



OKLAHOMA State Department of Health

MINUTES OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

PUBLIC BODY: ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MIDWIFERY

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 08, 2023 @ 1:00PM

LOCATION: OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
123 ROBERT S. KERR, FLOOR 28, ROOM 1
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73102

CONTACT PERSON: TABITHA COOPER TELEPHONE: (405) 426-8250

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I. Call to Order

Nikki Imes called the meeting to order at 13:08.

II. Roll Call

Tabitha Cooper initiated a roll call for the meeting and established quorum.

Members present: Nikki Imes, Sarah Foster, Michelle Hernandez, Shaun Baranowski

Members absent: Dr. Kate Arnold, Dr. Sarah Hall, Lecye Doolen

Quorum met.

III. Statement of Compliance with the Open Meetings Act

Tabitha Cooper read the statement of compliance: *This regular meeting of the Advisory Committee on Midwifery, scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. on this 8th day of March 2023, was convened in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act [25 O.S., §§ 301 et seq.] Further, an advance public notice was sent to the Secretary of State's Office of Administrative Rules by Internet, prior to this time today, specifying the time and place of the meeting. Notice of this meeting was given at least twenty-four (24) hours prior, and no one filed a written request of notice of meetings of this public body to date.*

IV. Approval of previous meeting minutes from November 9, 2022

The committee reviewed the meeting minutes of the Regular Public Meeting, held November 9, 2022. Nikki Imes motioned to approve the minutes. Sarah Foster seconded the motion.

Aye: Niki Imes, Sarah Foster, Michelle Hernandez, Shaun Baranowski

Motion carries.

V. Election of Chair & Vice Chair

Michelle Hernandez motions to re-elect Nikki Imes as chair of the ACOM. Motion seconded by Sarah Foster.

Aye: Niki Imes, Sarah Foster, Michelle Hernandez, Shaun Baranowski

Motion carries.

Nikki Imes motions to re-elect Dr. Hall as vice chair of the ACOM, pending her acceptance at the next ACOM meeting. Motion seconded by Shaun Baranowski.

Aye: Niki Imes, Sarah Foster, Michelle Hernandez, Shaun Baranowski

Motion carries.

VI. Review, discussion, and action on license applications received

Committee reviewed application for Mallory K. Engel. Nikki & Shaun questioned a possibility of a checklist in the future specific to Thentia applications, like what was used previously. Michelle wants to know if the Thentia portal still asks the question regarding disciplinary actions and allows document download regarding them. The paper application had a question regarding this and required documentation if the answer was yes. Joy is going to investigate the statutory authority on what we can require of applicants. Thentia **does** ask if the applicant has had any disciplinary actions or court judgements on the declarations and attestations page and it was confirmed that Ms. Engel checked that she had no disciplinary actions or court judgements, so no documents regarding either were downloaded. Michelle wants to know if Thentia will allow them to move forward if they are answering that they **have** had disciplinary action in the past, or if it will stop them and make them upload documents regarding the disciplinary action. OSDH will need to investigate this further with Thentia, as our workbench website is different than the forward-facing website. OSDH is going to streamline the process and verify that all information is properly retrieved from applicants, on Thentia, now and in the future, being that this is the initial Thentia application. Sarah Foster looked up Arkansas Midwife licensure to see if it showed any past legal actions or if she was shown to be in good standing. She is shown to be in good standing on their website. Shaun feels that her information is incomplete without the paper application and checklist. The paper application would've had personal contact redacted, but the information was put into Thentia. OSDH can craft a checklist related to rule & statutory requirements for future applications on Thentia to have in addition to applicant packets to make everything more clear to board members & members of the public. OSDH confirmed that incomplete applications, or applications missing required documents do not go before the board. Michelle wants to know if a potential applicant says on the website or application that they have had no disciplinary actions, how far does OSDH go to confirm this? What is double checked once entered into Thentia? Who verifies what the applicant is entering? Joy said we can add that as a future meeting agenda item of discussion. This will be added to May meeting agenda.

Sarah Foster motions to recommend Mallory Engel for licensure. Motion seconded by Michelle Hernandez.

Aye: Niki Imes, Sarah Foster, Michelle Hernandez, Shaun Baranowski

Motion carries.

VII. Midwives Quality Improvement Program Discussion, Smooth Transitions in Seattle

Shaun wanted to bring attention to a program that streamlines transitions of transfers and communications. Everything is streamlined across the board with the Smooth Transitions program, as both hospitals and midwives use it. She pointed out their website has tons of good templates for use. Sarah Foster said the Oklahoma Perinatal improvement may be a good driver of that if they wanted to work on education of this system in Oklahoma, because that is what they do. It is a quality improvement program that was started in 2009. It is a 501-C-3. This website has resources for aspiring midwives and is based out of Washington. Nikki suggested it be on the next meeting agenda. Sarah Foster will present on it at the next

IX. Old Business

can give us definitions. Travis emailed her immediately. Everyone agreed to send. If there is a definition it should go out with the notice to report and additional clarifiers. Can keep as 'old business for the next meeting.

X. New business

None.

XI: Adjournment

Nikki Imes motioned to adjourn at 3:31 pm. Motion was seconded by...just kidding...Travis informs committee that he has learned you do not need a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:32 pm.