

Approved by Committee on June 2, 2023

**Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee
Maryland Board of Nursing
4140 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215**

**Open Session Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2023**

NAME	TITLE	PRESENT	ABSENT
Committee Members			
Paige Barocca, LDEM	Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife Member 1 st Four-Year Term: June 22, 2022 – December 31, 2025	X	
Tess Brody, LDEM	Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife Member 1 st Four-Year Term: January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2026	X	
Brittany Coffman, LDEM	Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife Member 1 st Four-Year Term: January 26, 2022 – December 31, 2025	X	
Dr. Mairi Breen Rothman, CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife Member 1 st Four-Year Term: January 31, 2023 – January 31, 2027		X
Roxann Gordon, CNM (Chair)	Chair, Certified Nurse Midwife Member 1 st Four-Year Term: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2024	X	
Dr. Ann B. Burke, M.D.	Representative of Maryland Hospital Association Member 1 st Four-Year Term: January 31, 2022 – December 31, 2026 Note: Vacancy because prior member resigned. A member appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed. Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-6C-11(g)(4).	X	
Jessica Watkins	Consumer Member 2 nd Four-Year Term: January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2025	X	
Board Staff			
Monica Mentzer	Manager of Practice, Maryland Board of Nursing	X	
Additional Board Staff:			
Iman Farid	Health Policy Administrator	X	
Board Counsel			
Michael Conti	Assistant Attorney General		X

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Katherine Cummings	Assistant Attorney General	X	
Guests (Members of Public), if Applicable			
Diana Shu	Maryland Hospital Association	X	
Jane Krienke	Maryland Hospital Association	X	
Shannon Serrano		X	
Pam Kasemeyer	American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter	X	
Elizabeth Reiner, LDEM	Association of Independent Midwives of Maryland (AIMM)	X	
Caitlin McDonough	AIMM and Maryland Families for Safe Births (MFSB)	X	

Agenda Item (Subject)	Responsible Party	Discussion	Results
1. Call to Order	Roxann Gordon, CNM (Committee chairperson)	Ms. Gordon, called the May 5, 2023, Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee (the “Committee”) meeting to order. The following Committee members were present at the time the meeting was called to order, sufficient for a quorum: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jessica Watkins (Consumer member); 2. Roxann Gordon, CNM; 3. Brittany Coffman, LDEM; 4. Paige Barocca, LDEM; and 5. Dr. Ann B. Burke, MD (MHA Representative). 	Ms. Roxann Gordon, Committee chairperson, called the May 5, 2023 Committee meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.
	Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)	The meeting was held via conference call and the call-in information and agenda were posted on the Board’s website at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.	
2. Minutes – Review and approval of the April 7, 2023, open session meeting minutes	Paige Barocca, LDEM	The Committee reviewed the draft minutes from its Open Session meeting on April 7, 2023.	Ann Burke, MD, FACOG, moved and Brittany Coffman, LDEM, seconded the motion to

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	(Committee member, leader of meeting)		approve the minutes from the Committee’s Open Session meeting on April 7, 2023, as written. The motion passed, with no objections and one abstention (Jessica Watkins).
3. Review of Application for Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p> <p>Dr. Ann Burke, MD (Committee member, MHA Representative)</p> <p>Katherine Cummings, AAG (Board Counsel)</p>	<p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee with a copy of the “Application for Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” received by the Board on April 17, 2023, from: Caitlin E. Manela for review, and discussion.</p> <p>The Committee utilized the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee Checklist for the Committee members review of the application.</p> <p>Dr. Burke asked if there is a requirement for the applicants to submit professional references with an application to obtain initial licensure to practice as a Direct-Entry Midwife in the State of Maryland and if the applications reviewed by the Committee occur in Closed or Open Session Committee meetings.</p> <p>Ms. Cummings explained that the Committee makes decisions on whether to recommend that licensure be granted in Open Session meetings,</p>	

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<p>4. Review and Discussion of updates to the Maryland Licensed Direct-Entry Midwifery License Renewal Application and Instruction Sheet</p>	<p>Monica Mentzer (Board Staff)</p>	<p>and that there are no statutory requirements for an applicant to submit professional references.</p> <p>Following the review and discussion of the application submitted by Ms. Caitlin E. Manela, the Committee determined the application submitted is complete and meets all of the minimum regulatory requirements and qualification for the Board’s consideration for initial licensure as a Direct-Entry Midwife in the State of Maryland.</p> <p>Ms. Tess Brody joined the Committee meeting at 10:33 a.m.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee with a copy of the draft documents “Renewal Notice” and “Application for Renewal of License to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery” for review and discussion.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee with copies of Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-6C-18 License expiration, renewal, and reinstatement..</p>	<p>Brittany Coffman, LDEM, moved to recommend that the Board approve the Application for Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery for Caitlin E. Manela to be licensed as a Direct-Entry Midwife to practice in Maryland. The motion was seconded by Jessica Watkins. There were none opposed and no abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Monica Mentzer will present the Committee’s recommendation to the Board to accept and approve the Application for Licensure to Practice Direct-Entry Midwifery for Caitlin E. Manela at the next scheduled Board</p>

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<p>5. Review and Discussion of the Annual Data Collection Form</p>	<p>Elizabeth Reiner, LDEM</p>	<p>and the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), Title 10, Subtitle 64, Chapter 01, regulation 10.64.01.01.17 Term and Renewal of License and Reinstatement of License., for review.</p> <p>Ms. Reiner suggested adding a sentence on the Renewal Notice to notify the renewal applicant to check the Look Up A License on the Board’s website Search License function to be able to see that their renewal was successfully approved by the Board.</p>	<p>Open Session meeting, scheduled for May 24, 2023.</p> <p>The documents will be presented by Ms. Mentzer to the Practice and Education to obtain a recommendation for approval, at its meeting scheduled for Friday, May 12, 2023.</p> <p>The documents will then be presented to the Board at its Open Session Board meeting scheduled for May 24, 2023, for Board approval.</p>
	<p>Roxann Gordon, CNM (Committee chairperson)</p>	<p>Ms. Gordon led the Committee’s review and discussion of the currently approved “Annual Data Collection Form”.</p>	<p>The Committee decided to table the “Annual Data Collection Form” for further review and discussion, at its next</p>

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	Elizabeth Reiner, LDEM (Guest)	Ms. Reiner, as a former Committee member, noted that the Committee had solicited community input from the Association of Independent Midwives of Maryland (AIMM) last year, as part of the process of the Committee’s work to update the Annual Data Collection Form utilized by each LDEM for the report submitted last year.	scheduled Committee meeting on June 2, 2023.
	Jessica Watkins (Consumer member)	Ms. Watkins asked the Committee if there are any additional questions needed to be added to currently approved Annual Data Collection Form to be compliant with the current Ann. Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, Title 8, Subtitle 6C., Section 8-6C-10 statutory requirements.	Ms. Mentzer will add this item to the June 2, 2023 Committee agenda.
	Katherine Cummings (Board Counsel)	Ms. Cummings offered to see if the Annual Data Collection Form, available on the Board’s website, could be put into a PDF fillable format.	
	Jessica Watkins (Consumer member)	Ms. Watkins offered to check with AIMM for feedback as to whether or not all LDEMs would be able to submit the Annual Data Collection forms electronically to facilitate having a way to aggregate the data.	
	Roxann Gordon, CNM	Ms. Gordon added that we do not want to add any additional steps or work to place additional burden on the midwives.	

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	<p>(Committee chairperson)</p> <p>Dr. Ann Burke, MD (Committee member, MHA Representative)</p> <p>Caitlin McDonough (Guest)</p> <p>Elizabeth Reiner, LDEM (Guest)</p> <p>Tess Brody, LDEM (Committee member)</p>	<p>Dr. Burke commented the electronic version is a great idea and suggested use of an Excel format be used vs. a PDF document, for collection of the Annual Data Collection Form.</p> <p>Ms. McDonough commented that if a licensed Direct-Entry Midwife can record any patients that they are unable to take due to the scope of practice limitations, that this information may be helpful to track for data collection purposes, and to note the difficulty to access to care with a provider for clients/patients seeking care with a Direct-Entry Midwife in Maryland.</p> <p>Ms. Reiner commented that this is an interesting question and that the data could be collected on a Voluntary Data Collection Form that could be provided for by the Association of Independent Midwives of Maryland (AIMM) professional association group.</p> <p>Ms. Brody commented the collection of this additional type of data could be helpful to the Committee for expanding the licensed Direct-Entry Midwives scope of practice.</p>	

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<p>6. Public Business</p>	<p>Roxann Gordon, CNM (Committee chairperson)</p>	<p>Ms. Gordon asked those present at the meeting from the community if they wanted to address the Committee with any further items/topics for discussion and further consideration.</p>	
	<p>Iman Farid (Health Policy Administrator, Board staff)</p>	<p>Ms. Farid provided an update to the Committee on the status of the Board’s approval of the Committee’s proposed updates to the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), Title 10, Subtitle 64, Chapter 01, specifically, COMAR 10.64.01.15(B) to conform with the statutory requirements in Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, Title 8, Subtitle 6C, Section 8-6C-13(b)(2)(ii), adding the option of the NARM Midwife Bridge Certification Program to update the current COMAR regulations.</p> <p>Ms. Farid reported that the Maryland Department of Health started the Department’s review process on April 13, 2023, and that Dr. Laura Herrera-Scott, will be reviewing the request in mid-May of 2023.</p>	
	<p>Caitlin McDonough (Guest)</p>	<p>Ms. McDonough provided the Committee with information for the resubmission of the two bills presented in the 2023 Legislative Session (SB376 and HB351), regarding Health Occupations – Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives – Previous Cesarean Section. This was the third year the bills regarding Health Occupations – Licensed Direct-</p>	

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	<p>Diana Shu (Guest, Maryland Hospital Association)</p>	<p>Entry Midwives – Previous Cesarean Section were presented to the Maryland General Assembly; and although much progress was made, the HB351 passed and was moved to the Senate chamber, SB376 did not move forward before the Maryland General Assembly adjournment (“Sine Die”) on April 10, 2023.</p> <p>Ms. McDonough suggested that the Committee work AIMM to get a head start on preparing for the development of what the Board’s transfer protocol would look like. Ms. McDonough offered to coordinate with consumer groups to provide for potential policies to bring a finished product to the table for the next Maryland Legislative Session.</p> <p>Ms. McDonough commented that AIMM is a resource for the Committee moving forward and that the pre-file period for the next Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session is 90 days prior to the January-April 2024 calendar.</p> <p>Ms. Shu commented that she will consult with Ms. Jane Krienke, to provide assistance to Ms. McDonough, and to coordinate with consumer groups to identify areas of discussion.</p>	

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	<p>Roxann Gordon, CNM (Committee chairperson)</p> <p>Monica Mentzer (Board staff)</p>	<p>Ms. Gordon thanked the guests for attending today’s Committee meeting and for the information guests were able to provide to the Committee.</p> <p>Ms. Mentzer provided the Committee with a response from Ms. Karen E. B. Evans, Executive Director of the Maryland Board of Nursing, regarding the Committee’s request to know when the Committee meetings may be held in-person again.</p> <p>Ms. Evans advised Ms. Mentzer in an email that only two Committee meetings will be in-person at this time (Board Meeting and Safe Practice Meeting), and that other committee meetings will not be held in-person until 2024.</p>	
<p>7. Adjournment</p>	<p>Roxann Gordon, CNM (Committee chairperson)</p>	<p>Ms. Gordon requested a motion to adjourn this Open Session meeting of the Committee.</p> <p>The Committee’s next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Ms. Brittany Coffman, LDEM, motioned, and Ms. Tess Brody, LDEM, seconded the motion, to adjourn the May 5, 2023, open session meeting of the Committee. The Committee adjourned at 11:57 a.m.</p>