



**Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners
Advanced Practice Professionals Task Force Committee Meeting**

Friday, December 20, 2019

MINUTES

The Advance Practice Professionals Task Force Committee of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners was called to order at 1:10 p.m. in the Poplar Room, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243 by Dr. Melanie Blake, Committee Chair.

Committee members present: Melanie Blake, MD
 Charles Handorf, MD
 Leslie Akins, APN
 Gregory Cain, PA

Staff present: Tracy Alcock, Office of General Counsel
 Rene Saunders, MD, Medical Consultant, BME

Dr. Melanie Blake called the meeting to order by roll call. Dr. Handorf joined the meeting by phone. The Board of Medical Examiners (BME) met twice before and drafted an initial revision of the Board's Rules 0880-6 concerning supervision of a Nurse Practitioner/Prescription Writer. These materials were previously provided to the Committee members for review. The formation of the task force was to seek a closer collaboration between Nurse Practitioner/Prescription Writers, Physician Assistants and Medical Doctors. Ms. Tracy Alcock asked for clarification concerning the inclusion of the Physician Assistants since the Committee is essentially looking at an amendment to the current rule that does not include the Physician Assistant. Dr. Blake confirmed that the PA supervision portion remains separate but representation was included to be inclusive of all three professions as the changes could later apply to the Physician Assistant rule separately. Dr. Handorf asked about wordsmithing the change of supervision to collaboration throughout the rule. Ms. Alcock stated this has already been changed in the statute and this would also be updated in the rules and did not require a vote.

The Committee continued the meeting with detailed discussion on all sections of Rule 0880-6 to include the following:

- 0880-6-.01 Definitions
- 0880-6-.02 Clinical Supervision Requirements
- 0880-6-.03

The following members of the audience were permitted by the Committee Chair, Dr. Blake to address the Committee of their concerns, suggestions and comments during the discussion.

Linda Johnson, APN, Consultant with the Department of Health
Ms. Katherine Moffett, Executive Director of the Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistant
Ms. Tina Gerardi, Executive Director of the Tennessee Nurses Association
Mr. John Williams, Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants

At the conclusion of the meeting Dr. Blake thanked everyone for their participation. Ms. Alcock advised that the Committee should vote to have the proposed changes and or revision agreed upon be taken back to the Board of Medical Examiners for consideration. Ms. Akins made the motion as stated by Ms. Alcock, and Mr. Gregory Cain seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:03pm.