



**Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)
Licensing Subcommittee Draft Minutes
August 28th, 2015
111 Israel Rd SE, Room 115
Tumwater, WA**

Committee Members: Lois Hoell, MS, MBA, RN, Chair
Margaret E Kelly, LPN, Commission Chair
Jeannie Eylar, MSN, RN

Staff: Teresa Corrado, LPN, Licensing Manager
Thomas Bolender, Continuing Competency Auditor
Becky Cebula, Continuing Competency Auditor
Shari Kincy, Administrative Assistant
Linda Patterson, BSN, RN, Nursing Practice Consultant
Sara Kirschenman, Staff Attorney

Absent: Stephen Henderson, JD, MA
Sally Watkins, RN, Franciscan Health System

Public Present: Karen Greenwalt, RN, Parish Nurse

I. 9:30 AM Opening - Lois Hoell, MS, MBA, RN, Sub-committee Chair

- Roll call
 - Completed
- Called to order at 9:35 AM

II. Minutes

- May
 - Approved
- June
 - Approved

III. Discuss Strategic Plan

- Line item number 1 – Have license available for download.
 - Teresa suggested this be removed from the plan. It goes against policies already in place. Paper license is available for a fee.
 - Committee agreed to remove
- Line item number 2 – Take ownership (licensing, discipline) of all nurse aides.
 - Jeannie mentioned this was added to the strategic plan, but it is an extremely complicated process. It is a long reaching goal and other subcommittees have removed it from their plan.
 - Committee agreed to remove.

- Line item number 3 – Ability to track individual nursing education level across state. Minimum data set implementation? Better data collection at time of renewal, e.g. education level, practice area, etc.
 - The National Council of State Boards of Nursing has a minimum data set survey on their website.
 - Teresa and Dr. Mindy Schaffner are working to get links put on our website to steer nurses to take the survey. Hopefully, it will be completed within the next several weeks.
- Line item number 4 – Bring MA’s under the nursing WAC/RCWs
 - The committee members felt this is the same situation as line item 2, which requires a lot of work and coordination. Recommended to remove for the plan.
 - Committee agreed to remove.
- Line item number 5 – Closer partnership with education and practice professional organizations, NWONE and CNEWS with annual retreat.
 - The committee felt it is important to have close partnerships, but it is not a licensing issue.
 - Committee agreed to remove.
- Line item number 6 – Create “retired active” category for ARNPs.
- Teresa said WAC 246-12-120 gives the Commission the ability to do so and it would only take a rule update.
 - Teresa said the Commission would either need to work with each certifying body to determine what their requirements for renewal are, or for each ARNP to determine if they can meet the requirements while being able to work no more than 90 days per year.
 - Margaret asked that the ARNP subcommittee be consulted on the issue.
- Line item number 7 – License renewal every 2 years – LPN, RN and ARNP (and continuing competency audit cycle).
 - Teresa said the commission does have the authority to make the change.
 - It is not as easy as just changing the dates as it will affect the Commission’s annual budget, HEAL-WA and the Washington Center for Nursing. In addition, the competency rules would also have to be changed to reflect a 2 year cycle.
- Line item number 8 – FBI background checks for all new licenses and in 5 years, FBI BGC of all nurses.
 - Teresa mentioned this is already underway.
 - It was brought to the legislature this year, but was unsuccessful.
 - The plan is to re-submit the legislation again.
- Line item number 9 – Implement Enhanced Compact.
 - There was discussion on whether this should be on licensing’s plan.
 - Teresa said it is a higher level goal a Commission task force. NCSBN will be helping financially in support of this effort.
 - Committee agreed it should be kept on the plan
- Line item number 10 – WA nursing jurisprudence exam with relicensing.
 - Teresa said NCSBN is currently working with nursing boards to create a jurisprudence exam.
 - The learning management system (LMS) used by DOH may be able to (((accommodate this through our website.
- Licensing will keep working on this.

IV. Rules

- 177-15 Audits
 - Teresa discussed how she, the attorney general's office and Karl Hoehn have come to the conclusion that by not letting a person who fails a 177-15 audit renew, they are not being given due process.
 - They came up with a plan to refer a person over to discipline when the nurse doesn't meet the requirements of the audit.
 - Teresa will email everyone a clean copy of the updated draft rules
- Reactivation applications
 - Teresa talked about giving applicants who have been working in another state the ability to prove 531 practice hours and 45 hours of continuing education instead of entering into the 177-15 agreement. The applicant would be required to provide proof of having met the standards.

V. Audit Progress

- Tom went over graphs
 - Tom talked about the number of random and late audits becoming more consistent from last year.
 - Tom went over graphs showing the number of Retired Active and Inactive licenses are starting to plateau. He thought it will stay stable until 2017 when another large number of nurses will be audited.

VI. Meeting Dates & Time

- Lois suggested we change the meeting day to the fourth Friday of the month to accommodate Margaret's schedule.
 - The committee agreed to the change effective in Sept.
 - The time will remain 9:30A to 11:30A.

VII. Agenda Update

- Margaret asked for an agenda item to be added to the subcommittee meeting taking place after the Commission business meetings. It will be about a 5 minutes review of anything brought up at the meeting relating to Licensing.
- All were in agreement.

VIII. Closing

- Meeting adjourned 10:42 a.m.