

MINUTES
BOARD OF NURSING AND CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIVES
MEETING

July 9, 2026

Heber M. Wells Bldg.
ELECTRONIC MEETING – 8:30 a.m.
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

CONVENED: 8:31 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 9:56 A.M.

DOPL STAFF PRESENT:

Bureau Manager: Jeff Busjahn
Board Secretary: Kelli Arriola
Compliance Specialist: Sharon Bennett

CONDUCTING:

Ralph Pittman, LPN– Chair

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ralph Pittman, LPN
Sheryl Steadman, Ph.D., RN
Shane Yardley, Ph.D., RN
Wendy Rusin, APRN

Derek Bradley, Public
Mandi Lew, DNP, CNM, PMH-C
Erica Nelson, DNP, APRN, CNM

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Curtis Nielsen, APRN-CRNA

GUESTS:

Jana Johanson, Assistant Division Director
Karissa Gardner, Communications
Jennifer Avila Johnson, UPHP
Kelli Jacobson, UPHP
Camille Farley, DOPL, Investigations
Brent Ericksen, DOPL, Investigations
Nathan Allred, DOPL, Investigations
Russell Godfrey, DOPL, Investigations
Silmara Charlesworth, DOPL, Investigations
Mark Anderson, DOPL, Investigations
Lynne Anthony, DOPL, Investigations
Dave Olsen, DOPL, Investigations
Kirsten Shumway, DOPL Legal Analyst
Katherine Borden, Galen College of Nursing
Cherie Lowell, Western Governors University
Austin Dykstra,
Kelsey Hopkins
Lauren Peterson

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Mr. Pittman called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF June 11, 2026, MINUTES:

Mr. Pittman motioned to approve the minutes.

Dr. Lew seconded the motion.

The vote passes with one abstention.

DOPL OUTREACH DISCUSSION:

(Refer to audio for specifics. Audio_Part1_03:37 – 08:51)

Ms. Johansen and Ms. Gardner presented to the board strategic efforts to provide proactive communication, educational resources, and digital guides to licenses. The division is utilizing the nursing education and enforcement fund to improve engagement and clarify regulatory requirements. Current projects include updating the NCLEX pass rate web page.

UPHP MONTHLY UPDATE:

(Refer to audio for specifics. Audio_Part1_09:19 – 13:33)

Ms. Avila Johnson presented an updated report on the Utah Professional Program.

Current participants are distributed as follows:

- Confidential UPHP Program: 48 Participants
43 in adherence: 3 LPN's, 38 RN's, 5 APRN's.
5 RN's not in adherence.
- Public Probation: 39 Participants 6 LPN's, 30 RN's, 2 APRN's.
 - 25 in adherence and endorsed to practice.
 - 2 in adherence (active probation, currently unemployed) contract time is extended while not working in the field. Adhering to other requirements.
 - 3 RNs on suspension: Not practicing in the field for over a year; contract end date will continue to be extended. Adhering to other requirements.
 - 4 RNs on suspension (pending evaluation): Once found fit to practice, they will begin a 5-year probation.
 - 1 LPN & 1 RN on suspension: Found not safe to practice via evaluation, currently working with UPHP on completing evaluation requirements.
 - 4 (1 LPN, 3 RNs) are not in adherence: information has been provided or is in the process of being provided to the Division for review.

LEGISLATIVE & ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN:

Mr. Busjahn and Dr. Yardley will be attending the 2026 NCSBN Annual Meeting in August and will provide a report on when they return.

Mr. Busjahn advised the board of ongoing scams where callers impersonate the division or FBI to demand money from licensees. Licensees are advised to hang up and block such callers.

NURSE PRACTICE ACT RULE CHANGE DISCUSSION:

(Refer to audio for specifics. Audio_Part1_16:35 – 34:20)

Mr. Busjahn went over the Certified Nurse Midwives proposed rule change, fixing the name of the accreditation body and fixing the name of the certification body.

Dr. Nelson motioned to accept the purposed rule changes to the Certified Nurse Midwife Practice Act Rule.

Mr. Pittman seconded the motion.

The vote in favor was unanimously approved.

Mr. Busjahn asked the board members if they had any questions on the purposed Nurse Practice Act rule change. The board discussed and agreed that the changes seem to be cleaning up language and replacing what was mistakenly taken out.

Dr. Yarley motioned to accept the purposed rule changes to the Nurse Practice Act Rule.

Mr. Pittman seconded the motion.

The vote in favor was unanimously approved.

BOARD BUSINESS:

PROBATIONER WRITTEN REQUESTS AND REVIEW OF DOCUMENTS:

Ms. Bennett provided the Board with a brief update on their probationer reports.

PROBATIONER INTERVIEWS:

Elli Villaruz – NO SHOW – File reviewed by Mr. Pittman.

Mr. Villaruz is not working as a Nurse.

Mr. Villaruz has no check-in or testing requirements.

Mr. Pittman would like to see Mr. Villaruz next month.

Bryan Pratt – Interview conducted by Ms. Russin.

Mr. Pratt is not working as a Nurse.

Mr. Pratt submitted a request for early termination of probation.

Ms. Russin denied early termination of probation at this time.

Alexandria Lighting – Interview conducted by Mr. Pittman.

Ms. Lighting is working as a Nurse.

Ms. Lighting attends therapy.

Mr. Pittman motioned to accept Ms. Lighting's new thinking errors essay.

Dr. Yardley seconded the motion.

The vote in favor was unanimously approved.

Mr. Pittman motioned to modify Ms. Lighting's work hours, removing the restriction limiting her no more than 90 hours of work within a two-week period.

Dr. Yardley seconded the motion.

The vote in favor was unanimously approved.

Mr. Pittman motioned the submission of reports for Ms. Lighting's moved from monthly to quarterly.

Dr. Yardley seconded the motion.

The vote in favor was unanimously approved.

Mr. Pittman motioned to amend Ms. Lighting's chart reviews no longer to be required.

Dr. Yardley seconded the motion.

The vote in favor was unanimously approved.

REQUEST AND APPROVALS:

Laurie Tashman – File reviewed by Dr. Yardley.

Ms. Tashman submitted a request for early termination of probation.

Ms. Tashman has great family support.

Ms. Tashman attends therapy regularly.

Dr. Yardley has denied the request for early termination of probation.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

ADJOURN: 9:56 A.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 A.M.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred. For specific details, refer to the audio recording.

09/10/3026

Ralph Pittman

Ralph Pittman (Sep 10, 2026 11:04:33 MDT)

Date Approved

Ralph Pittman - Board of Nursing & Certified Nurse Midwives

09/10/2026

Jeff Busjahn

Date Approved

Jeff Busjahn - Bureau Manager, DOPL