

GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 4:00 PM (RECONVENED November 20, 2024 at 4:00 PM)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84199109066?pwd=apUfwwg133kFZnpX90bbVni1f9tddT.1>

Meeting ID: 841 9910 9066

Passcode: 528524

MINUTES

Topic	DECISION(S) / ACTION(S) MADE	Responsible Party	Status
I.	Call to Order	Meeting Chaired by: Dr. Berg	Chair 1607 Called to Order
	<p>A. Roll Call: GBME <i>Present at HPLO Conference Room:</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Verrad Kwasi Nyame, Medical Director of GMH</p> <p><i>Present Virtually at Remote location:</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathaniel B. Berg, M.D., Chairperson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luis G. Cruz, M.D. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alexander D Wielaard, M.D.</p>	<p>OTHERS PRESENT: <i>Present at HPLO Conference Room:</i> Baltazar (Tre) Hattori III, HPLO <i>Present Virtually at Remote location:</i> Breanna Sablan, HPLO Peter John Camacho, DPHSS, Deputy Director</p>	Chair 1607 Quorum Established
	B. Confirmation of Public Notice		Chair 1607 Confirmed
II.	Adoption of Agenda	<i>Motion to Adopt the Agenda: Dr. Berg.</i>	GBME 1607 Adopted
III.	Review and Approval of Minutes	Draft Minutes dated October 09 & 23, 2024. <i>Motion to Approve: Dr. Berg</i>	GBME 1608 Unanimously Approved
IV.	Treasurer's Report	No Report	GBME 1608 No Report
V.	HPLO Administrator's Report	B. Sablan announced that, effective October 28, 2024, she has assumed the role of HPLO Administrator following the retirement of Zennia. She also noted that Tré remains assigned to the medical board and is currently in the process of recruiting program coordinators to expand the staff. Dr. Berg requested that the job description be sent to him so that it can be shared with potential candidates. Additionally, B. Sablan reported that the GBME has received a \$50,000 grant from the FSMB for emergency response funding. The funds have been deposited, but access is pending in order to proceed with the recruitment of an administrative assistant, as outlined in the grant proposal. Dr. Berg asked that this grant information be forwarded to the Board for their awareness. Regarding training, B. Sablan mentioned that a calendar for the Government of Guam ethics training will be shared once available. Dr. Berg	B. Sablan 1611 No Report

Topic	DECISION(S) / ACTION(S) MADE	Responsible Party		Status
	encouraged new members to review the FSMB website and consider attending the Annual Meeting in April. He is also awaiting a meeting with the Legislative Committee on Health. Lastly, Dr. Berg requested that the acting HPLO Administrator provide an update on the staffing pattern during her upcoming report.			
VI.	Chairperson's Report Dr. Berg is encouraging new members to review the FSMB website and to look into attending the Annual Meeting in April. Waiting to meet with the legislative committee on health. Dr. Berg requests that the acting HPLO administrator give an update on the staffing pattern during her report.	Dr. Berg	1609	Noted
VII.	Old Business A. Complaint(s): 1. GBME-CO-20-005 – Received: 09/18/2020. Dr. Berg reported this complaint is currently being reviewed by the newly assigned legal counsel, Amber Ocean. 2. GBME-CO-2022-010 – Received: 06/21/2022. Dr. Berg reported this complaint is also currently being reviewed by the newly assigned legal counsel, Amber Ocean. B. Accusation: GBME-001-2023 B. Sablan reported that the Board currently does not have enough members to vote on recommendation from the hearing officer. C. Application(s) for Full Licensure 1. Thomas Micah Park <i>Motion to Approve: Dr. Berg; 2nd: Dr. Nyame</i> 2. Geoffrey M. Fraiche Dr. Berg reiterated that the applicant had reported an incident that occurred while licensed in Florida. This incident was widely publicized in the media, and Dr. Berg believes the physician's explanation of the event in his letter to the Board was dismissive. He recommends that the Board request court documents related to the incident. Dr. Nyame inquired whether a court or criminal conviction would automatically nullify the application. Dr. Berg responded by citing existing language, which states that licenses are not granted to individuals convicted of crimes of moral turpitude. Dr. Nyame expressed that he does not believe requesting court documents would change his stance. Instead, he feels it is important for the physician to acknowledge the wrongdoing. Dr. Berg agreed with this sentiment. Dr. Cruz reiterated his support for requesting the court documents and suggested contacting the Florida Board to understand why they did not pursue disciplinary action. Dr. Berg pointed out that the physician's Florida license may have expired before the Board could take action, and as a result, the Board may have lacked jurisdiction. Dr. Wielaard noted that while the physician's side of the story has been well documented, it is crucial to gather all facts surrounding the incident. He also emphasized that the case does not pertain to the physician's clinical practice. Dr. Wielaard recommended obtaining letters of reference from the physician's colleagues in Saipan. Dr. Berg agreed to contact the Chair of the Saipan Board to inquire whether they investigated the	GBME Dr. Cruz Dr. David B. Sablan GBME GBME	1615	On-going On-going Ongoing Unanimously Approved On-Going

Topic	DECISION(S) / ACTION(S) MADE		Responsible Party		Status
		<p>incident before granting licensure. Dr. Nyame also suggested that the physician's application could be withdrawn altogether. In response, Dr. Berg made the following motion to draft a letter to the physician requesting relevant court documents, information from previous employers regarding the two noted incidents, and clarification from the Florida Board. The letter will also inform the physician of the option to withdraw his application, as the GBME is currently in the information-gathering phase rather than conducting a formal investigation.</p> <p><i>Motion made: Dr. Berg; 2nd: Dr. Cruz</i></p>			
VIII	New Business	<p>A. Application for Full Licensure:</p> <p>1. Joseph Jo-Yee Poon <i>Conditionally approved license that will expire in conjunction with the submitted work visa. License may be extended pending submission of an updated work visa when the initially submitted visa expires: Dr. Berg; 2nd: Dr. Wielaard</i></p> <p>2. Brandon Price D. Noyes <i>Motion to Approve: Dr. Berg; 2nd: Dr. Wielaard</i></p> <p>3. Gillian M. Brennan <i>Conditionally Approved pending submission of the FCVS report: Dr. Berg; 2nd: Dr. Wielaard</i></p> <p>4. Rome Jutabha <i>Conditionally Approved pending submission of the FCVS report: Dr. Berg; 2nd: Dr. Wielaard</i></p> <p>5. Fong James Wong Dr. Berg noted that this physician does not qualify for a full medical license in Guam due to his extended clinical practice outside of the U.S. Dr. Berg to submit a letter to the physician notifying him of his next steps in order to obtain licensure in Guam.</p> <p>B. Application(s) for Limited Licensure:</p> <p>1. Mai'ana Feuerborn <i>Motion to Approve: Dr. Berg; 2nd: Dr. Wielaard</i></p> <p>2. Christopher Paul M. Carbullido <i>Motion to Approve: Dr. Sidell; 2nd: Dr. Wielaard</i></p> <p>3. Ruth D'Cunha Dr. Berg noted the application for limited licensure was withdrawn because the applicant qualified for a temporary license. The applicant had submitted a temporary license application and has already been approved.</p>		1651	
			GBME		Unanimously Conditionally Approved
			GBME		Unanimously Approved
			GBME		Unanimously Conditionally Approved
			GBME		Unanimously Conditionally Approved
			GBME		Noted
			GBME		Unanimously Approved
			GBME		Unanimously Approved
			GBME		Noted
IX.	Announcement	Next regularly scheduled board meeting: Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 4:00 pm.	GBME	1704	Set Meeting Time

Topic		DECISION(S) / ACTION(S) MADE	Responsible Party		Status
X.	Adjournment	Motion to Adjourn: Dr. Berg	GBME	1708	Adjourned

Minutes Drafted by: HPLO Staff

Date Submitted: 11/26/2024

Submitted by the GBME Secretary:

Date:

Approved by the GBME with or without changes:

Date:

1/15/2025

Certified by or Attested by the Chairperson:

Date:

1/15/2025