

Joe Lombardo, Governor



Angela Nation, O.M.D., President  
Huiwen Zhang, O.M.D, Vice President  
Michael Ferris, O.M.D., Secretary/Treasurer  
Sanghyun Lee, O.M.D., Member  
Jennifer Braster, Member  
Merle Lok, Executive Director

**STATE OF NEVADA  
BOARD OF ORIENTAL MEDICINE**

3191 E. Warm Springs Rd.  
Las Vegas, NV 89120  
Phone (702) 675-5326 Fax (702) 989-8584  
Email: <mailto:omboardexecutivedirector@gmail.com>

**\*\*\*PUBLIC NOTICE\*\*\*  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING  
September 12, 2024 @ 6:00 PM  
Via Zoom and teleconference**

**\*\*\*MINUTES\*\*\***

**Board Staff:**

Merle Lok, Executive Director  
Henna Rasul, Senior Deputy AG

**Public:**

Eddie Ableser  
Nancy Brandt  
Chelsea Capurro  
Jami Rose  
Farolyn McSweeney

**BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establish Quorum.**

Angela Nation, OMD, the President, called this meeting to order, conducted roll call and established the presence of a quorum. The following Board Members were present: Dr. Michael Ferris, Dr. Huiwen Zhang, and Dr. Sanghyun Lee.

**2. Public Comment.**

Dr. Brandt states that the veterinary board has to be comfortable with acupuncturists treating animals since it is within the veterinary board's purview; CA statutes have given permission for acupuncturists to treat animals; Veterinarians have specific places to go for certification in acupuncture; There might be some pushback from the veterinary board.

**3. Review, discussion, and possible action regarding the minutes for the 7/11/2024 board meeting (For Possible Action).**

Motion: Dr. Ferris moves to approve

Second: Dr. Zhang

The motion is approved unanimously.

**4. Review, discussion and possible action regarding whether Applicant Jami Rose has to have a current license to apply under SB69 Application by Endorsement pursuant to NRS 634A.140(3)(a)(2) and be eligible for the state exam on 10/19/2024 (For Possible Action).**

ED states that she needs the Board's interpretation on the language "immediately preceding" as to whether Ms. Rose needs to have a current license to apply under the SB69 Application as her CA license expired on 5/31/2024. Dr. Ferris states that he interprets the statute allowing Ms. Rose to apply as it is within 6 years out of the last 8 years.

Motion: Dr. Nation moves to approve

Second: Dr. Zhang

The motion is approved unanimously.

**5. Review, discussion, and possible action for the state licensure exam being held on 10/19/2024 to be administered by Dr. Sandip Thanki at 4350 E. Sunset Road, Ste 107A, Henderson, NV 89014 at the rate of \$50 per hour (For Possible Action).**

Motion: Dr. Ferris moves to approve

Second: Dr. Zhang

The motion is approved unanimously.

**6. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Dharti Patel's Application for Temporary Teaching Certificate Approval Pursuant to NRS 634A.165 (For Possible Action).**

Dr. Nation states Dr. Patel's qualifications and licensures. Dr. Ferris states that it appears it is a CEU seminar for dentists from all over. Dr. Nation states that the demo is on a silicon model so public safety risks are minimal. Dr. Nation states that the Nevada Dental Board does not allow its licensees to practice acupuncture.

Motion: Dr. Nation moves to approve with Dr. Patel providing a disclaimer that the Nevada Dental Board does not allow its licensees to practice acupuncture

Second: Dr. Ferris

The motion is approved unanimously.

**7. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Gabriel Govendo's Application for Temporary Teaching Certificate Approval Pursuant to NRS 634A.165 (For Possible Action).**

Dr. Nation states Dr. Govendo's qualifications and licensure. Dr. Nation states that this seminar is not for CEU, the general public is the audience, and Dr. Govendo will be doing community acupuncture. Dr. Zhang states that she has a concern about frequency. Dr. Nation states that if there is an issue about high frequency, then the Board can consider it. Dr. Nation states that she is concerned about liability with needling and also that the Board has no jurisdiction over an Oregon licensee. Dr. Nation states that Dr. Govendo will have to provide proof of malpractice insurance for doing acupuncture in Nevada.

Motion: Dr. Ferris moves to approve subject to Dr. Govendo providing proof of malpractice insurance for doing acupuncture in Nevada for the seminar

Second: Dr. Zhang

The motion is approved unanimously.

**8. Review, discussion and possible action regarding whether licensees are able to practice acupuncture on animals (For Possible Action).**

Dr. Lee states that he has had discussions about practicing acupuncture on animals and whether it is within the scope of our practice. Dr. Ferris states that acupuncturists are not trained to practice on animals and would need a lot of training. Dr. Zhang states that the regulations do not mention practicing on animals. Dr. Nation states that regulations would be needed and we would need to talk to the veterinarian board. Dr. Lee states that he will get more information. Matter is tabled.

**9. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Board policy regarding the practice of herbal medicine (For Possible Action).**

Dr. Lee states that he has questions about who can open an herbal café. Dr. Ferris states that anyone can sell herbs but they cannot advise on herbs for treatment as you would need to be a licensee. Dr. Nation states that it would be hard to regulate herbs and our Board does not regulate all herbs. Matter is tabled.

**10. Update and discussion regarding the Department of Business and Industry and state boards (For Discussion Only).**

ED states that the Department of Business and Industry will be creating superboards to eliminate and consolidate a lot of Nevada boards. There will be professional advisory boards to advise the superboards about specific professions. It is anticipated to be a 2-5 year process. The Board's funds will be turned over to the state.

**11. Review, discussion and possible action regarding retaining a lobbyist for the upcoming legislative session by interviewing the following applicants:**

- A. Eddie Ableser; and**
  - B. Chelsea Capurro.**
- (For Possible Action).**

Both Mr. Ableser and Ms. Capurro introduced their lobbying firms. There was discussion and questions about their services, clients, and rates. Matter is tabled as the Board needs more time to think about which firm to retain.

**12. Review, discussion and possible action regarding letter send to the Podiatry Board regarding the use of acupuncture and its response (For Possible Action).**

Dr. Ferris states that the response from the Podiatry Board sounds unprofessional. SDAG states that there needs to be a statute or regulate that allows or prohibits a licensee's actions. SDAG recommends that ED follow up with LCB.

**13. Review, discussion and possible action regarding new Board office space at 3431 E. Sunset Rd., Suite C-21, Las Vegas, NV 89120 effective 10/1/2024 for a term of 36 months @ \$350 per month plus moving expenses (For Possible Action).**

ED states that she found a less expensive space down the street at \$350 per month for 36 months without any rent increases. ED estimates moving expenses to be \$300-\$400.

Motion: Dr. Ferris moves to approve

Second: Dr. Zhang

The motion is approved unanimously.

**14. Update from the Treasurer regarding Board accounts and other matters (For Discussion only).**

Dr. Ferris states that everything looks fine. ED states that the first CD is rolled over on 9/8/2024 and has earned over \$700 in interest.

**15. Approve or disapprove of future Board meeting dates (For Possible Action).**

Dr. Nation states that the next meeting will be on 9/19/2024 at 6 p.m.

**16. Adjournment.**

Dr. Nation adjourns the meeting.

Minutes have been approved.