

**Minutes
Credentials Committee Meeting
Florida Board of Medicine
Rosen Plaza Hotel
9700 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819
(407) 966-9700**

To accommodate individuals required to appear before the Committee, the chairman adjusted the sequence of the agenda items. The minutes reflect the actual sequence of events rather than the original agenda order.

Dr. Michael Chizner called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Those present for all or part of the meeting included the following:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Michael Chizner, M.D., Chairman
Robert Cline, M.D.
H. Frank Farmer, Jr., M.D.
Laurie Davies, M.D.

STAFF PRESENT:

Larry McPherson, Executive Director
Chandra Prine, Program Operations Administrator

MEMBERS ABSENT

Onelia Lage, M.D. , excused.

BOARD COUNSEL:

Ed Tellechea, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Donna McNulty, Assistant Attorney General

COURT REPORTER

Diana Garcia
American Court Reporting
698 Barrington Ct
Winter Springs, Florida 32327
(407) 896-1814

9:00 a.m.

MICHAEL CHIZNER, M.D. —INTERVIEWED TABS 1-5

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Tab 1 - Reza M. Mahram, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to disclose suspension and probation at Emory University, Department OB/GYN on the licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page, application fee and a \$500.00 fine. Dr. Davies seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page, application fee and a \$500.00 fine.

Tab 2 - Gregory S. Krivonyak, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Postgraduate training and positive response to questions 33, 34, and 35 on the licensure application.

Accompanied by Raymond Pomm, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Davies seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

Tab 3 - Safia Ansar Ali, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Postgraduate training at Mayo Clinic and previous 2006 licensure application.

Represented by Allen Grossman, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Chizner made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Farmer seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

Tab 4 - Samuel J. Lang, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Malpractice cases.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Davies made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Farmer seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure

Tab 5 - Emma J. Caplan Haggstad, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Positive response to questions 33 and 34 on the licensure application.

Accompanied by Raymond Pomm, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Davies seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

MICHAEL CHIZNER, M.D. —INTERVIEWED TABS 6-10

Tab 6 - Walter E. Loch, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Termination from Fayetteville Otolaryngology.

Represented by Greg Chaires, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Davies made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page, application fee and a \$500.00 fine. Dr. Farmer seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page, application fee and a \$500.00 fine.

Tab 7 - David W. Espenscheid, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Request to withdraw endorsement application.

The applicant was not present. Ms. Prine advised the Committee of Dr. Espenscheid's inability to appear. Dr. Davies made a motion to table the application at the next scheduled meeting of the Committee. Dr. Cline seconded the motion, which carried 5/0. The Committee advise staff to advise Dr. Espenscheid that he if fails to appear at the next meeting that his application will be denied for failure to appear.

To summarize, the Committee voted to table the application until the next meeting.

Tab 8 - Bharati V. Turakhia, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Employment activities from January 2004 to the present.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion Dr. Davies made a motion to table the application until the current investigation is complete. The applicant waived the 90 day requirement for the Board to act on her application. Upon completion of the investigation the Board has 90 days to act on the application.

To summarize, the Committee voted to table the application, until 90 days after the completion of the investigation.

Tab 9 - Michael T. Gibbons, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Medical education, postgraduate training and Professionals Resource Network recommendation.

Represented by Allen Grossman, Esq.

Accompanied by Raymond Pomm, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Farmer seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

Tab 10 - Christopher M. Anderson, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Failure to disclose arrest and 1998 DUI.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Farmer seconded the motion, which carried 3/1.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

ROBERT CLINE, M.D. —INTERVIEWED TABS 11-15

Tab 11 - Kaya Colak, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Temporary suspension at Borgess Medical Center, Professional Resource Network recommendation and malpractice cases.

Accompanied by Raymond Pomm, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Farmer made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page, application fee and a \$1,000.00 fine. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure with the condition of a corrected application page, application fee and a \$1000.00 fine

H. FRANK FARMER, JR., M.D. —INTERVIEWED TAB 22

Tab 22 - Mark P. Schwartz, M.D. Endorsement

Issue(s) Action by the New Jersey Medical Board.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Davies seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

Tab 12 - Antonio R. Howell, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Postgraduate training at St. Louis University School of Medicine and activities from January 2005 to the present.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Chizner made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Farmer seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

Tab 13 - Sarah Khan, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Request for reconsideration of licensure application.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. Dr. Farmer made a motion to reconsider the application the motion was seconded and carried 4/0. After discussion, Dr. Davies made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Farmer seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

Tab 14 - Stephen I. Hsu., M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Positive response to question 34 on the licensure application.

Represented Gus Weekley, Jr., M.D., Esq.

Accompanied by Raymond Pomm, M.D., Medical Director, Professionals Resource Network

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Davies made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Farmer seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

Tab 15 - Pierre J. Fontaine, M.D. - Temporary Certificate to Practice in Area of Critical Need

Issue(s) Request for reconsideration

Represented by Allen Grossman, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. Dr. Farmer made a motion to reconsider the application. The motion was seconded and carried 3/1. After discussion, Dr. Farmer made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Cline seconded the motion which carried 3/1.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure.

LAURIE DAVIES, M.D. —INTERVIEWED TABS 16-21

Tab 16 - Kenneth B. Gross, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Practice requirements pursuant to section 456.063(2)(a), F.S.

The applicant was not present and was not represent by counsel. The Committee was submitted additional information from Dr. Gross requesting to withdraw his application. After discussion, Dr. Farmer made a motion to allow Dr. Gross to withdraw his application. Dr. Cline seconded the motion, which carried 3/1.

To summarize, the Committee voted to allow withdrawal of the application.

Tab 17 - Stuart H. Fox, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s)

1. Failure to disclose leave of absence during medical school on resident registration application and failure to disclose Tennessee license denial for an unrestricted license on current application
2. Failure to return resident registration after informed it was issued in error
3. Action by the West Virginia, Oklahoma and Tennessee medical licensure boards
4. Malpractice cases
5. Staff privileges at Putnam General Hospital
6. To determine if ever denied staff privileges at McCurtain Memorial Hospital.

Represented by Allen Grossman, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Chizner made a motion to approve the application under probation with the same terms and to run concurrent with the terms of the probation on his Tennessee license. Probation also requires that the applicant make a first appearance at the Probation Committee and to submit practioner's reports. The probation will sunset automatically upon the lifting of the probation in Tennessee and upon submission of that to the Board. Dr. Cline seconded the motion which carried 3/1

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve the applicant for licensure with probation.

Tab 18 - Robert M. Knight, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Lack of practice, activities in Florida from January 2005 to the present and possible acts which constitute grounds for denial 458.331(1)(b)(g)(m)(g)(t)(x), F.S.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Farmer made a motion to deny the license. If the applicant pays the outstanding fine and costs of the previous order, he is allowed to apply again; however, there is no guarantee that licensure would be granted.

To summarize, the Committee voted to deny the application for licensure.

Tab 19 - Saravana E. Sivashanker, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Termination and staff privileges at Mount Carmel and Mount Carmel Saint Ann’s Medical Centers and action by the Ohio Board.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve of the application.

Tab 20 - Ajay D. Gohil, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Criminal background check.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve of the application.

Tab 21 - Juan J. Cespedes, M.D. - Temporary Certificate to Practice in Area of Critical Need

Issue(s) Postgraduate Training and lack of medical practice.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Davies seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve of the application.

H. FRANK FARMER, JR., M.D. —INTERVIEW TABS 23-26

Tab 23 - Seigo Nishida, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Request to be granted a license pursuant to section 458.311(8), F.S.

Represented by Allen Grossman, Esq.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition he remains on staff at a Florida university for at least two years. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve of the application with the condition he remains on staff of a Florida university for at least two years.

Tab 24 - Christian P. Seda, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Practice requirements pursuant to section 458.311(3)(a), F.S., and lack of bachelor’s degree from an accredited United States College or University.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve of the application.

Tab 25 - Asad Raza, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Practice requirements pursuant to section 458.313(1)(a) & 458.311(1)(e), F.S., undergraduate education, failure to meet section 64b8-4.018 lack of approved core clerkship completed in the U.S., and termination from Racine Family Medicine Program.

The applicant was not present and was not represent by counsel. Dr. Farmer made a motion to table the application until the next meeting. Dr. Cline seconded the motion, which carried 3/1.

To summarize, the Committee voted to table the application.

Tab 26 - Juan D. Oms, M.D. – Examination

Issue(s) Practice requirements pursuant to section 458.311(3)(a), F.S., and lack of bachelor’s degree from an accredited United States College or University.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve of the application.

INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATIONS

MICHAEL CHIZNER, M.D. —PRESENTED TABS 27-31 APPEARANCE NOT REQUIRED

Tab 27 - Andrew D. Pitkin, M.D. - Medical Faculty Certificate

Issue(s) Practice requirements pursuant to section 458.3145(1)(d), F.S.

After discussion, Dr. Cline made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Farmer seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve of the application.

Tab 27A - Amanda Marilyn Richards-Bullock, M.D. – Medical Faculty Certificate

Issue(s) Practice requirements pursuant to section 458.3145(1)(d), F.S.

After discussion, Dr. Farmer made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Cline seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve of the application

Tab 28B - Ivan Mark Chaitowitz, M.D. – Medical Faculty Certificate

Issue(s) Practice requirements pursuant to section 458.3145(1)(d), F.S.

After discussion, Dr. Farmer made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Cline seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve of the application.

Tab 28C - Kianoush Rezaei, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Petition for Variance or Waiver of sections 64B8-4.009(4)&(5) and 64B8-4.010, F.A.C., lack of medical education documentation and verification.

After discussion, Dr. Farmer made a motion to grant the Petition for Variance or Waiver. Dr. Cline seconded the motion, which carried 4/0. Dr Davies made a motion to approve the application for licensure. Dr. Cline seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to grant Petition for Variance or Waiver and to approve of the application for licensure.

Tab 28 - Ratification Approval Catholic Charities of Central FL, Inc & Crossroads Center Medical Clinic

After discussion, Dr. Farmer made a motion to approve Catholic Charities of Central Florida, Inc. & Crossroads Center Medical Clinic as a Area of Critical Need Facility. The motion was seconded and carried 4/0.

INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Tab 29 - Isabel E. Cabrera, M.D. – Endorsement

Issue(s) Practice requirements pursuant to section 458.313(1)(a) and 458.311 (1)(f)3.b., F.S.

The applicant was present and sworn in by the court reporter. After discussion, Dr. Davies made a motion to approve the application for licensure with the condition of three years probation, indirect supervision, pass all steps of the USMLE examination and submit a valid ECFMG certificate within three years from the issuance of the license. Dr. Chizner seconded the motion, which carried 4/0.

To summarize, the Committee voted to approve application for licensure with the condition of three years probation, indirect supervision, pass all steps of the USMLE examination and submit a valid ECFMG certificate within three years from the issuance of the license

NEW BUSINESS

Tab 30 - Approval of updated 1501 licensure application packet

After discussion, the Board approved to accept suggested modifications to the application packet, including modification to questions 33-36 regarding the ability to practice with skill and safety, which were raised by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Committee in addition had a concern regarding question number 29. The Committee requested staff to determine if the amount of \$5,000 is the correct amount pursuant to section 456.039(1), F.S.

Tab 31 - Orlando Sentinel Article - Submitted as information only.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m