

**FINAL APPROVED**  
**ADVISORY BOARD ON SURGICAL ASSISTING**  
Minutes  
February 2, 2021  
**Electronic Meeting**

The Advisory Board on Surgical Assisting held a virtual meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 hosted at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, Virginia.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Deborah Redmond, LSA, Chair  
Thomas Gochenour, LSA  
Nicole Meredith, RN  
Srikanth Mahavadi, MD  
Jessica Wilhelm, LSA

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director  
Michael Sobowale, LLM, Deputy Director, Licensure  
Elaine Yeatts, DHP Senior Policy Analyst  
Delores Cousins, Licensing Specialist

**GUESTS PRESENT:** David Jennette, CSA, NSAA  
Ben Traynham, JD, MSV

**Call to Order**

Deborah Redmond, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

**Emergency Egress Procedures**

Deborah Redmond called on Dr. Harp to announce the emergency egress procedures for those who may be attending the virtual meeting in the Perimeter Center.

**Roll Call**

The roll was called, and a quorum was declared.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Nicole Meredith moved to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2020 meeting. Jessica Wilhelm seconded. By roll call vote, the minutes were approved as presented.

## **Adoption of Agenda**

Thomas Gochenour moved to adopt the agenda. Nicole Meredith seconded. By roll call vote, the agenda was adopted as presented.

## **Public Comment on Agenda Items**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Michael Sobowale discussed the surgical assistant license application which is currently in use for new license applicants. There was discussion to amend question number 11 on the Surgical Assistant Licensure Application to ask about “past or pending disciplinary actions....”. The suggested change will be incorporated into the license application.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Report of the 2021 General Assembly**

Elaine Yeatts provided a report from the 2021 General Assembly and highlighted bills that were of interest to the Advisory Board.

### **2. Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA)**

Elaine Yeatts provided an update on the pending Notice of Intended Regulatory Action to the Advisory Board. She estimated that it would likely take another eighteen 18 months for the regulations to become effective.

### **3. Standard Operating Procedures**

Deborah Redmond wanted to discuss standard operating procedures as suggested on the National Surgical Assistant Association (NSAA) website. Ms. Redmond proposed to bring this item for discussion at the June meeting.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Delores Cousins provided the licensing report. The Board of Medicine has a total of 306 actively licensed surgical assistants with 37 out-of-state. There are 220 registered surgical technologists with 7 located out-of-state.

**Next Scheduled Meeting:**

Next scheduled meeting date: June 1, 2021.

**Adjournment**

With no other business to conduct, Deborah Redmond adjourned the meeting at 10:42 am.

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Deborah Redmond, LSA, Chair

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William L. Harp, MD, Executive Director

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Delores Cousins, License Specialist