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ADVISORY BOARD ON PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

Minutes

May 14, 2026

The Advisory Board on Physician Assistants met on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Training Room 2, Henrico, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Justin Hepner, PA-C - Chair
Erin Myers, PA-C - Vice Chair
Tracey Dunn – Citizen Member
Brian Hanrahan, MD (arrived at 1:08)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

William L. Harp, MD - Executive Director
Michael Sobowale, LLM - Deputy Executive Director for Licensure
Jennifer Deschenes - Deputy Executive Director for Discipline
Kathleen LaMotte, Board Administrator
Barbara Hodgdon, PhD – Deputy Director for the Healthcare Workforce Data Center
Colanthia Morton-Opher – Dep. Exec. Director for Medical Licensure and Administration
Roslyn Nickens - Licensing Supervisor
Jamie Culp - Licensing Specialist
Erin Pollard - Licensing Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT:

Eric Grant, PA-C
Robert Glasgow, PA-C – Virginia Academy of Physician Assistants
Andrew Densmore – Medical Society of Virginia

Call to Order

Mr. Hepner called the meeting to order at 1:04.

Emergency Egress Procedures

Kathleen LaMotte announced the emergency egress instructions.

Roll Call

Ms. LaMotte called the roll; a quorum was established.

Introduction of Members

Justin Hepner led introductions of the Board Members.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from February 5, 2026, was moved Erin Myers and seconded by Tracey Dunn. The motion carried unanimously.

Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda for today's meeting was approved unanimously upon a motion by Tracey Dunn and seconded by Erin Myers.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (15 minutes)

There was no public comment.

Healthcare Workforce Data Center Presentation

Presentation by **Barbara Hodgdon, Ph.D.**

Dr. Hodgdon presented the 2025 Physician Assistant Workforce Key Findings found in the agenda packet.

New Business

Legislative and Regulatory Report – William Harp, MD

Dr. Harp reviewed legislation and regulatory actions relevant to the Physician Assistant profession.

SB641 / HB712 – Office-Based Buprenorphine Treatment

Dr. Harp reported that SB641 directs the Board of Medicine to amend regulations to require providers to offer counseling or referral to counseling for patients receiving office-based buprenorphine treatment. Staff has prepared draft regulatory language for Board consideration at its June 4, 2026 meeting.

HB746 – Authorization for PAs to Practice Without a Practice Agreement

Dr. Harp reviewed HB746, which authorizes physician assistants with at least three years of full-time clinical experience to practice without a practice agreement upon receipt of an attestation from a patient care team physician or podiatrist who collaborated with the PA during the 3 years. The Board discussed how the scope of practice will be determined under this model. The Advisory Board will participate in the development of the necessary regulations. Although the law becomes effective July 1, regulations must be promulgated, so implementation will require additional time.

HB1147 / SB22 – Implicit Bias Continuing Education

These bills require the Board of Medicine and Board of Nursing to incorporate bias-reduction training into continuing education requirements for certain licensees, including physician assistants. Regulations must be promulgated, so implementation may take two years or more.

Regulatory Actions in Progress

Dr. Harp reviewed the regulatory actions included in the Board's packet. These include:

- **Licensure by Endorsement (18VAC85-50)** – Exempt/Final stage; currently with the Office of the Attorney General. Result of a 2025 legislative mandate.
- **Consultation/Collaboration Requirements (18VAC85-50)** – Proposed stage; amends requirements related to patient care team physician or podiatrist consultation/collaboration, arising from a petition for rulemaking.
- **Removal of Physician/Podiatrist Name from PA Prescriptions (18VAC85-50)** Recently effective on May 8, 2026; removes requirement that PA-issued prescriptions include the name of the patient care team physician or podiatrist. Result of a petition for rulemaking.

- **Reinstatement Process for Lapsed PA Licenses (18VAC85-50)** – Fast-Track action effective April 9, 2026; creates a process for reinstating PA licenses expired over 2 years.
 - **PA Compact NOIRA (18VAC85-50)** – At the Secretary’s Office; implements regulations to facilitate Virginia’s entry into the Physician Assistant Compact.
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Physician Assistant Compact Update

Mr. Hepner, Virginia’s Delegate to the PA Compact, provided an update. He reported the Compact continues to gain momentum as more states pursue legislation. A vendor has been selected to operate the Compact’s data system. The Compact is aiming to begin issuing multistate licenses in 2027, although this timeline may be affected by funding availability.

Consideration of an alternate delegate to the Physician Assistant Compact Commission

Robert Glasgow, PA-C volunteered to serve as an alternate delegate.

Licensure Report

- Licenses issued since January 1, 2026 - 439
(including 43 by reciprocity, 25 Maryland-endorsed, 8 DC-endorsed, 10 endorsed by both jurisdictions)
 - Total active licensees - 7,647
 - Processing times - 25 days - clearance rate 107%
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Announcements

Members were reminded to submit their travel expense reimbursement vouchers within 30 days.

Next Scheduled Meeting

Next meeting: Thursday, October 1, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Mr. Hepner adjourned the meeting at 1:42 p.m.

William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director

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