State of Idaho
Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses
Idaho Board of Nursing

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Board Meeting Minutes of 07/23/2026

Board Members Present:	Deena Rauch, DNP, RN – Chair Kara Mahannah, LPN Michelle Anderson, DNP, APRN Kristi Hofhine, RN Sara Gibbons, PhD, RN Troy Allbright, RN Gus Powell, APRN Megan Reichle, RN Katy Rawlins, LM Andrea Roltgen, LM Valentin Garcia, Public Member	**Division Staff:**	Nicki Chopski, Executive Officer Janice Beller, General Counsel Skip Liddle, Investigations Program Manager Mike Celeste, Investigations Supervisor Candace Villarreal, Board Support Specialist Dyan Durham, Board Support Specialist
		Others Present:	Reid Peterson, Board Prosecutor

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Dr. Rauch.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made and seconded to approve the 04/22/2026 and 06/29/2026 minutes. The motion carried.

DIVISION BUSINESS
Board Training-Public Member: Ms. Beller presented information regarding the role of public members on state licensing boards.

Financial Update: Dr. Chopski presented the financial report for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2026 and encouraged questions from the Board members.

BOARD BUSINESS
Nurse Rules Language IDAPA 24.34.01 to Proposed: Dr. Rauch requested Dr. Chopski to frame the discussion. Dr. Chopski reviewed the procedure and turned the floor over to Ms. Beller who covered the rule drafts in detail. Following direction from the Board, Dr. Rauch invited comments from the public.

Public Comment:
Nathan Watson, DNP, MHA, RN, NE-BC, Interim Director of Nursing at SARMC – Boise, presented the St. Alphonsus Health System DNP Project on Nurse Intern Pilot Programs (NIP). The presentation focused on Idaho nursing shortages, turnover rates, graduate preparedness and confidence in competency. He provided the Board with printed materials and discussed preliminary results and ongoing statistical analyses, which include insights into cost savings, mentorship outcomes, integration into unit culture, efficient transition times, and skill development.

Cindy Miller, RN, Director of Allumbaugh House & SUD Services, discussed the various programs and levels of care available for long-term care facilities, noting that these are comparable to or slightly below hospital care standards. She highlighted the importance of recognizing accreditation for alternative levels of care, including the presence of RN staff supervisors, and expressed support for the inclusion of these programs in the Nurse Intern Program.

Robert Vande Merwe, Executive Director of the Idaho Health Care Association (IHCA), expressed IHCA support for expanding the Nurse Intern Program to include long-term care facilities alongside acute care facilities. He stated that long-term care facilities that have a comprehensive plan and the necessary staffing credentials to participate in the program should be included and encouraged the Board to consider moving forward with this initiative.

Rachel Krieger, RN long-term care and IHCA affiliate, concurred with Mr. Vande Merwe and expressed support for expanding the Nurse Intern Program to include long-term care facilities. She noted that these facilities utilize controlled substances on an as-needed basis and have routine medication orders for patients. She also indicated that regulations do not prohibit nurse interns from assessing PRN or routine medications and that these facilities maintain sufficient staffing levels to properly oversee and supervise interns. She added that participation in a program of this nature would promote nurse retention in Idaho. Additionally, she highlighted that medical treatments and staffing within long-term care facilities are comparable to those in acute care settings. She expressed confidence that the program will not serve as a staffing model and assured that RN supervisors will be limited in policy regarding the number of interns assigned to delegate and supervise responsibilities accordingly.

Following additional Board discussion, regarding written public comment from the IMA provided in the packet in opposition to the proposed language, a motion was made and seconded to adopt the drafted language. The motion carried.

Additionally, another motion was made and seconded to move the drafted rules to proposed. The motion carried.

Midwifery Advisory Committee (MID-AC) Rules Language IDAPA 24.26.01 to Proposed: Dr. Rauch requested Dr. Chopski to frame the rules discussion. Dr. Chopski reviewed the procedure and turned the floor over to Ms. Beller who covered the rule drafts in detail and received direction from the Board. The Board then discussed previously received public comments and Dr. Rauch invited further comments from the public.

Public Comment:
Lance Giles, Contract Lobbyist for the Idaho Midwifery Council (IMC), expressed support for the proposed updates to IDAPA 24.26.01 - Rules of Midwifery, Section 200 (Use of Formulary Drugs). He noted that the open formulary aligns with Federal Drug Administration (FDA) requirements and adheres to the standard of care for licensed midwives. He emphasized that the IMC believes that Idaho-licensed midwives are committed to practicing within their education, training, and experience, and that the open formulary will enable effective patient care while maintaining the Board's responsibility to protect the public.

Laurie Hadden RN, CPM, LM spoke in support of the language as written.

Lori Sabin, CPM, LM, President of the IMC, spoke in support of the language as written.

There was also discussion regarding the feedback and letter provided by the Idaho Medical Association (IMA) which is not in support of the current proposed language. Mike Cunnington, lobbyist for the IMA, had technical issues, but was able to share some additional thoughts about the IMA's position with the Board.

Following additional Board discussion, a motion was made and seconded to adopt the drafted language. The motion carried.

Additionally, another motion was made and seconded to move the drafted rules to proposed. The motion carried.

Policy Review: Dr. Rauch framed this discussion and asked Dr. Chopski to review the Education, Practice, Licensure, and Fingerprint policy drafts. Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to amend the policies as discussed and post the updated documents to the DOPL website. The motion carried.

Conference Attendance and Updates: The Board discussed participation in upcoming conferences. A motion was made and seconded to support upcoming travel as presented. The motion carried.

NCSBN Voting Delegate Discussion: The Board discussed participation in the upcoming annual meeting and gave direction regarding delegate voting. A motion was made and seconded that the assigned delegates would implement the Boards direction and vote accordingly. The motion carried.

Board Elections: A motion was made and seconded to elect Mr. Allbright as Chair, and Ms. Hofhine as Vice-Chair. The motion carried.

Public Comment: Dr. Rauch opened the floor for additional public comment. No further public comment was received.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
A motion was made and seconded to enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Codes § 74-206(1)(d) and § 74-106(9) to consider records related to a licensee's ability to obtain or retain a license, which is exempt from public disclosure. The vote was: Ms. Mahannah, aye; Dr. Anderson, aye; Ms. Hofhine, aye; Dr. Gibbons, aye; Mr. Allbright, aye; Mr. Powell, aye; Ms. Reichle, aye; Ms. Rawlins, aye; Ms. Roltgen, aye; Mr. Garcia, aye; and Dr. Rauch, aye. The motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to exit executive session. The motion carried.

APRN-AC RECOMMENDATIONS:
A motion was made and seconded to accept the Committee recommendations which encompassed the following actions:

- To enter a Stipulation and Consent Order for case number: 1961798. The motion carried.
- To close case numbers: 2005115; 2016145; 2041001; and 2067116. The motion carried.

- To close with a Letter of Concern case numbers: 1844722; and 2035819. The motion carried.

MID-AC RECOMMENDATIONS:
Recommend Letter of Concern:
A motion was made and seconded to accept the Committee recommendations which encompassed the following actions:

- To close with a Letter of Concern case numbers: 1844722; and 2035819. The motion carried.

Recommend Agreement in Lieu of Discipline:
Following discussion the Board decided to deviate from the recommendation. A motion was made and seconded to close with a Letter of Concern case number: 1955581. The motion carried.

BOARD DISCIPLINE:
A motion was made and seconded to close case number: 2022697. The motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to close with a Letter of Concern case number: 1994325. The motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Board prosecutor to negotiate an Agreement in Lieu of Discipline with the terms discussed in executive session and authorize the executive officer to approve on behalf of the Board for case numbers: 1954207; 2008273; and 2048101. The motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize negotiation of a Stipulation and Consent Order with the terms discussed in executive session for case numbers: 1971110; 1972862; 2003282; and 2037004. The motion carried.

A further motion was made and seconded to allow the Board prosecutor to proceed with the filing of an Administrative Complaint should any of the negotiations fail or expire. The motion carried.

Compliance:
A motion was made and seconded to approve case number: 2023040025 with the terms discussed in executive session. The motion carried.

Applications:
A motion was made and seconded to approve the request as presented in application number: 1913697 with the terms discussed in executive session. The motion carried.

A further motion was made and seconded to allow the Board prosecutor to proceed with the filing of an Administrative Complaint should any of the negotiations fail or expire. The motion carried.

Adjourn
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.

The next meeting is on 10/22/2026.