January 30, 2026

Call to Order:

Chair Metzger called the regular meeting via Zoom to order at 8:00 a.m. In attendance:

Jay Metzger, PA – Chair
Misty Anderson, DO – Vice Chair
Lacey Armstrong, MD
Barbara Andrist
Bree Dewing, MD
Erica Hofland, MD
Justin Horner, MD
Mandi Johnson, MD
Robert Kemp, MD
Grant Lannoye, PA
Troy Pierce, MD
Michael Quast, MD
Lezlie Scott, ND
Stephanie Sievert
Richard Vetter, MD

Also present:

NDBOM Office and Staff: Sandra DePountis, Executive Director; Lynette McDonald, Deputy Executive Director; Zena Homan, MD, Medical Director; Stacy Moldenhauer, Litigation Counsel; and Austin Lafferty, General Counsel.

NDPHP representatives present: Maggie Seamands, NDPHP Executive Director; Dr. Missy Henke, NDPHP Medical Director.

Courtney Koebele, NDMA; Melissa Hauer, NDHA.

Charles Reidman

Also present for portions of the meeting: Robert Davidson, MD; Robin Matthew, MD; Kathryn Lynch, MD; Gary Ramage; MD.

Minutes

Dr. Dewing moved to approve the October 24, 2025, regular meeting minutes, and December 9, 2025, special meeting minutes, seconded by Dr. Kemp, motion passed unanimously.

Interview for Licensure – Robert Davidson, MD

Dr. Davidson was interviewed for licensure by Dr. Johnson and the rest of the Board due to termination from prior employment and malpractice disclosures. After the interview, Dr. Hofland made a motion to grant the license, seconded by Dr. Johnson, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Interview for Licensure – Robin Matthew, MD

Dr. Matthew was interviewed for licensure by Dr. Armstrong and the rest of the Board. The Board, its staff, Dr. Matthew, and members of the NDPHP entered into an executive session at 8:24 a.m. to discuss confidential treatment and PHP records pursuant to 42 CFR Part 2 and North Dakota Century Code section 43-17.3-07. The executive session ended at 8:57 a.m. Dr. Pierce made a motion to grant a restricted license to not allow any clinical practice, and require Dr. Matthew to take the SPEX exam and obtain a clinical competency evaluation at a facility approved by the Board Chair, seconded by Dr. Quast, motion passed by roll call vote, with Drs. Armstrong, Kemp, Vetter, and Hofland, and ND Scott voting no, and all other members voting yes.

Petitions for Eligibility, Modification, and Completion

Kathryn Lynch, MD – Petition for Unconditional Licensure

Dr. Lynch petitioned the Board to remove the restrictions from her license implemented via Board Order – September 15, 2025. Dr. Lynch and her supervisor, Dr. Gary Ramage, were present and answered questions on her supervision and re-entry to practice plan. Dr. Hofland made a motion to grant an unrestricted license, seconded by PA Lannoye, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

IPB v. Gary Wease, MD – Order of Completion

The Board reviewed a draft Order of Completion after Dr. Wease fulfilled all requirements of his disciplinary Order dated February 19, 2021. Dr. Anderson made a motion

to approve the Order of Completion, seconded by Dr. Vetter, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Guilherme Santos-Piedade, MD – Petition for Eligibility

Dr. Santos Piedade is petitioning the Board for eligibility of a uniquely qualified license under N.D.C.C. § 43-17-18(4) and N.D.A.C. § 50-02-02-01, in that he is licensed in two other states, has no disciplinary action or malpractice history, has passed all three steps of the USMLE, and has completed a US Pediatric Neurosurgery Fellowship accredited by the American Council for Pediatric Neurosurgery Fellowships, completed a US Functional Neurosurgery Fellowship accredited by the Committee on Advanced Subspecialty Training, and is in the process of completing a US Spine Neurosurgery Fellowship also accredited by CAST – to be completed in June 2026.

Dr. Pierce made a motion to approve the petition for eligibility as a uniquely qualified license, seconded by Dr. Kemp, the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Philip Grasso, ND – Petition for Unconditional Licensure

ND Grasso petitioned the Board to remove the restrictions from his license implemented via Board Order – April 26, 2024. ND Grasso's supervisor provided information on meeting the requirements of the re-entry to practice plan required by the Board Order. Dr. Kemp made a motion to grant an unrestricted license, seconded by PA Lannoye, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (ND Scott recusing).

ND Scott was ND Grasso's supervisor and therefore she recused herself pursuant to North Dakota Century Code section 43-17-07.2 providing that a board member "may not participate in the making of any decision or the taking of any action affecting that member's personal, professional, or pecuniary interest, or that of a known relative or business or professional associate."

Physician Approval of Licenses

Dr. Anderson moved to approve the ninety-five (95) licenses and waiver of interviews for physician applicants as presented, seconded by Dr. Dewing, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Resident Approval of Licenses

PA Metzger moved to approve the one (1) resident license and waiver of interview as presented, seconded by Dr. Vetter, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Physician Assistant Approval of Licenses

Dr. Hofland moved to approve the fourteen (14) licenses and waiver of interviews for physician assistants, as presented, seconded by Dr. Anderson, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Genetic Counselor Approval of Licenses

Ms. Andrist moved to approve the six (6) licenses and waiver of interviews for genetic counselors, as presented, seconded by Dr. Dewing, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Naturopathic Doctors

ND Scott made a motion to approve the one (1) license and waiver of interview for naturopathic doctor, as presented, seconded by Dr. Anderson, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Dr. Anderson moved to approve the one (1) application for Independent Prescribing Endorsement, seconded by Dr. Armstrong, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote (ND Scott and Dr. Kemp recusing). This was ND Scott's application with Dr. Kemp being her supervisor. They therefore recused themselves pursuant to North Dakota Century Code section 43-17-07.2 providing that a board member "may not participate in the making of any decision or the taking of any action affecting that member's personal, professional, or pecuniary interest, or that of a known relative or business or professional associate."

IMLC Licenses Granted

Twenty (20) Letters of Qualification for State of Principal Licensure and two hundred and thirty-seven (237) non-principal licenses were issued under the Compact. Deputy Director McDonald provided updated statistics on North Dakota licenses issued via the IMLC with two hundred and forty-two (242) total active SPLs and three thousand and nine (3,009) NSPLs.

NDPHP Presentation and Report

Director Seamands presented the PHP Report of thirty-eight (38) active participants in the NDPHP – three (3) are Board ordered. Director Seamands also presented on the NDPHP's

current financial statements, operational updates, upcoming outreach activities, and referrals the NDPHP is prepared to handle on the Board's behalf.

Investigative Panel A report

Dr. Dewing, Chair, reported that Investigative Panel A reviewed a total of twenty-seven (27) cases, which included five (5) summary matter cases and seven (7) malpractice cases. Of the cases: three (3) cases were tabled for further review, and four (4) Letters of Concern were issued; all other cases dismissed, or no action taken.

Investigative Panel B report

Dr. Hofland, Chair, reported that Investigative Panel B reviewed a total of twenty-eight (28) cases which included three (3) summary matter cases and six (6) malpractice cases. Of the cases: three (3) cases were tabled for further review, and six (6) Letters of Concern were issued; all other cases dismissed, or no action taken.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LRL Committee (Dr. Anderson (chair), Drs. Horner and Quast, PA Metzger, ND Link, and Ms. Andrist)

Dr. Anderson made a motion to approve the LRL's December 19, 2025, and January 16, 2026, meeting minutes, seconded by Dr. Horner, motion passed by LRL Committee Members.

An update was given on the 2026 Special Legislative Session which convened January 21-23, 2026. The following bills were passed with immediate effect: SB 2401 requiring physicians to obtain an hour CME credit in nutrition each renewal cycle, HB 1622 entering North Dakota into the Physician Assistant Compact (which has yet to be deployed), and SB 2402 allowing pharmacists to order certain tests, issue certain prescriptions, and substitute prescriptions for a "therapeutically equivalent drug."

HB 1622 – PA Metzger voted to approve PA Lannoye as the Board's commissioner on the PA Compact Commission, seconded by Dr. Kemp, motion pass unanimously.

SB 2401 – Dr. Anderson made a motion to recognize that AMBS/AOA certified physicians by law are not required to obtain additional CME, seconded by Dr. Vetter, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The Board of Medicine testified in opposition to SB 2402 requesting 4 amendments. The amendments included having certain information relayed back to the PCP or prescribing provider to become part of the patient's medical record, removing the ability for pharmacists to treat "uncomplicated UTIs," removing the pharmacist's ability to prescribe a statin when such prescription was not made by the provider, and excluding 9 drug classes for therapeutic substitutions (antidepressants, antipsychotics, controlled substances, chemotherapy agents, immunosuppressants, anticonvulsants/antiepileptic drugs, anticoagulation drugs, antiarrhythmics, and beta blockers). Most amendments were incorporated into the bill, however, only the following drugs would be on the exclusion list for substitutions: antidepressants, antipsychotics, chemotherapy agents, scheduled II Controlled Substances, biological products, and narrow therapeutic index drugs. Note that prescribers can always relay to pharmacists that they are not authorized to make substitutions in the prescription, and the pharmacists have to abide by such mandates.

RFP Committee (Drs. Kemp and Homan, PA Lannoye)

Dr. Kemp made a motion to approve the committee's January 13, 15, and 26, 2026, meeting minutes, seconded by Dr. Homan, motion passed unanimously by committee members.

The Committee gave an update that the Board received 10 bids on RFP #110.7-25-113 – the AI project to assist in investigations. A Best and Final Offer was issued – allowing the 10 respondents to issue a final offer with a price cap of $250,000 for a five-year contract. Only 2 responded within this price range.

Dr. Vetter made a motion to authorize the IT Committee to negotiate and execute a contract with the vendor, seconded by Dr. Johnson, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Finance Committee (Ms. Sievert (chair), Drs. Kemp, Pierce, Hofland, and PA Metzger)

Dr. Pierce made a motion to approve the Finance Committee's January 14, 2026, meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Sievert, motion passed by Finance Committee members.

Ms. Sievert gave an overview of the Board's 2024 Audit performed by Brady Martz – a clean audit with no concerns. Ms. Sievert made a motion to approve the 2024 audit as presented, seconded by ND Scott, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Ms. Sievert and Director DePountis then gave an overview of the proposed 2026 Board of Medicine budget. Ms. Sievert made a motion to approve the 2026 budget and litigation reserve as presented, seconded by Ms. Andrist, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Working Group on Alternative Pathways to Licensure of IMPs (Ms. Andrist, Dr. Anderson)

A meeting was held on November 19, 2025, in which FSMB Chief of Staff, Andrea Ciccone presented on the national landscape of legislation and implementation of the 18 states who passed legislation – only 8 states are accepting applications – and only 2 licenses have been issued. Several implementation considerations were discussed including minimal pipeline of applicants due to numerous unanswered questions, immigration concerns and complexities, inability to determine "substantially similar training" without a national or international entity to make such a determination, quality of care assurances, and unknown implementation of ABMS/AOA certification. There was also a robust discussion on facility considerations – whether facilities have the personnel and resources to hire and train IMPs, changes would need to be made to hiring practices and by-laws, effect of facility ratings without ABMS certification status, and whether this is creating inequality for U.S. graduates. The next working group will meet on February 11, 2026, to hear from IMPs, the State Refugee Coordinators, and the Department of Commerce.

PDMP Updates – Dr. Horner

The PDMP Advisory Council met on December 18, 2025, and received updated information.

Policies and Procedures Review

Naturopath CME Discussion. The Board discussed requirements for CE of naturopaths who hold a limited or independent endorsement to prescribe under the law. The Board discussed that the required 5 hours starting in the full calendar year in which they hold the limited endorsement, must include some training on testosterone but not put a minimum number on

the testosterone training, in addition to pharmacology of legend drugs, that it would accept Category 1 AMA credits, and the courses would be reviewed by the Board Chair. Ms. Andrist made a motion to implement policy on CE in compliance with its discussion, seconded by Dr. Vetter, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Annual Policy Review. The Board reviewed the following with recommended updates: Operations Manual, Internal Office Policies and Procedures, Security Policies and Procedures, and CHRI Policies and Procedures. PA Metzger made a motion to approve the updated policies as presented, seconded by Ms. Sievert, motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Office Update.

- New guidance from FSMB on "gap year licenses" – will be brought forth via the LRL Committee for potential consideration for the 2027 legislative session.
- FSMB Board Attorney Workshop – held November 2025 – updates from Attorney Lafferty and Director DePountis.
- IMLC Annual Meeting – held November 2025 – updates from Director DePountis and Deputy Director McDonald.
- FSMB 2025 Quarterly 2 Summary review.
- FSMB Annual Meeting – Baltimore, MD – April 30-May 2, 2026. Director DePountis is a chosen speaker. Other interest in attending from Drs. Homan, Anderson, and Vetter, and ND Scott.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Sandra DePountis
Executive Director