(FINAL/APPROVED)

VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHARMACY
MINUTES OF EDUCATIONAL FORUM

Friday, April 25, 2025	Department of Health Professions Perimeter Center 9960 Mayland Drive Henrico, Virginia 23233
CALL TO ORDER:	A board meeting was called to order at 9:06 AM.
PRESIDING:	**Cheri Garvin**, RPh, Chairman
MEMBERS PRESENT:	**Shannon Dowdy**, PharmD **Kelly Hasty Kale**, RPh **Larry Kocot**, JD (left at 2:12 PM) **Wendy Nash**, PharmD **Kristopher Ratliff**, DPh **Derek Webb**, PharmD **Ling Yuan**, PharmD, Vice-Chairman
MEMBERS ABSENT:	**Patricia Richards-Spruill**, RPh **Michelle Hoffer**, JD
STAFF PRESENT:	**Caroline Juran**, RPh, Executive Director, Virginia Board of Pharmacy **Sorayah Haden**, Executive Assistant, Virginia Board of Pharmacy **Ryan Logan**, Deputy Executive Director, Virginia Board of Pharmacy **Beth O'Halloran**, Deputy Executive Director, Virginia Board of Pharmacy **Ellen Shinaberry**, PharmD, Deputy Executive Director, Virginia Board of Pharmacy
PHARMACISTS AWARDED 1-HOUR OF LIVE OR REAL-TIME INTERACTIVE CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR ATTENDING MEETING:	David Flammia
QUORUM:	With 8 members present, a quorum was established.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA:	
MOTION	**The agenda was adopted as presented.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was provided.

STATUS OF PHARMACY WORKING CONDITIONS

Ms. Juran provided an update on the board's actions regarding pharmacy working conditions. The Board reviewed the draft final regulations, staffing request or concerns forms, excerpts from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Model Act, and statistics regarding monetary sanctions of known working condition cases. The Board encourages schools of pharmacy to inform their students of their rights as a participant in the workforce by informing them of their responsibilities, the availability of the staffing request or concern form, the process of filing complaints with the Board, and any other resources of guidance offered by the Board.

ACTION ITEM: **Staff will ask the deans of the four schools of pharmacy in Virginia if information regarding the working condition regulations is being taught in schools. Staff will also offer to provide a presentation to the students to educate students to this topic.**

ACTION ITEM: **Staff will send a link to the staffing requests or concerns form to licensees.**

ACTION ITEM: **The board will discuss at a future meeting how it wants to be informed of working condition cases that indicate a violation of 18VAC110-20-113.**

OVERVIEW OF INSPECTION PROGRAM

Ms. O'Halloran provided an overview of the inspection program. The overview consisted of the number of inspectors, inspection performance statistics, inspection expenses, frequency of inspections, and inspection-related documents available on the Board's website. Interest to potentially shorten the pharmacy inspection report and adjust the inspection frequency of pharmacies was expressed. Board staff stated it will continue to work with DHP's IT staff to collaborate on more efficient ways to collect data from the inspection reports. Ms. Juran reported that the last ad hoc inspection committee was held on 6/20/2018 and that staff routinely updates the inspection report for accuracy with law or regulatory changes.

ACTION ITEM: **The board will discuss at a future meeting if it will convene an ad hoc inspection committee meeting to discuss the inspection reports and frequency of routine inspections.**

OVERVIEW OF INNOVATIVE PILOT PROGRAMS

Dr. Shinaberry provided an overview of the innovative pilot program. The overview consisted of the authorization of innovative programs outlined in §54.1-3307.2, requirements of pilot application submissions, the board approval process, and a brief summary of currently approved innovative pilots. Ms. Juran reported that several pilots will soon expire when pending regulatory actions become final. Some board members commented that perhaps there should be more than two members on the committee considering innovative pilot program applications. Dr. Shinaberry stated that she will provide a brief update on pilot programs in her report at the quarterly board meetings.

PHARMACIST LICENSURE TRENDS

Mr. Logan presented pharmacist licensure trends. Jasmina Bjegovic, PharmD, National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, Director of Competency Assessment, joined the presentation via phone. The presentation consisted of the statistics regarding the attempt and pass rate of the North America Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) and the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE). The 2024 Virginia Pharmacist Workforce Survey Report was provided as additional supporting documentation. Dr. Bjegovic stated that the first attempt pass rate for NAPLEX is slightly higher than the all attempts pass rate provided in the agenda packet. There was a brief overview of the Uniform Pharmacy Jurisprudence Exam (UPJE) that is scheduled to be released in 2026. States will need to determine if they wish to recognize the UPJE and if their laws and regulations support such a decision.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN TRAINEE AND PHARMACY TECHNICIAN REGISTRATION TRENDS

Mr. Logan presented pharmacy technician trainee and pharmacy technician registration trends. As of July 1, 2025, the pharmacy technician registration requirements will be updated to also recognize completion of a training program that is recognized by Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) or the National Healthcareer Association (NHA). There are currently 73 online PTCB-recognized training programs, and 55 physical programs located in Virginia. The presentation included graphs documenting the trend within the Pharmacy Technician Trainees and Pharmacy Technician license count from Q1 2022 through Q2 2025. Statistics regarding the completion of the transition process from Pharmacy Technician Trainee to Pharmacy Technician was provided for board review. The 2024 Virginia Pharmacy Technician Workforce Survey Report was provided as additional supporting documentation

UTILIZATION OF COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE AGREEMENTS AND STATEWIDE PROTOCOLS

Ms. Juran reviewed information from the 2024 Pharmacists Healthcare Workforce Survey report regarding pharmacist participation in collaborative practice agreements and statewide protocols.

OVERVIEW PROCESS OF HANDLING THEFT AND LOSS REPORTS

Mr. Logan provided an overview of the board's process of handling theft and loss reports. Va. Code §54.1-3404 requires the immediate reporting of any theft or any other unusual loss of controlled substances to the Board. Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §1301.74 requires the reporting of theft or significant loss of any controlled substances to the DEA within one business day of discovery. Between January 1, 2025 and April 17, 2025, the Board received approximately 191 theft and loss notifications or DEA 106 forms.

OVERVIEW OF BYLAWS

Ms. Juran provided an overview of the bylaws of the Board as outlined in Guidance Document 110-12.

ACTION ITEM:

The board will discuss at a future meeting if the bylaws should be amended to have more than two members appointed to the innovative pilot committee. Board members will provide staff with potentially other subjects in the bylaws that it may consider amending in advance of such meeting for research purposes.

INCREASE OF STIMULANT PRESCRIPTIONS

Ms. Juran provided an update regarding the increase in stimulant prescriptions. The following documents were reviewed: graph from the Prescription Monitoring Program showing increased dispensing of stimulants, joint FDA-DEA letter regarding shortages, DEA letter regarding quota allocation process, and the DOJ press release regarding investigations involving Cerebral and Done.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

Board members raised additional topics for possible consideration on future meeting agendas and each topic was voted on. Dr. Nash provided a handout of her suggested topics

ACTION ITEM:

The following topic was approved by vote to be added to a future meeting agenda for discussion:

- **Any actions in Virginia that resulted from the 2013 NABP Report of the Task Force on the Regulation of Pharmacy Benefit Managers (Approved with a 5-2 vote).**

The following subjects were not approved by vote to be added to a future meeting agenda for discussion:

- Decline in pharmacy school enrollment, no longer the most respected profession,
- Development of a dashboard to monitor data points to be determined by the board,
- Suicide awareness.

ACTION ITEM:

Mr. Kocot informed the chairman that he would like the board to review its process for accepting a license for surrender. The subject will be discussed and voted on at a future meeting.

ACTION ITEM:

Ms. Juran will email VPhA and VSHP to encourage them to educate members on suicide awareness.

There was a discussion regarding software limitations in running inspection deficiency reports for board meetings. It was determined that the board is more interested in reviewing a report of the most cited deficiencies rather than a list of all cited deficiencies. Ms. Garvin reminded members to ask themselves at each board meeting if they are getting the data they need from staff's reports.

ACTION ITEM: **Board members and staff will develop a list of IT-related needs that are not currently met and submit it to relevant agency staff to determine if the Evoke software platform to be implemented in 2027/2028 can meet those needs.**

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:15 PM

Caroline D. Juran Digitally signed by Caroline D. Juran
Date: 2025.05.21 10:12:44 -04'00'

Caroline Juran, RPh
Executive Director

DATE: