data behind it doing to her school doing very well.

Agenda Item 12

Psychiatric Technicians Ad-hoc Committee

A. Mr. Hill shared a summary of the prior committee meeting including a discussion with Dr. McLeod and Ms. Moore and identified three state agencies that offer similar Psychiatric Technician licenses and two of them actually use the Psychiatric Technician name. Mr. Hill discussed this topic further and will involve all parties in any future discussions when it comes to the Psychiatric Technician name change.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment:

Mr. Pizzotti wanted to thank the Board about being diligent and thinking of CAPT with the Psychiatric Technician name change. Mr. Pizzotti mentioned that there is bill that addresses Behavioral Technician or an Autism Provider, and he would like us to make sure that from a professional standpoint there needs to be a clear path of delineation between Behavioral Technician and a Psychiatric Technician. Mr. Pizzotti advised scopes vary from profession to profession, and we don't want to step on anybody's toes, and we want to make sure that it's clearly defined as what is our role as we move forward.

Betty McVay wanted to address psychiatric theory. Ms. McVay stated she is a professor at the Porterville College in their Psychiatric Technician program. Ms. McVay stated she is uneasy about the proposed changes to the required RN licensure for all theory instructors. Ms. McVay expressed her frustration and fear from the psychiatric community that it is the Board's duty to assure that the students are given the appropriate educational opportunities to enter the workforce as competent practitioners. She asked how competency will be obtained when these students will only be taught by instructors who have never performed the job duties that future psychiatric technicians perform.

Dr. Andrew Sanchez is a program Director at Mount San Antonio College Psychiatric Technician program. Dr. Sanchez stated he was made aware of the upcoming changes that Psychiatric Technicians will no longer be allowed to teach the didactic theory component and only allowed to teach the clinical portion. The proposal to only have Registered Nurses (RN) teach this was concerning due to the development disabilities curriculum in which the RN's do not have. Dr. Sanchez felt that Psychiatric Technicians are better equipped to teach this theory.

Christina Curry expressed her concerns regarding the proposed policy for all the Vocational Nursing instructors to hold a BSN which would then not allow Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN) the opportunity to teach. Ms. Curry expressed that LVNs possess real world experience and an understanding of the profession that is very critical. LVN instructors often serve as role models for students demonstrating that it is possible to achieve career success and make meaningful contributions in the field without a Bachelor Science in Nursing (BSN). Ms. Curry would like the Board to consider alternative approaches for the LVN instructors.

Clarissa Cerda expressed how she was wrongfully disciplined back in 2004. Ms. Cerda expressed how upset she was with disciplinary process and how the Board mishandled the process. Ms. Cerda would like to have a review of disciplinary actions discussed at the next meeting.

Amy Tull, who identified herself as a licensed Psychiatric Technician and a Registered Nurse, expressed that her experience as a Registered Nurse did not expose her to mental health or intellectual disability patients. Ms. Tull stated she does not have the expertise and knowledge or qualifications to teach these courses in our program as a Registered Nurse.

Jamie Ramos expressed that she would like some clarity on the driving motive behind why the Psychiatric Technicians cannot teach the didactic portion of PT programs. Ms. Ramos would like the Board PT Ad Hoc Committee to have more Psychiatric Technician representation.

Monica, unidentified last name, shared that she appreciated the high standards that the Board is committed to maintaining for PT education, however she is not in support of the recent requirement change in the PT education.

Agenda Item 13

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Dr. Mountain opened the floor for public comment to items not on the agenda.

Public Comment:

Mr. Pizzotti asked that any forthcoming regulations strike out any reference to allowance or disallowance of vocational nursing and psychiatric technician instructors. He asserted that it is unpopular and that data will find that COVID-19 is the fault of lowering test scores.

Elizabeth McPeak, who identified herself as a registered nurse with a master's degree, suggested that alternate education paths should be allowed to teach psychiatric technicians.

An anonymous individual, who identified themselves as a psychiatric technician educator, strongly opposed registered nurses' sole authority to train psychiatric technicians. They articulated that psychiatric technicians have focused training on mental health, behavioral health, and direct care of individuals with psychiatric disorders and developmental disabilities. The individual asserted that this focus is better qualified to train in psychiatric care with greater experience within the field. The individual further asserted that the practical experience of psychiatric technicians is an exclusive advantage as instructors. The individual further contrasted psychiatric technician duties with the focus of registered nurses.

Christina Meagher, who identified herself as a Psychiatric Technician educator, was strongly opposed to have RNs teach theory in the Psychiatric program. Ms. Meagher also felt that Psychiatric Technicians undergo training specifically focused on mental health, behavioral health, and the direct care of patients with psychiatric disorders as well as developmental disabilities. Ms. Meagher mentioned that RNs are highly skilled in other practices in general health but not in the mental health that the Psychiatric Technician needs.

Jasal Piga offered praise for Napa Valley's Psychiatric Technician Program Director, Andrea Ruybal.

The Webex moderator voiced a question typed in the Q&A: What is the BVNPT's stand on joining the compact states. The Board suggested this be a future agenda item.

Agenda Item 14**Suggestions for Future Agenda Items****Board Discussion:**

Ms. Moore requested that Psychiatric Technician and Vocational Nursing instructors be removed from the next agenda item. Ms. Butu advised that the agenda has not been written yet.

Mr. Dierking proposed to add consideration of scope of practice and liability and ancillary issues regarding distribution of Naloxone in State facilities and institutions for psychiatric technicians and vocational nurses and further refer them to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Hill stated the Psychiatric Technician Ad Hoc Committee would like questions placed before the Board regarding the Psychiatric Technician Occupational Analysis Survey. Ms. Yamaguchi commented it would be more efficient to address this issue directly with Dr. McLeod.

Public Comment: None.

Agenda Item 15 Closed Session

Motion: To retire to closed session and not reconvene in open session. The meeting will adjourn at the completion of closed session.

Motion/Second: Mr. Dierking/Mr. Hill

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Mr. Dierking	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Mr. Hill	Yes

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 15 Adjourn Meeting

The open session was completed, and the meeting was adjourned without returning to open session at approximately 11:24 a.m.

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____
Elaine Yamaguchi
Executive Officer

Approved by: _____ Date: _____
Dr. Carel Mountain, Education Member
Board President