



Washington State Department of Health
Board of Naturopathy
Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2014

Location: This meeting took place at the following locations utilizing videoconferencing.

Primary Meeting Site

Department of Health
Creekside Two at CenterPoint, Suite 310, Room 307
20425 72nd Avenue South
Kent, WA 98032

Secondary Meeting Site

Department of Health
16201 E Indiana Ave Room 112
Spokane Valley, WA 99216

BOARD MEMBERS

Chad Aschtgen, ND
Jennifer Booker, ND, Vice Chair
Barbara Grant, Public Member
Mark Monwai, ND, Chair
Michael Whitney, ND, DC
Deborah Wright, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Susan Gragg, Program Manager
Chris Humberson, R.Ph. Executive Director
Debra Defreyn, Assistant Attorney General
Alexander Lee, Staff Attorney
Andrea Vingo, Staff Attorney
Janelle Cognasso, Case Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nicole Anderson, ND
Robert May, ND, Executive Director, WANP
Adam Geiger, ND, WANP
Joanna Forwell, ND

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Chair Mark Monwai, ND, called the meeting of the Washington State Board of Naturopathy (board) to order at 8:35 a.m. on February 28, 2014. All those in attendance introduced themselves.

2. Consent Agenda

The board approved the following by a single action:

- 2.1. Approval of the February 28, 2014, meeting agenda
- 2.2. Approval of the November 15, 2013, meeting minutes
- 2.3. Approval of the November 22, 2013 case review, investigation authorization meeting minutes
- 2.4. Approval of the December 20, 2013 case review, investigation authorization meeting minutes
- 2.5. Approval of the January 3, 2014 case review, investigation authorization meeting minutes
- 2.6. Approval of the January 10, 2014 case review, investigation authorization meeting minutes
- 2.7. Approval of the January 17, 2014 case review, investigation authorization meeting minutes
- 2.8. Approval of the January 31, 2014 case review, investigation authorization meeting minutes
- 2.9. Approval of the February 14, 2014 case review, investigation authorization meeting minutes

3. Discuss Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

There were no items removed from the Consent agenda.

4. Rule Workshop Regarding Non-Surgical Cosmetic Procedures/Stakeholder Input

The board held a public rule workshop to solicit input from interested persons regarding possible rule changes with regard to non-surgical cosmetic procedures in naturopathic practice. Three individuals signed in to provide verbal comments.

The board appointed Dr. Aschtgen and Public Member Wright to a rule subcommittee to work on this topic. The committee members will review current rule language, public input provided at the workshop, additional research materials, and make recommendations to the board.

5. Old Business

5.1. Draft Policy Statement regarding “Laboratory Medical Tests in Naturopathic Practice”

The board reviewed the draft policy statement, BON 14-01, regarding laboratory medical tests, specifically the Bolen Blood Procedure and the Carroll Food Intolerance Evaluation. With several edits, the board approved the policy statement BON 14-01 and directed staff to have the policy added to the department’s website.

6. New Business

6.1. Report on 2014 Legislative Session

The board reviewed a list of legislative bills that may have impacted or been of interest to the naturopathic physician profession.

6.2. Request for Lists/Labels by Verisys Corporation

The board reviewed the request for recognition as a “professional association” by Verisys Corporation. The board did not feel there was sufficient information to determine whether they meet the definition of a professional association, so the board directed staff to send a letter requesting additional information. The board set a respond-by date of April 25, 2014.

6.3. Inquiries

6.3.1. *Is the use of lasers in the scope of naturopathic practice?*

The board reviewed the materials submitted as requested and accepted the suggestion that the term be broadened from “lasers” to “lasers, light, radiofrequency, and plasma devices” (LLRP).

MOTION: The Chair entertained a motion that the use of LLRP applied to the skin is within the scope of naturopathic practice. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. As always, it is the board’s position that naturopathic physicians should have the appropriate training and certification to provide services within their scope of practice.

6.3.2. *Is the use of ultrasound for fat lipolysis in the scope of naturopathic practice?*

The board reviewed the materials submitted as requested regarding the use of ultrasound, and its use for fat lipolysis.

MOTION: The Chair entertained a motion that the use of ultrasound for fat lipolysis is within the scope of naturopathic practice. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. As always, it is the board’s position that naturopathic physicians should have the appropriate training and certification to provide services within their scope of practice.

6.3.3. *Specialty designations by naturopathic physicians*

The board discussed the use of specialty designations by naturopathic physicians. As the profession moves into specialized areas such as oncology, cardiology, or pediatrics, it would be helpful for health care consumers to be able to identify those naturopathic physicians who have obtained additional training in a particular field.

MOTION: The Chair entertained a motion that, while there is nothing to prohibit a board certified naturopathic physician from using their specialty certification, this item will be deferred pending additional research in order to have a more substantive discussion. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

6.3.4. *Is the use of regenerative injection techniques in the scope of naturopathic practice?*

The Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians (WANP) requested that the board consider regenerative injection techniques (RIT) to be within the scope of practice of naturopathic medicine. WANP defined RIT as a category of injection techniques used in naturopathic medicine to stimulate or support innate healing mechanisms. These modalities are utilized in the treatment of physical injuries and degenerative conditions of the skin, joints, tendons, ligaments, nerves, muscle, and fascia. Techniques in this broad category include but are not limited to prolotherapy, ozone therapy, trigger point injections, dry needling, neural therapy, mesotherapy, and bioregenerative therapies. Bioregenerative injection techniques employ biologic substances such as viscosupplements, hormones, autologous whole blood, platelet-rich plasma, and cellular concentrates.

As this discussion on this topic took place, it was pointed out that while the statute states “ ‘Minor office procedures’ *also includes* intramuscular, intravenous, subcutaneous, and intradermal injections...” (RCW 18.36A.020(8), emphasis added). However, the regulation, WAC 246-836-220, appears to be more restrictive as it states “Naturopathic physicians may administer substances consistent with the practice of naturopathic medicine as indicated in WAC 246-836-210 through the means of intramuscular, intravenous, subcutaneous, and intradermal injections.”

MOTION: The Chair entertained a motion that RIT, as defined by WANP, is within the scope of naturopathic practice and that this inquiry be considered a rule petition for initiating rule-making to reconcile WAC 246-836-220 with RCW 18.36A.020(8). The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

6.4. Acceptable examination rule project

The board reviewed and approved the current draft rule language regarding acceptable examinations, and directed staff to move this project to the next stage, known as the CR 102.

6.5. Continuing education rule project

The board reviewed the latest draft of the continuing education rules. The subcommittee will continue working on the draft language, which will include reviewing other professions’ rules (such as MDs and DOs).

6.6. Washington Association of Naturopathic Physicians (WANP) policy statement on post graduate clinical training

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

6.7. Controlled substance prescribing

The board reviewed the draft update to the Frequently Asked Questions regarding naturopathic physician controlled substance prescribing. The board reviewed an additional draft document that would serve as an analysis tool or decision tree with regard to controlled substance prescribing. The board approved both drafts and directed staff to follow department procedure for putting on the website.

6.8. Hearing Date Discussion

Many boards and commissions struggle with ensuring a hearing panel for formal disciplinary hearings due to conflicting schedules. Some boards and commissions have taken the additional step of designating specific hearing dates throughout the year to ensure panel member availability.

MOTION: The Chair entertained a motion to designating specific hearing dates through-out the year in order to ensure panel member availability for formal disciplinary hearings. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Board members will bring their schedules to the May meeting in order further review setting hearing dates.

7. **Program Reports**

7.1. Budget – Ms. Gragg gave a brief overview of the board’s budget.

7.2. Statistical Reports – Ms. Gragg provided the credential count report (1,173 active licensees).

7.3. Active Case Report – Ms. Gragg shared the current active case report; there are currently 52 open complaint cases.

7.4. Assistant Attorney General Report – Ms. Defreyn shared a memo regarding board member communications with the public regarding current or potential issues related to the work of the board.

8. **Open Forum/Future Agenda Items**

There were no items.

CLOSED SESSION

9. **Case Authorization**

9.1. **New reports for authorization or closure**

The board met in closed session to determine whether new cases should be authorized for investigation or closed.

9.2. **Case review presentations**

The board met in closed session to determine whether cases presented should be further investigated, closed, or moved on to the informal or formal resolution process.

9.3. **Statement of Allegation/Stipulation to Informal Disposition**

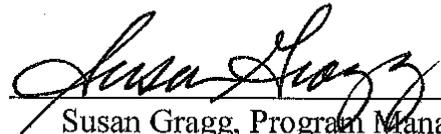
There were no Statements of Allegations/Stipulations to Informal Disposition.

OPEN SESSION

10. Adjournment

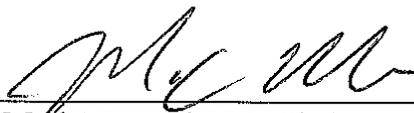
The meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.

Submitted by:



Susan Gragg, Program Manager
Naturopathy Program

Approved by:



Mark Monwai, ND, Chair
Board of Naturopathy