



Meeting Minutes – *Unapproved Draft; Pursuant to [SDCL 1-27-1.17](#)* February 11, 2026

Location: Microsoft Teams (Meeting ID: 271 024 314 346 22; Passcode: bc9jd3nX; https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MmUSNTUwMTMtNTQxYi00MGYzLTmZWitOGRhYjdkNzI3Nzk4%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2270af547c-69ab-416d-b4a6-543b5ce52b99%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2224da3e1c-0701-41c1-8845-e2c4f4dc68f9%22%7d)

All motions taken by roll call, unless otherwise stated.

1. **Call to Order:** President Christi Keffeler called the meeting to order at 9:06 A.M. Central.

Board Member Roll Call: Present: Deborah Bowar, Denise Buchholz, Debra Felton, Jeanne Goodman, Nathan Hinker, Carena Jarding, Christi Keffeler, Lori Koenecke, Cheryl Osmond, Penny Tilton, Jenna VandenBos.

Board Staff Present: Linda Young, Holly Lindbloom, Erin Matthies, Sarah Nussbaum, Lindsay Olson, Bryan Wermers.

Legal Counsel Present: Elizabeth Cave, General Counsel to Board; Shelly Munson, Prosecuting Attorney for Board.

Others Present: Josh Smith, RN; Julie Gregory, RN, LifeQuest; Alli Witte, LifeQuest; Heidi Sperry, SD Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD); Ashley Ayala, MSW; Stephanie Harvey, Shelby Boehmer.

2. **Agenda Approval:** Motion by Bowar to approve the February 11, 2026, agenda. Second by Tilton. Motion carried.

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| Bowar | Yes | Goodman | Yes | Keffeler | Yes | Tilton | Yes |
| Buchholz | Yes | Hinker | Yes | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: 11 | |

3. **Open Forum:** Keffeler provided the opportunity for guests to address the Board, no one requested to do so.

4. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Koenecke to approve November 4th, 2025, meeting minutes. Second by Hinker. Motion carried.

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| Bowar | Yes | Goodman | Yes | Keffeler | Yes | Tilton | Yes |
| Buchholz | Yes | Hinker | Yes | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: 11 | |

5. **Executive Session:** The Board did not go into executive session.

6. **Health Professionals Assistance Program (HPAP): Quarterly Report:** Young presented the report. Nurses who meet HPAP qualifications may enroll voluntarily in HPAP for the monitoring of a substance use issue or mental health related issue or the Board may mandate a nurse to participate. In December 2025, 70 participants were enrolled. The average enrollment in 2025 was 68 participants; and 19 participants were discharged in 2025; 68% of them were discharged successfully.

7. **Compliance:**

a. **Formal Hearings:** No formal hearings were held.

b. **Compliance Committee Recommendations Licensed:** The Compliance Committee submitted the following recommended **Settlement Offers** for approval by the Board:

1. Letter of Reprimand on Privilege to Practice (PTP): Christopher Gorey, KY RN 4024726
2. Mandated Participation in HPAP: L.T.
3. Mandated Participation in HPAP and Stayed Suspension: Keely Evans, SD P013698; Amanda Gundvaldson, SD R046719
4. Reinstatement with Mandated Participation in HPAP and Stayed Suspension: Josh Smith SD R045039, CR000872
5. Grant Licensure with Mandated Participation in HPAP: Shelsey Honer, SD RN- Applicant
6. Grant Licensure with Mandated Participation in HPAP and Stayed Suspension: Jeanne Sarnat, SD RN- Applicant
7. Mandated HPAP Assessment and Grant Licensure after Completion of Refresher Course: Kris Miller, SD RN- Applicant
8. Mandated Participation in HPAP and Grant Licensure after Completion of Refresher Course: Heather McClure, SD RN- Applicant
9. Letter of Concern: K. L; W.R.
10. Letter of Concern on PTP: M.M.; N.R.; K.S.
11. Letter of Concern on CNP and Letter of Concern on RN PTP: S.P.

Motion by Bowar to accept the recommendations of the Compliance Committee as presented in the Compliance Committee Consent Agenda document for licensed nurses. Second by Tilton. Motion carried.

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| Bowar | Yes | Goodman | Yes | Keffeler | Yes | Tilton | Yes |
| Buchholz | Recuse | Hinker | Recuse | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: 9 | |

- c. **Dismissal Reporting – Licensed:** Nussbaum presented a report of Investigative Dismissals, pursuant to SDCL 36-1C-4.
- d. **Compliance Committee Recommendations Registrants:** The Compliance Committee submitted the following recommended **Settlement Offers** for approval by the Board:
 1. Denial of Registration: Sharice Jewett, RMA Applicant; Nancy Michael, RMA Applicant
 2. Letter of Reprimand: Allison Honomichl, SD M011837
 3. Accept Voluntary Surrender RMA Registration: Amanda Franks, SD M011527

Motion by Bowar to accept the recommendations of the Compliance Committee as presented in the Compliance Committee Consent Agenda document for registrants. Second by VandenBos. Motion carried.

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| Bowar | Yes | Goodman | Yes | Keffeler | Yes | Tilton | Yes |
| Buchholz | Recuse | Hinker | Recuse | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: | 9 |

- e. **Dismissal Reporting – Registrants:** Lindbloom presented a report of Investigative Dismissals, pursuant to SDCL 36-1C-4.
- f. **Additional Compliance Cases:**

1. Munson & Nussbaum presented background on Jessica Norse, SD P014035. Motion by Buchholz to issue Summary Suspension to Jessica Norse, SD P014035. Second by Bowar. Motion carried.

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| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: | 11 |

2. Nussbaum presented background on Christopher Miller, SD CR000485 & R026440. Motion by Buchholz to accept Voluntary Surrender of Licensee from Christopher Miller, SD CR000485 & R026440. Second by VandenBos. Motion carried.

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| Buchholz | Yes | Hinker | Yes | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: | 11 |

- g. **Licensee Correspondence:** Nussbaum reviewed two letters received from HPAP participants that described positive experiences in the program.
- h. **Process for Review of Registrant Compliance Cases:** Young presented the proposed process for investigation of complaints, use of compliance committee, and the use of a decisioning framework for applicants who have misdemeanors and felonies. Young and Munson provided examples of how the proposed process could be used for applicants; they responded to board member questions. Motion by Buchholz to approve the Compliance Review Process for Registrant Compliance Cases as presented. Second by Bowar. Motion carried.

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| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: | 11 |

- 8. **Financial Report: Fiscal Year 2026:** Matthies presented the SDBON financial report for FY26 for the time period of July 2025 – December 2025. Motion by Buchholz to approve the FY26 financial report as presented. Second by Koenecke. Motion carried.

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| Bowar | Yes | Goodman | Yes | Keffeler | Yes | Tilton | Yes |
| Buchholz | Yes | Hinker | Yes | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: | 11 |

9. Licensure and Operations:

- a. **Licensure & Registry Report:** Matthies reported that as of January 2026, the Board had 20,279 licensed registered nurses, 2,818 licensed practical nurses, 75 certified nurse midwives, 2,979 certified nurse practitioners, 41 clinical nurse specialists, 565 certified registered nurse anesthetists, 13,907 registered certified nurse aides, and 4,543 registered medication aides.
- b. **Optimal Regulatory Board System (ORBS) Update:** Young provided an update on the new licensure system, ORBS, which became live on February 2, 2026. Young and Matthies responded to questions.
- c. **Nurse Aide Regulation Update:** Young provided an update on the transition of certified nurse aide (CNA) regulation from the Department of Health to the Board. Young updated the Board on the request for proposal (RFP) that was issued in 2025 for a national test vendor for the CNA knowledge exam. The RFP was awarded to Headmaster, LLC. The contract was signed, and Board staff are working with Headmaster to update resource documents and websites to reflect the new regulatory processes.

10. Nursing Education:

- a. **Nursing Education Committee Recommendations:** The Education Committee submitted the following recommendations for approval by the Board:
 1. Accept 2025 NCLEX Pass Rate Report
 2. Approve requests for ongoing approval of PN programs in 2026:
 - a. Lake Area Technical College – PN (Full)
 - b. Mitchell Technical College – PN (Full)
 - c. Sinte Gleska College – PN (Full)
 - d. Sisseton Wahpeton – PN (Full)
 - e. Southeast Technical College – PN (Full)
 - f. Western Dakota Technical College – PN (Full)
 3. Approve requests for ongoing approval of RN programs in 2026:
 - g. Augustana University – BSN (Full)
 - h. Dakota Wesleyan University – AD RN (Interim) and BSN (Full)
 - i. Lake Area Technical College –AD RN (Full)
 - j. Mitchell Technical College –AD RN (Full)
 - k. Mount Marty University – BSN (Full)
 - l. Northern State University – BSN (Interim)
 - m. Oglala Lakota College – AD RN (Full)
 - n. South Dakota State University – BSN (Full)
 - o. Southeast Technical College –AD RN (Full)
 - p. University of Sioux Falls – BSN (Full)
 - q. University of South Dakota – BSN (Full)
 - r. Western Dakota Technical College –AD RN (Full)
 4. Approve requests for ongoing approval of APRN programs in 2026:
 - a. Augustana University – Nurse Practitioner (Full) and Clinical Nurse Specialist (Full)
 - b. Mount Marty University – Nurse Practitioner (Full) and Nurse Anesthesia (Full)
 - c. South Dakota State University – Nurse Practitioner (Full)
 - d. University of South Dakota – Nurse Anesthesia (Full)
 5. Approve South Dakota State University’s 2025 RN and LPN refresher program report and request for continuing approval in 2026
 6. Request additional information from Minnesota State Community and Technical College Workforce Development Solution’s 2025 RN and LPN refresher program report and request for continuing approval in 2026 prior to the April Education Committee Meeting
 7. Approve request from University of South Dakota for curriculum revisions to doctorate of nurse anesthesia program
 8. Accept notice from Mount Marty University that Mark Brown is President as of January 1, 2026
 9. Accept notice by Dakota Wesleyan University of relocation of the Sioux Falls Instructional Site
 10. Accept notice by Northern State University that Dr. Alan D. LaFave is President as of January 5th, 2026, and Dr. Erin Fouberg is Interim Provost and Vice President as of December 1, 2025.

Motion by Buchholz to accept the recommendations of the Nursing Education Committee as presented in the Education Committee Consent Agenda document. Second by VandenBos. Motion carried.

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| Bowar | Yes | Goodman | Yes | Keffeler | Yes | Tilton | Recuse |
| Buchholz | Yes | Hinker | Yes | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Recuse | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: 9 | |

11. Nursing Practice:

- a. **2025 CNM Out-of-Hospital (OOH) Birth Report:** Olson presented the 2025 report on out-of-hospital (OOH) births that were attended by 10 of the 18 certified nurse midwives (CNM) approved by the Board to attend OOH births. All approved CNMs signed an agreement to comply with the Board’s OOH Practice Guidelines. Since 2008, a total of 1,633 women requested an OOH birth; of them, 89.0% delivered OOH, 6.0% were referred for a hospital birth, and 5.0% were transported during labor to a hospital. In 2025, 254 women requested an OOH birth, 238 delivered OOH, 7 were referred for a hospital birth, and 9 were transported during labor to a hospital.
- b. **Review of Advisory Opinion Statements:** Olson presented two previously approved advisory opinion statements for review by the Board for consideration to amend or retire: 1) *Role of the Registered Nurse in Monitoring the Care of a Pregnant Woman Receiving Analgesia by Catheter Techniques* and 2) *Role of the Registered Nurse in the Management of Analgesia by Catheter Technique for the Client Experiencing Acute or Chronic Pain*. Olson explained

that most nurses and employers do not use these statements and instead use the Board’s approved *Scope of Practice (SOP) Decision-making Framework* to guide their decisions on whether a task or intervention is within a licensed nurse’s scope. Olson shared that as healthcare practices evolve it is difficult to keep advisory opinions and statements up to date; therefore, Olson recommended that the Board retire both statements.

Motion by Tilton to retire the statements: “*Role of the Registered Nurse in Monitoring the Care of a Pregnant Woman Receiving Analgesia by Catheter Techniques*” and “*Role of the Registered Nurse in the Management of Analgesia by Catheter Technique for the Client Experiencing Acute or Chronic Pain*”. Second by Bowar. Motion carried.

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| Bowar | Yes | Goodman | Yes | Keffeler | Yes | Tilton | Yes |
| Buchholz | Yes | Hinker | Yes | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: 11 | |

- c. **APRN Advisory Committee CNM Appointment:** Olson provided an overview of the APRN Advisory Committee and current membership roster. Olson reviewed an application and curriculum vitae from Erin Vande Lune, CNM, for the open CNM position. Motion by Jarding to appoint Erin Vande Lune, CNM, to serve as a member on the Board’s APRN Advisory Committee for a three-year term. Second by Buchholz. Motion carried.

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| Bowar | Yes | Goodman | Yes | Keffeler | Yes | Tilton | Yes |
| Buchholz | Yes | Hinker | Yes | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: 11 | |

12. SD Center for Nursing Workforce (CNW)

- a. **2026 CNW Symposium:** Olson provided an update on the activities of the CNW; the 2026 CNW Symposium will be held in Sioux Falls at the Hilton Garden Inn South on April 29, 2026. The CNW is partnering with the South Dakota Nurses Association and the Nursing Education Deans and Directors to host the event. The focus of the event, pursuant to SDCL 36-9-96 (2), is to share current South Dakota nursing workforce data and provide an opportunity for nurses and interested stakeholders to convene to discuss strategic actions supporting South Dakota’s nursing workforce. The event will feature keynote speaker Dr. Kathryn Shaffer, Director of Innovation in the College of Nursing at Thomas Jefferson University. Registration is open.

13. Policy:

- a. **Legislative Update:** Young provided an overview of bills introduced in South Dakota’s 2026 legislative session that may impact the Board or nursing practice.
- b. **Proposed Rules for Promulgation:** Young presented drafted rules for the Board’s consideration for promulgating in 2026, including: 1) amending § 20:48:03:06. **Examination results -- Retaking examination**, this rule is in conflict with the open meeting law, SDCL 1-27-1.5(18), which prohibits a Board from sharing results of an exam for licensure; 2) amending §§ 20:48:03:11; 20:48:03:13; 20:48:06:01 and 20:48:06:02 to eliminate issuing renewal certificate cards and to update language in the rules. Matthies shared that the cost to the Board to issue the cards exceeds \$15,000 per year. Young explained that renewal certificate cards are not effective for verifying that a nurse holds an active unencumbered license. The public is encouraged to verify a nurse on the Board’s Nurse Portal Verification site or the National Nursys® database, these sites offer real-time, primary source verification of licensure status; and 3) adding a new rule in § 20:48:04.01:24 to allow Shared Living Providers’, who care for developmentally disabled persons in their home, to insert and remove an established G-tube. Olson reviewed the proposed requirements and shared that if changed, the delegation will allow the disabled person to remain in the shared living home and the shared living provider to be compensated for care delivered. The following guests, Gregory and Witte from LifeQuest and Sperry from the DDD, offered comments on the need to add the proposed rule. Motion by Jarding to approve promulgating amendments to §§ 20:48:03:06; 20:48:03:11; 20:48:03:13; 20:48:06:01; and 20:48:06:02, as presented; and adding a new rule, § 20:48:04.01:24, as presented. Second by Felton. Motion carried.

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| Bowar | Yes | Goodman | Yes | Keffeler | Yes | Tilton | Yes |
| Buchholz | Yes | Hinker | Yes | Koenecke | Yes | VandenBos | Yes |
| Felton | Yes | Jarding | Yes | Osmond | Yes | Yes Votes: 11 | |

14. Announcements:

- a. Future Board Meetings: 5/5/2026, 8/4/2026, 11/4/2026, 2/2/2027, 5/4/2027,8/3/2027, 11/3/2027.
- b. CNW Symposium: 4/29/2026.
- c. NCSBN Midyear & Nurse Licensure Compact Meetings: 3/16/2026 – 3/19/2026.

- 15. **Motion to Adjourn** by Buchholz. Second by Bowar. Motion carried in unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 12:01 P.M.