NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION BOARD

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October 16, 2025

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Oral sworn testimony in the above-captioned matter taken via Zoom videoconference before LISA F. PENROD, Certified Court Reporter (XIO1753) and Registered Professional Reporter, on the above date, commencing at 9:15 a.m., there being present:

| 1 | MS. BETSCH: Good morning. This is a |
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| 2 | formal meeting of the Healthcare Administration |
| 3 | Board. Adequate notice of this meeting has been |
| 4 | published in accordance with the provisions of the |
| 5 | New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act including, but |
| 6 | not limited to, N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.1, 10:4-9.3 and |
| 7 | 10:4-10. |
| 8 | Notice was sent to the Secretary of |
| 9 | State who posted the notice in a public place. |
| 10 | Notice was also provided electronically on the |
| 11 | department's website and forwarded to two New Jersey |
| 12 | newspapers. |
| 13 | I will now call the role. |
| 14 | Ms. Jenkins. |
| 15 | MS. JENKINS: Here. |
| 16 | MS. BETSCH: Mr. Paulino. |
| 17 | MR. PAULINO: Here. |
| 18 | MS. BETSCH: Mr. Havens. |
| 19 | MR. HAVENS: Here. |
| 20 | MS. JENKINS: Ms. Roberts. |
| 21 | MS. ROBERTS: Here. |
| 22 | MS. BETSCH: Mr. Baker. |
| 23 | MR. BAKER: Here. |

the board present which does constitute a quorum.

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25

MS. BETSCH: We have five members of

- 1 MR. BAKER: Thank you. And I said
- 2 Donna but it was Lissette.
- MS. BETSCH: No, we're having
- 4 technical issues with the computer so I'm logged in
- 5 to Lissette's computer.
- 6 MR. BAKER: All right. First item is
- 7 the approval of minutes June 19, 2025. Would anyone
- 8 like to move their adoption?
- 9 MR. HAVENS: So moved, Ellsworth.
- MS. ROBERTS: Mary Kay, I'll second.
- MR. BAKER: Thank you.
- 12 Any comments, questions, corrections?
- Hearing none, please call the role.
- MS. BETSCH: Ms. Jenkins.
- MS. JENKINS: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Mr. Paulino.
- MR. PAULINO: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Mr. Havens.
- MR. HAVENS: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Ms. Roberts.
- MS. ROBERTS: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Mr. Baker.
- MR. BAKER: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: We have five yeses.
- ²⁵ Motion carries.

- 1 MR. BAKER: Ms. Jenkins,
- commissioner's report.
- MS. JENKINS: Many of you know
- 4 Stefanie Mozgai. She was our deputy commissioner
- over health systems. She recently left her position
- 6 for a role outside of the department.
- 7 We do not have a successor yet for her
- 8 but we do with Stefanie all the best in her new
- 9 role.
- 10 Everyone knows that now we're getting
- into respiratory virus season and the department is
- encouraging everyone six months and older to get
- vaccinated for the new COVID-19 vaccine, and we are
- 14 aligning with all meeting medical and public health
- associations, including the American Academy of
- 16 Family Physicians and the American Academy of
- 17 Pediatrics in recommending a yearly flu vaccine for
- individuals six months and older, and RSV
- vaccination for high risk infants and children,
- 20 pregnant individuals and older adults.
- 21 And the department -- there's been a
- lot of concern about the COVID-19 vaccines this
- year. The department has taken steps to remove
- barriers to anyone who wishes to get the vaccine.
- We issued an executive directive last

- 1 month that is encouraging everyone six months and
- older to get the new COVID-19 vaccine for this
- season, and Dr. Sahu, our deputy commissioner over
- 4 public health services issued a standing order that
- 5 allows authorized pharmacists in New Jersey to
- 6 administer the COVID-19 vaccine without a
- 7 prescription to individuals three years of age and
- 8 older. So that if you would like the vaccine,
- 9 please go get it.
- That's all I have.
- MR. BAKER: Thanks, Ms. Jenkins.
- 12 Yeah, there did seem to be confusion.
- I was getting a lot of questions from people. I
- think it's cleared up. When my wife, daughter and I
- made our appointments, it was easy just like before.
- MS. JENKINS: Good. That's good to
- 17 hear.
- MR. BAKER: Ellsworth.
- 19 MR. HAVENS: Yes. Given the most
- recent dues on federal cuts, CDC, etc., do we know
- what the impact is on New Jersey?
- MS. JENKINS: I mean, we're still
- assessing everything. I mean, it's all -- every day
- it changes. I mean every day.
- MR. HAVENS: I know.

- MS. JENKINS: Right now we are in the
- shutdown, so the federal shutdown, so some of our
- 3 contacts aren't available right now.
- 4 We are in a lot of litigation
- 5 regarding funding and things like that so -- cuts in
- funding, so we're kind of in a weird spot right now
- figuring out really how this is all going to impact
- 8 us.
- 9 MR. HAVENS: Okay. Thank you.
- MS. JENKINS: Sorry, that wasn't a
- great answer, but it's really -- it changes daily.
- MR. HAVENS: It is what it is.
- MR. BAKER: Okay. Mr. Owens, you're
- up. We're on number 5 now.
- MR. OWENS: All right. Good morning,
- everybody. How's everybody?
- 17 My name is Scott Owens. I'm the
- health system specialist in the certificate of need
- and licensing division.
- This morning I am requesting your
- 21 approval for the notice of adoption -- excuse me --
- readoption of New Jersey Administrative Code 8:43,
- the standards of licensing of residential health
- care facilities located with and operated by
- licensed health care facilities without amendments.

- The rules were adopted on February 26,
- 2 2019, and are scheduled to expire February 26, 2026,
- if the department does not readopt them.
- 4 The department must file the notice of
- 5 readoption with the Office of Administrative Law no
- later than 30 days prior to the chapter expiration.
- New Jersey administrative Code 8:43,
- 8 the standards of residential care, residential
- 9 health care facilities located with and operated by
- 10 licensed health care facilities contain the rules
- for all facilities located and operated by licensed
- health care facilities that provide residential
- 13 health care services.
- 14 These rules constitute the basis for
- the license of such residential health care
- facilities by the department.
- And I'm available to answer any
- questions if you have any. Thank you.
- MR. BAKER: Thank you, Mr. Owens.
- 20 Are there any questions from board
- 21 members?
- Hearing none, is there anyone in the
- 23 public who would like to be heard? This is the
- public portion. Is there anyone in the public who
- would like to be heard?

- Donna, anybody raising their hand?
- MS. BETSCH: No.
- MR. BAKER: Okay. I'll close the
- 4 public portion.
- 5 Would someone like to move the
- 6 adoption, readoption?
- 7 MR. HAVENS: This is Ellsworth. I
- 8 move the approval of the notice of adoption nursing
- 9 home financial transparency reporting and action --
- MR. BAKER: Wrong one. Ellsworth,
- wrong one.
- MR. HAVENS: Sorry. I'm looking at
- the wrong thing here.
- 14 Okay. I move approval of the notice
- of proposal of hospital licensing standards patient
- support person codified --
- MS. JENKINS: Ellsworth, I think
- you're on the wrong sheet.
- MR. BAKER: Wrong one. Last agenda.
- 20 Ellsworth, take a breath and --
- MS. ROBERTS: I was going to say, I
- 22 can move it.
- MR. BAKER: -- let Mary Kay.
- Ellsworth, you can second.
- MS. ROBERTS: I will take it and

- 1 hopefully I have the right one. Who knows.
- I move the approval of the notice of
- 3 readoption standards for licensure of residential
- 4 health care facilities located with and operated by
- 5 licensed health care facilities codified at N.J.A.C.
- 6 8:43.
- 7 MR. BAKER: Is there a second,
- 8 Ellsworth?
- 9 MR. HAVENS: Second.
- MR. BAKER: Thank you.
- MR. HAVENS: I got that right.
- MR. BAKER: Yes.
- Any further questions or comments?
- 14 Hearing none, Donna, please call the
- 15 role.
- MS. BETSCH: Ms. Jenkins.
- MS. JENKINS: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Mr. Paulino.
- MR. PAULINO: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Mr. Havens.
- MR. HAVENS: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Ms. Roberts.
- MS. ROBERTS: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Mr. Baker.
- MR. BAKER: Yes.

- MS. BETSCH: We have five yeses.
- Motion carries.
- MR. BAKER: Thank you.
- 4 Is there any other business before the
- 5 board?
- 6 MS. JENKINS: Yes. Mike, there's the
- 7 meeting dates for next year.
- 8 MR. BAKER: Oh, that's right. The
- 9 meeting dates were circulated by Donna last week.
- Does anyone have any issues with the
- 11 meeting dates?
- MS. ROBERTS: No.
- MR. BAKER: Hearing none, I will move
- the adoption of the meeting dates for calendar year
- ¹⁵ 2026.
- 16 Is there a second?
- MS. JENKINS: I'll second.
- MR. HAVENS: Second.
- MR. BAKER: That was Ellsworth.
- Please call the role.
- MS. BETSCH: Ms. Jenkins.
- MS. JENKINS: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Mr. Paulino.
- MR. PAULINO: Yes.
- MS. BETSCH: Mr. Havens.

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|---|---------|
| 1 MR. HAVENS: Yes. | |
| MS. BETSCH: Ms. Roberts. | |
| 3 MS. ROBERTS: Yes. | |
| 4 MS. BETSCH: Mr. Baker. | |
| 5 MR. BAKER: Yes. | |
| 6 MS. BETSCH: We have five | yeses. |
| 7 Motion carries. | |
| 8 MR. BAKER: Thank you, all | . If |
| ⁹ there's no other business, we are adjourne | d. See |
| 10 you next month. | |
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