

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF DIETETICS/NUTRITION
BOARD MEETING
9:00 A.M.
1135 KILDAIRE FARM ROAD, SUITE 200
CARY, NC 27511

[ELECTRONIC ONLY MEETING]

OPEN MINUTES: August 22, 2025

Board Members: Sarah Thomas, Christie Nicholson, Deanna Didiano, Janice Shannon, Maggie King, Patricia Pitts

Staff: Marnie Jones, *Executive Director*; Frances Cheung, *Licensing Administrator*; Laine Moye, *Licensing Coordinator*

Guest(s): Henry Jones and Weldon Jones, *NCBDN General Counsel*
Auston Cherbonneaux, *Member of the public*

Absent: Babbi Hawkins

Call to Order – Sarah Thomas

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. A quorum was present. No conflicts of interest were presented.

The agenda was sent out to the Board electronically for review. Maggie made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Christie seconded the motion. Roll call to approve agenda:

- Christie – Approve (& present)
- Janice – Approve (& present)
- Maggie – Approve (& present)
- Patricia – Approve (& present)
- Sarah - Approve (& present)

Secretary's Report – Patricia Pitts

The June 2025 open and closed meeting minutes were provided for electronic review prior to the meeting. Christie motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Maggie seconded the motion. Sarah asked if there was any discussion on the motion. No further discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Christie – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

Treasurer's Report – Christie Nicholson

The June and July 2025 Cash Flow reports, Savings reports, Budget reports, and Investment reports were sent for prior review to the Board electronically. Maggie motioned to approve the June and July financial

reports as presented. Janice seconded the motion. Sarah asked if there was any discussion on the motion. No further discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Christie – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

Public Comment – Sarah Thomas

Auston Cherbonneau, member of the public, shared with the Board information on research he has done and presented to the American Society for Nutrition and the American Chemical Society regarding the caloric debate. He also shared information on a book he has written, titled “Disillusion of Calories: An Intro to Modern Nutrition.” Sarah thanked Mr. Cherbonneau for sharing the information with the Board.

Licensing Administrator Report – Frances Cheung

Frances reported the total active licensee count at 4,823 and the Provisional licensee count at 14. Since the last administrative numbers report given during the last Board meeting on June 20th, there have been 162 new licensees, one licensee has gone inactive, and five licensees have relinquished.

108 licensees currently have lapsed status from this Renewal season.

Closed Session

Christie motioned to close the meeting for discussion regarding **Investigations**, pursuant to Article 33C of Chapter 143, §143-318.11(7) and NCBDN ByLaws, Article V (5) Section 4 (7), as well as for **Applications**, pursuant to Article 33C of Chapter 143, §143-318.18(6) and Article 5 of the Bylaws, Section 4 (8) and **Legal Consultation**, pursuant to Article 33C of Chapter 143, §143-318.11 (3) and NCBDN ByLaws, Article V (5) Section 4(3). Patricia seconded the motion. No further discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

- Auston Cherbonneau was moved to the waiting room.

Investigations – Marnie Jones

Please see the Investigation report for full details.

- Henry joined the meeting at 9:13 am.
- Weldon joined the meeting at 9:15 am.

Legal Consultation – Weldon Jones

- Weldon provided legal consultation regarding the DAVE Act & a matter of legal language interpretation.

- Weldon left the meeting at 10:14 am.

Application Review – EdComm and Marnie Jones

The Board reviewed the application submission for RBurkholz.

The Board reviewed the application submission for GAlicea.

The Board discussed whether the supervisor for applicant EMurphy meets the requirements for supervision.

Maggie motioned to reopen the meeting at 11:24 am. Dr. Didiano seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

- Henry left the meeting at 11:24 am.
- Auston rejoined the meeting at 11:24 am.

Open Session – Sarah Thomas

Actions related to closed session:

- Patricia motioned to close complaint 1BNF1-AVOFI. Maggie seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Maggie motioned to send consent order to applicant BROW-PQ35SJ and letter of caution to the employer. Janice seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Janice motioned to send cautionary letter to nutrition business in Charlotte, NC. Dr. Didano seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Dr. Didiano motioned to approve applicant Burkholz for licensure. Maggie seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Dr. Didiano motioned to approve applicant Alicea for licensure. Patricia seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Dr. Didiano motioned to approve BCNS forms for supervisor who passed for applicant Leoni. Maggie seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

Website Redesign Update – Marnie Jones

- Marnie shared updates with the Board on the website redesign and walked the Board through a few logo redesign options. The Board would like to see a few additional variations of the logo.

Replacement of Physician Member – Marnie Jones

- Marnie shared that Dr. Didiano will be staying with the Board through the end of this year and will resign in January 2026, and that Dr. Didiano has also given a replacement suggestion for a new physician member for the Board. Marnie asked that if the Board has any recommendations, to provide them within the next month.

Board Officers & Committees for 2025-26 – Marnie Jones

The Board discussed the officer slate and committee composition for 2025-26.

The following slate was put forward for vote:

- Sarah Thomas – Chair
- Maggie King – Vice Chair
- Christie Nicholson – Treasurer
- Patricia Pitts – Secretary

Janice motioned to approve the officer slate as presented. Christie seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

Sheps Center Data – Marnie Jones

Marnie shared that Sheps will be coming up with research questions using the data that is received by the Board. She advised the Board that they can send any questions to her to ask Sheps before she and Frances meets with Sheps staff on August 27th.

Unfinished Business/New Business – Marnie Jones

- All files have been turned over to the auditor on August 1st. The audit will need to be returned before the October Board meeting.
- Sarah has officially been re-appointed by the Governor’s office.
- The Periodic Rules Review report has been received. Marnie went over the plan as follows:
 - September/October: go through all the rules and decide which to keep and which to remove.
 - Marnie did an initial review of the rules and there is possibly one that will no longer be needed. She will review the rules with Henry.
 - Rules will be posted on the Board’s website for public comment.

Public Comment – Sarah Thomas

- Auston thanked the Board for the opportunity to provide public comment and offered to make himself available for any questions.

Christie motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:56 a.m. Patricia seconded the motion. No further discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Patricia – Yes, Sarah – Yes.