



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

https://youtu.be/72DU-M_MvFA

DATE: Friday, August 15, 2025

**BOARD MEMBERS
 PRESENT:**

Dr. Mountain, President, Education Member
 Ms. Carpenter, Public Member
 Ms. Guzman, Licensed Vocational Nurse Member
 Ms. Moore, Psychiatric Technician Member
 Ms. Nieblas, Public Member (online)
 Dr. Olaby, Public Member
 Dr. Russell, Licensed Vocational Nurse Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Yamaguchi, Executive Officer
 Mr. Ito, Assistant Executive Officer
 Mr. Prouty, Discipline Manager
 Ms. Vierra, Probation Manager (online)
 Ms. Higashi, Supervising Special Investigator
 Dr. McLeod, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant
 Ms. Brown, Licensing Division Manager
 Mr. Hall, Licensing Division Supervisor
 Mr. Trimble, Licensing Division Supervisor
 Dr. Fairchild, Nursing Education Consultant
 Ms. Gomez, Nursing Education Consultant
 Ms. Devila, Nursing Education Consultant (online)
 Dr. Swanson, Nursing Education Consultant (online)
 Ms. Silverman, Nursing Education Consultant (online)
 Ms. Noquez, Nursing Education Consultant (online)
 Dr. Thomson, Nursing Education Consultant
 Ms. Maracino, Education Analyst
 Mr. Gonzales, Education Analyst
 Mr. Weiler, Administration Manager
 Ms. Brady, Board Administration Analyst

DCA STAFF PRESENT: Ms. Butu, Board General Counsel
 Mr. Clifford, DCA Executive Office

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

Dr. Mountain called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Dr. Mountain conducted a role call and went over some housekeeping instructions. Dr. Mountain explained that since the Board is experiencing technical difficulties, the Board will take the agenda items out of order and go into closed session (Agenda Item 16) while the Webcast is getting set up. Open session will begin once the Webcast is up and running.

Absent Members: Ms. Sonson

Agenda Item 2 Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Carpenter led the room in the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Item 3 Introduction of Board Staff

Ms. Yamaguchi introduced Board staff.

Agenda Item 4 Election of Board Vice President – Dr. Mountain, Board President

Ms. Yamaguchi reported Abraham Hill is no longer a Board Member so the Board will need to elect another member to take his place as Vice President. Dr. Mountain nominated Aleta Carpenter.

Motion: To approve Aleta Carpenter as Vice President.

Moved / Seconded: Dr. Mountain / Ms. Guzman

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Dr. Olaby	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Abstain
Dr. Russell	Yes
Ms. Guzman	Yes
Ms. Nieblas	Yes

Ms. Moore	Yes
Ms. Sonson	Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 5 Review and Approval – Meeting Minutes for May 15, 2025, May 16, 2025, and June 6, 2025

Motion: To approve the Board Meeting minutes from May 15, 2025, May 16, 2025, and June 6, 2025.

Moved / Seconded: Dr. Olaby / Ms. Moore

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Dr. Olaby	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Dr. Russell	Yes
Ms. Guzman	Yes
Ms. Nieblas	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Ms. Sonson	Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 8 Psychiatric Technicians Occupational Analysis – Presentation by DCA Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES)

Dr. Mountain moved this agenda item to an earlier position in the original agenda.

Dr. Amy Welch Gandy, OPES chief, and Robert Calvert, Senior Statistician, presented the Occupational Analysis (OA) for Psychiatric Technicians prepared by OPES. The OA involves identifying the tasks and knowledge essential for safe and competent entry-level practice. In March 2025, a survey containing tasks and knowledge statements was distributed to 8,126 licensed practitioners, resulting in 1,076 responses (13%), with 485 valid responses (5.9%) used in the final analysis. The data collected helps to shape the

new Psychiatric Technician examinations, to be implemented beginning in September 2026.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Agenda Item 6 Fiscal and Budgets Update.

A. Fund Condition and Budget Updates

Mr. Ito, Assistant Executive Officer, reviewed the Board's expenditures, revenue, and fund condition. The Board's 2024-25 reversion is expected to be \$147,749. For 2024-25, the Board's revenue is projected to reach \$26.1 million.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Moore asked if the three eliminated staff positions are critical to operations and whether service levels will be impacted. Mr. Ito responded that the Board has been working on redirecting positions to ensure operational needs are met.

Ms. Moore asked if the 13.5 months in reserve are considered strong enough in light of possible future revenue dips. Mr. Ito responded that the 13.5 months is not an unhealthy reserve. The cap is supposed around 24 months.

Ms. Moore asked if there were plans to allocate the high revenue of \$26 million versus the \$17.8 million budget for program improvements and addressing any staffing shortages. Mr. Ito replied that the Board cannot spend beyond the budget appropriation without an approved Budget Change Proposal (BCP) or Budget Letter.

Ms. Moore asked how will the on-going budget cuts affect the Board's licensure processing times and any education program oversight? Mr. Ito replied that the Board currently has great processing times, and staff is very efficient.

Ms. Carpenter inquired whether the fee increase was the reason for the projected revenue growth. Mr. Ito responded that the fees had previously been set too low, leading the Board to face financial challenges. With the new fees established, the Board is generating a surplus. Mr. Ito also mentioned that he would provide further details in the next agenda item because the Board is looking at completing a fee audit.

Public Comment:

Coby Pizzotti, California Association of Psychiatric Technicians, inquired if the Board's staff lost three percent of their salary even though the Board is a special fund program? Ms. Yamaguchi responded that the Board's employees' salaries are subject to the bargaining agreements and most of the Board's employees fall under Bargaining Unit 1.

Mr. Pizzotti inquired about the positions eliminated by the vacancy reduction drill. Mr. Ito responded that an average of the Board's vacant positions was calculated and included in the drill.

Mr. Pizzotti indicated that the Board's fund has increased, compared to what it was previously and the largest producers for the Board's fund are licensees. Mr. Pizzotti stated that the schools are starting to contribute to the Board's revenue, where previously, they were not contributing to the fund while receiving more services than the licensees receive. Mr. Pizzotti stated that the licensees are subsidizing the costs of the Education Division. While raising the fees on the licensees helped immediately, they are not a fair and judicious way to address the issue.

B. Request Authority to Start Fee Audit Process – Mark Ito, Assistant Executive Officer

Mr. Ito reported that the Board is structurally imbalanced, meaning the Board is bringing in more revenue than it is spending. Mr. Ito reported that the Board is considering a revenue fee audit and study to determine whether any adjustments to the Board's fees are necessary to reflect the actual cost of providing services.

Mr. Ito reported that the Board regulates more than 170 Vocational Nursing (VN) and Psychiatric Technician (PT) programs, who apply for continuing approval every four years, with a fee of \$5,000 each. If the Board renews 40 programs each year, this adds up to approximately \$200,000. Mr. Ito stated that a fee audit will need to be conducted to create a sustainable and equitable fee structure.

Mr. Ito provided an overview of the report.

Mr. Ito summarized the following recommendations to the Board

1. Authorize the Board's Executive Officer (EO) to begin the planning and development of a Request for Proposal (RFP) and Scope of Work for a fee study.
2. Authorize the EO to research and execute a plan to release and distribute the RFP no later than January 2026.

3. Appoint a Review Committee or delegate the review process to the Executive Committee.
4. Authorize the EO to begin preparing a Budget Change Proposal and consult with the DCA Budget Office and Legal Counsel.
5. Authorize the EO to negotiate with selected contractor.
6. Direct the EO and Board staff to assemble data for the contractor and provide updates to the Executive Committee.
7. Prepare and present the fee study to the Board for possible action at a future Board Meeting.
8. Authorize the EO to draft bill language and narrative for the 2028 Sunset Report.

Board Discussion:

Dr. Mountain inquired about the Board's current status regarding the cite and fine regulations as she feels that once one person gets issued a citation everyone else will get their affairs in order.

Dr. Russell inquired if the Board could narrow the costs for a more realistic analysis of what it will cost to conduct the third-party audit? Mr. Ito responded that when the RFP is issued, the Board will have a better estimate based on the submitted proposals. Dr. Russell asked if there is potential to be more cost-efficient by bringing in temporary staff to help alleviate internal bandwidth, if that's an option. Mr. Ito responded that the Board does not have the extra funding for temporary staff. Ms. Yamaguchi also mentioned that DCA may have several consulting and counseling groups, such as the Organizational Improvement Office.

Ms. Moore inquired whether the fee structure is sustainable and what risks the Board faces by waiting until 2028. Ms. Yamaguchi stated that, given the Board's current significant surplus, the Board is not at risk. Ms. Yamaguchi explained that the primary issue is establishing a fair, equitable, and sustainable fee structure for the future.

Ms. Moore inquired how the Board will ensure the study is impartial and comprehensive. Ms. Yamaguchi stated that the final selection of the consultant will likely be a bidding process.

Dr. Olaby feels that this could be a collaboration between in-house and dedicated members, as well as those familiar with this topic, such as DCA. Dr. Olaby suggested having a stakeholder engagement plan in place that gathers feedback through surveys and focus groups and involves both Board staff and DCA.

Public Comment:

Mr. Pizzotti addressed that CAPT supports the fee audit. Mr. Pizzotti also reported that schools use more services than the licensees and the Board's surplus is mainly due to an increase in license fees. Mr. Pizzotti agreed with Dr. Olaby's suggestion of a fee structure as the majority of the PT schools are community colleges, but the majority of the VN programs are private institutions with larger class sizes that can arbitrarily adjust tuition rates.

Online Public Comment:

Hilda Leke reported that she is a licensed vocational nurse (LVN) and works in a state hospital in Norwalk. Ms. Leke is concerned about the enormous pay gap between an LVN and a PT. Ms. Leke inquired about how to transition from an LVN to a PT.

Ms. Butu asked if the Board would like to put the possible development of a bridge program on a future Board Meeting agenda as the discussion of a bridge program is not on the current agenda.

Ms. Yamaguchi and Dr. Mountain responded that they would like to refer the topic to the Education and Practice committees. Ms. Butu advised the Board to take a motion and vote on this topic.

Motion: To refer the topic of bridge programs between LVN and PTs to the Education and Practice Committees.

Moved / Second: Dr. Russell / Ms. Moore.

Public Comment on Motion in room: None

Public Comment online: None

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Dr. Olaby	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Dr. Russell	Yes
Ms. Guzman	Yes
Ms. Nieblas	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Ms. Sonson	Absent

Motion carried.

Resumed Public Comment on Agenda Item 6.B: Request Authority to Start Fee Audit Process

Lauren M. stated that LVNs already pay the same amount in fees as registered nurses (RNs), and LVNs do not make the same amount as RNs. Lauren M. also expressed that LVNs should not be required to pay the mandatory five-dollar fee at the time of license renewal to fund the VN Education Program within the Health Professions Education Foundation.

Shirley A. Jones commented that the fees for LVNs are too high, and there is a need for a breakdown of fees between active and retired LVNs. Ms. Jones also mentioned she has been retired since 2002, still renews her license and has not worked a day since she retired. Ms. Jones also commented that something needs to be done about the discrepancies in the schools' fees and the fees for retired LVNs. Ms. Jones also stated that creating a bridge for LVNs who wish to transition into PTs is a good idea.

Motion: Approve the staff recommendations in the memo concerning the review, audit, and fee study.

Moved / Seconded: Dr. Russell / Ms. Carpenter

Board Discussion: After Motion

Ms. Nieblas discussed a stakeholder engagement strategy. Ms. Nieblas stated that she is hearing various perspectives from LVNs who are retiring and want to transition into PT roles.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Dr. Olaby	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Dr. Russell	Yes
Ms. Guzman	Yes
Ms. Nieblas	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Ms. Sonson	Absent

Motion carried.

Agenda Item 7**Education - Recommendation, and Possible Actions.****A. Education Division Report**

Dr. McLeod, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant, welcomed the new Nursing Education Consultant (NEC), Dr. Alice Noquez. Dr. McLeod highlighted key points from the Education Division Report, noting that the NECs have conducted six site visits since the last quarter and 54 programs have gone through the Letter of Intent (LOI) process. Dr. McLeod reported that there are now 14 programs in the program approval process. The Board approved one program last quarter and expects to approve five more in the next quarter. Additionally, the Education Division is hosting a meeting with program directors in September with a focus on ways program directors can be creative in their programs and lesson planning, which is an area that programs need assistance.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Moore inquired about programs that are removed from the approval process due to a lack of communication with the Board. Is there a follow-up or reapplication path? Dr. McLeod responded that programs have a timeline to follow, set forth in regulations. Dr. McLeod explained that if the program does not respond to the Board within 30 days, they will be dropped from the process and can reapply in six months.

Ms. Moore asked when the public dashboard will be launched and what information will be visible? Ms. Yamaguchi responded that the Board has been working with OIS, but the Board has not made significant progress on designing the dashboard.

Ms. Moore asked if the September Director's Forum will be open to both LVN and PT programs, and programs and how will artificial intelligence (AI) teaching tools be vetted for quality and efforts. Dr. McLeod responded that all of the program directors are invited. The last meeting had 134 people in attendance, including program directors and ancillary staff. Dr. McLeod reported that the next meeting will feature a presentation in the Board's Innovative Practices Forum discussing AI.

Dr. Olaby inquired if the Director's Forum will focus on implementing AI policies considering the stigma surrounding the use of AI. Dr. McLeod responded that the Director's Forum will focus on programs that are already utilizing AI and how they're incorporating AI into their programs. Dr. McLeod stated that next year's Director's Forum will go into greater detail on integrating AI into the programs. Dr. Olaby asked if there could be a forum with workshops that would engage some of the stakeholders, in addition to some of the Board Members who are on the Education Committee, where the deliverables could be Board-led best practices. It could be the use of AI or a different type of technology that various programs can adopt. Dr. McLeod responded that the Education Division conducted one Director's Forum last year. After receiving

feedback from the LVN and PT programs, the Education Division decided to add an additional Director's Forum. The focus of the next Director's Forum will be remediation.

Public Comment: None

- I. Review, Ratification and Approval of Executive Officer Program Decisions for period from April 17, 2025, to July 22, 2025.

Motion: To approve and ratify the Executive Officer Program Decisions for the period from April 17, 2025, to July 22, 2025, as provided in the meeting packet.

Moved / Second: Dr. Russell / Ms. Moore.

Board Discussion: None

Public Comment: None

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Dr. Olaby	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Dr. Russell	Yes
Ms. Guzman	Yes
Ms. Nieblas	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Ms. Sonson	Absent

Motion carried.

- B. Request to Admit Students.

- I. Quest Nursing Education Center Vocational Nursing Program, Alhambra,

Jessica Gomez, NEC, presented the report for Quest Education Center in response to a request to admit a part-time day and evening class of 30 students, scheduled to start on September 1, 2025.

Ms. Carpenter asked if there was any additional information that Ms. Gomez would like to add. Ms. Gomez reported that the program corrected all their violations.

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

Motion / Second: Ms. Niebles / Ms. Carpenter.

Comments from program:

Ms. Eletu thanked Ms. Gomez.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Dr. Olaby	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Dr. Russell	Yes
Ms. Guzman	Yes
Ms. Nieblas	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Ms. Sonson	Absent

Motion carried.

C. Recommendation to Rescind Pattern of Admission, Report of Continued Approval Process, and Request to Admit Students.

I. Platt College, Alhambra Career, Vocational Nursing Program

Dr. McLeod reported that there is no additional information to add to the report.

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

Motion / Second: Ms. Moore / Ms. Guzman.

Megan Clifton, Vice-President of Academic and Regulatory Affairs from Platt College, thanked the Board and appreciates their time.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Dr. Olaby	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Dr. Russell	Yes
Ms. Guzman	Yes
Ms. Nieblas	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Ms. Sonson	Absent

Motion carried.

D. Consideration of Recommendation for Provisional Approval.

I. Pacific College, Costa Mesa, Vocational Nursing Program

Ms. Gomez, NEC, presented the report and recommends the program be placed on provisional approval. Ms. Gomez identified two changes to the report. The program has a new Program Director and noted an error in the report, identifying that the site visit in April was actually conducted in January.

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

Motion / Second: Dr. Russell / Ms. Moore.

Comments from program:

Ms. Boren thanked Ms. Yamaguchi for assigning Ms. Gomez to the program noting the great communication received. Ms. Boren updated that their satellite campus in Ontario had a prior Director who was not doing their job and was subsequently terminated. Ms. Yamaguchi directed Ms. Boren to address only the Costa Mesa campus matters. Ms. Boren stated that the program made improvements and now has stability in leadership, but didn't believe the program should be placed on provisional approval.

Board Discussion:

Dr. Mountain inquired about reports of students not being treated equally, such as a student who was 15 minutes late being sent home, but another student who was 20 minutes late was allowed to stay. Ms. Boren responded that she had spoken to the faculty and was under the impression that the student was taking a vacation before a holiday break and had missed two classes, and that the student was able to make up for the missed classes. Dr. Mountain asked what the total cost of the program is for students. Ms. Boren replied that the cost is \$38,000. Dr. Mountain was also concerned that the students were administering medications without the instructor's supervision because medication errors are one of the most significant problems in healthcare facilities. Ms. Boren responded that an investigation was completed and the specific student that complained passed the medication to the faculty member. Dr. Mountain inquired whether medication passing is addressed in the faculty handbook and how it is managed. Ms. Boren responded that the faculty members were counseled about medication passing and directed to follow the policies. Dr. Russell asked how many students are in the clinical rotation with one instructor. Ms. Boren responded that there are 10 but could be up to 15 per the Board's policy. Dr. Russell replied that there may be an opportunity to reevaluate whether two instructors are needed for that many students because not all students will be able to pass in one day. Dr. Mountain supports Dr. Russell's view that most facilities prefer a clinical group size of no more than ten students, and many facilities, at least in the Sacramento area, recommend holding it to eight students.

Public Comment: None.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Dr. Olaby	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Dr. Russell	Yes
Ms. Guzman	Yes
Ms. Nieblas	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Ms. Sonson	Absent

Motion carried and passed unanimously.

E. Consideration of Recommendation for Provisional Approval, Consideration of Recommendation to Rescind Pattern of Admission, and Report of Continued Approval Process

I. Angeles Institute Vocational Nursing Program.

Dr. Thomson recommends that the Board approve Angeles Institute Vocational Nursing Program on a provisional status for a period of two years starting August 15, 2025, and place the program on the August 2027 agenda for consideration of continuing approval and to rescind their current pattern of admission.

Motion: To approve Angeles Institute Vocational Nursing Program Report and adopt the NEC recommendations.

Motion / Second: Dr. Russell / Ms. Moore.

Brandy Coward, Program Director, introduced herself, Veronica Solomon, Nursing Education Specialist and Director of Academics, and Ellie Robinson, Director of Compliance. Ms. Solomon updated that the program is working closely with the NEC on the 12 violations, and nine have already been corrected. Ms. Solomon reported that some of the corrections were not able to be submitted for this Board Meeting. Dr. Thomson stated that the five other violations were reviewed and deemed not to have been completely corrected. Dr. Thomson reported that the program will need a major curriculum revision, and her recommendations have not changed.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Moore asked what concrete steps are in place to ensure that this program will follow BVNPT rules consistently and protect students' clinical education and patient safety going forward. Ms. Coward responded that the program has a consistent pass rate. Ms. Coward stated that she has some differences in opinion with Dr. Thomson and thought she would have conversations with her prior to the meeting.

Dr. Mountain asked how much each student pays for tuition. The program replied with \$35,000.

Dr. Russell inquired about the processes in place to enable being more proactive than reactive so the program will not be in this situation again. Ms. Solomon responded that they have a clearer understanding of how to approach this situation. The program has a newly appointed compliance officer to help develop a better process to implement policies. Dr. Thomson reported that the September

date for correcting the violations still stands. Dr. Mountain thanked Dr. Thomson for working closely with the program and appreciated all the questions and comments about the resources. Dr. Olaby added that these violations are actually an excellent resource for the BVNPT when it comes to needs assessment and guidance for identifying specific training workshops and training documents.

Public Comment:

Coby Pizzotti expressed that a for-profit institution charges students a lot of money and utilizes a significant amount of resources that the Board provides without paying its fair share. Mr. Pizzotti mentioned that the Board must have the ability to increase the fees.

Dr. Eletu, Program Director, Quest Nursing Education Center, reported again that the slide on the Webcast is for Quest Nursing Education Center and inquired whether the recording could be fixed to display the correct program. Ms. Yamaguchi responded that although the slide was incorrect, the agenda is correct. The minutes of the meeting will accurately reflect the correct program.

Member Name	Vote
Dr. Mountain	Yes
Dr. Olaby	Yes
Ms. Carpenter	Yes
Dr. Russell	Yes
Ms. Guzman	Yes
Ms. Nieblas	Yes
Ms. Moore	Yes
Ms. Sonson	Absent

Motion carried and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 9 Executive Officer's Report.

A. Update, Discussion and Possible Actions.

I. Board Members, Committees, Upcoming Meetings, Member training.

Ms. Yamaguchi updated that the Board is down three members. Ms. Yamaguchi reported that the Board is currently missing one Psychiatric Technician member. The Union along with Ms. Moore have been reaching out for candidates. Currently, the

Board also needs two public members, one appointed by the Senate and one by the Governor. Ms. Yamaguchi stated that the Executive Committee will appoint the members to the Board committees.

Board Discussion:

Ms. Moore expressed that she still would like to be on the Enforcement committee along with PT Ad Hoc.

Dr. Mountain mentioned that she has always been on the Education committee due to her appointment as the education member.

Dr. Olaby expressed she would like to join the Education committee.

Ms. Nieblas expressed she would like to stay in the Education committee and be added to the Leg/Reg committee.

Ms. Carpenter expressed she would like to continue to be on the Leg/Reg committee.

Ms. Butu inquired if the Board still had an opening on the PT Ad Hoc committee. Ms. Yamaguchi responded there is an opening on the committee but there is not a second PT member.

Dr. Russell stated he would be open to joining the PT Ad Hoc committee.

Ms. Yamaguchi provided an update to the Board regarding the upcoming meeting calendar for 2027. The Board has already approved the calendar for 2026, but it would be beneficial for Board Members to review again due to the limited availability of meeting facilities and the scheduling conflicts that arise when other boards meet at the same time.

Ms. Yamaguchi also reported that staff has been exploring options for the proposed 2027 calendar. One suggestion is to move meeting days from Thursday and Friday to potentially Wednesday and Thursday, or even Monday and Tuesday, to facilitate room reservations. Additionally, the proposed calendar includes various scenarios for review, such as compliance with bill Assembly Bill (AB) 395 and several scheduled holidays. These considerations are essential for ensuring compliance when planning our Board meetings.

Board Discussion:

Dr. Olaby inquired if a Board member can attend the second day of a Board Meeting if they cannot attend the first day. Ms. Yamaguchi responded the first day is generally a

placeholder for training, guest speakers, and orientation. The second date is reserved for official Board business. Ms. Yamaguchi updated that there is a vast number of mandated trainings for Board members, which the Board tries to supplement with our own training and enrichment activities during the two-day meetings.

Dr. Olaby suggested that she would like to know every available resource to explore, so the Board can determine what is available. Ms. Yamaguchi responded that she appreciated that suggestion.

Dr. Russell asked whether the proposed dates are likely to remain unchanged. Ms. Yamaguchi responded that the current calendar for 2026 is available on our website. Dr. Mountain pointed out that the dates are not currently listed on the website. Ms. Yamaguchi noted that the upcoming dates for 2026 will be announced at the November Board meeting.

II. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Accepting New School Applications.

Ms. Yamaguchi updated that there have been developments and possible avenues to address so the Board is going to table this item.

Agenda Item 10 Licensing and Evaluations

Ms. Brown reported that since the last Board Meeting, on July 2, 2025, the license verification requests that were previously handled by the Board's licensing staff are now being completed by National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). This change allows VNs applying to practice in another state, or anyone needing to verify a VN's license, to request verification electronically through NCSBN for a lower fee than through the Board.

Board Discussion:

Dr. Mountain responded that it's nice to have good news to share with our licensees and to make something more affordable as well.

Public Comment:

Lauren M. inquired if this would now allow them to pursue multi-state licensure, as some other states do. Ms. Yamaguchi responded that it is not an option at this time. Lauren asked if that is something the Board can discuss in the future. Ms. Yamaguchi answered that it would require the Board and the State of California to join the multi-state compact.

Agenda Item 11

Legislative and Regulations

A. Legislative and Regulations Committee Report

Ms. Carpenter provided an update on the Legislative and Regulations Committee Meeting held on June 20, 2025. The committee members were in attendance along with Ms. Yamaguchi and Kristy Schieldge, Regulations Counsel. Ms. Yamaguchi provided updates on the following legislative bills and the status of each.

I. Update on 2025 Legislation of Interest

- Assembly Bill 323 (Fong) – Work-based Learning Opportunities.

This bill authorizes community college districts to use Strong Workforce Program (SWP) funds to support paid work-based learning opportunities for students and employers. This bill is currently on suspense in Senate Appropriations.

- Assembly Bill 395 (Gabriel) – Holidays.

Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, this bill (1) requires schools and colleges to make efforts to avoid scheduling specified events on dates which would create an obstacle to participation for members of the public who observe ritual observance of a religious, cultural, or ancestral holiday; and (2) requires state agencies, and encourages local agencies, to make efforts to avoid conducting specified business on such dates. This bill is waiting to be heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

- Assembly Bill 667 (Solache) – Professions and vocations: license examinations: interpreters.

This bill requires Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) boards, except those that license health care professionals, to allow an applicant to use an interpreter when taking the written and oral portions of a licensure examination if the applicant cannot read, speak, or write in English. Ms. Yamaguchi reported that the earlier version of the bill would have applied to healing arts boards. This bill has been removed, so it no longer impacts the Board.

- Assembly Bill 742 (Elhawary) Department of Consumer Affairs: Licensing: Applicants Who Are Descendants of Slaves. Senate Bill 518 (Weber) Descendants of enslaved persons: reparations. Companion Bill

This bill requires all licensing boards, bureaus, commissions, and programs within DCA to expedite the license applications of descendants of slaves, as certified by the to-be created Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery. The bill creating the Bureau is

SB 518 (Weber-Pierson). AB 742 is waiting to be heard in Senate Appropriations. The Assembly Appropriations Committee analysis stated that DCA boards and bureaus indicated unspecified special fund costs to implement resources. SB 518 is waiting in the Assembly Appropriations Committee, with a cost estimate likely in excess of tens of millions of dollars annually.

- Assembly Bill 766 (Sharpe-Collins) – State agencies and departments: strategic plans: diversity, equity, and inclusion.

This bill requires strategic plans currently required to be developed by every agency or department under the Governor's authority, to develop or update the plan to reflect the use of inclusive practices to more effectively advance racial equity. This bill is waiting in Senate Appropriations.

- AB 1082 (Flora) Nursing: Students in Out-of-State Nursing Programs.

This bill allows a nursing student, who is a California resident and enrolled in a distance education nursing program based at an out-of-state private institution, to complete clinical placements in California. Ms. Yamaguchi reported that AB 1082 has been held and is not moving at this time.

- Senate Bill 389 (Ochoa Bogh) – Pupil Health: Individuals with Exceptional Needs: Respiratory Services: Licensed Vocational Nurses.

This bill authorizes LVNs, under the supervision of a credentialed school nurse, to provide basic respiratory care services to individuals with exceptional needs who require specialized physical health care services. This bill is waiting in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

- Senate Bill 470 (Laird) – Open Meeting Act: Teleconferencing

This bill would extend the January 1, 2026, repeal date for certain provisions in the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act until January 1, 2030, authorizing and specifying conditions under which a state body may hold a meeting by teleconference. This bill is waiting in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Ms. Yamaguchi reported on the status of the rulemaking packages. Additionally, Ms. Yamaguchi gave an update on the requested language for the annual technical clean-up bill. Unfortunately, while the Senate staff understand the issue, they indicated that the language was more substantive than an omnibus bill could contain.

Ms. Yamaguchi reported on the school standards regulation and hopes to have language for the Board Members to review this year. Ms. Schieldge recommended that staff look into possibly breaking the regulations package into smaller sections.

- B. Discussion and Possible Action to Seek a Legislative Proposal to Amend Business and Professions Code Sections 2892.8 and 4545.4 Regarding Retired Licenses

Ms. Yamaguchi reported that Ms. Carpenter covered this item in her report.

Board Discussion: None
Public Comment:

Ms. Shirley Jones inquired about the topic of the retired license. Yamaguchi responded that the Board was working on the regulatory language.

Agenda Item 12 Enforcement

- A. Enforcement Division Report.

Mr. Prouty presented on behalf of Ms. Wood, who was attending the NCSBN Annual Meeting in Chicago.

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.

Agenda Item 13 Psychiatric Technicians Ad-hoc Committee

- A. Psychiatric Technicians Ad-hoc Committee Report

Ms. Moore referred this item to Ms. Yamaguchi who provided some background on the scope of the committee and the work so far. Ms. Moore has accepted leadership for the committee and does not want it to be disbanded.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Agenda Item 14

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

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

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment:

Coby Pizzotti expressed concern regarding the Board Meeting Calendar. If the Board plans to change the calendar and move things off Fridays, Mr. Pizzotti asked to please consider the legislative calendar. The legislative calendar is when many of their hearings take place so representatives, such as those from SEIU, will not be able to attend board meetings. Mr. Pizzotti stated the Board could look into expanding its number of board members by allowing the Senate Pro Team, Assembly Speaker and the Governor to appoint an additional licensee board member.

Agenda Item 15

Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

Mark Ito, the AEO, reported that the Board made a motion regarding agenda item 6.B.

Motion on Agenda item 6.B from above: to bring this topic of a bridge program between LVN and PTs to the Education Committee.

Board Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Agenda Item 16

Closed Session

This agenda item was taken out of order. The Board entered into closed session at the beginning of the meeting to allow time to correct technical difficulties with Webcasting the meeting's open session.

Agenda Item 15

Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was officially concluded at 2:00 p.m.

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____

Elaine Yamaguchi
Executive Officer

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