



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Board of Naturopathic Medicine  
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## Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine –Bi-Monthly Board Public Meeting Agenda June 9, 2025

DATE / TIME: June 9, 2025, 11:50am-1:30pm

LOCATION: 800 NE Oregon Street, Room 445, on the fourth floor Portland, OR. Zoom link provided.  
Zoom recording on Board website

1. Roll Call Members Present: Board Chair Ryan Minarik, ND, Board Co-Chair Meghan Larivee, ND; Board Members: Ryan Martin, ND, Zia Robles-Hernandez, ND & Bill Walter, ND; Public Members: Kate Watkinson-Wright & Josh Luper; Staff: Joanna Tucker-Davis, AGG, Mary-Beth Baptista, Executive Director & Doug Cook Investigator. No member of the media present.
2. Required Video / Audio Recording of Board Public Session per [ORS 192.672\(3\)\(a\)\(A\)](#).
3. Requests For Termination Of Probation  
[\(21-03-13\)](#): Board Vote 7-0 to terminate probation.  
[\(23-07-25\)](#): Board Vote 7-0 to not terminate probation, probation continues per Order.
4. Case Resolution Update / Discipline Recommendations / Continue Investigations over 180 days.  
[\(24-06-19\)](#) – Board Vote 7-0 Dismissal  
[\(24-11-32\)](#) – Board Vote 7-0 Dismissal  
[\(25-01-01\)](#) – Board Vote 7-0 – Violation and discipline
5. Approval of April 21, 2025, Executive & Public Meeting Minutes – Approved 6-0; Public Member Josh Luper abstained – excused absence from April meeting.
6. Review Dr. Zia Hernandez-Robles & Dr. Ryan Martin for re-board appointment. Approved 7-0 to refer/recommend Dr. Hernandez-Robles & Dr. Ryan Martin to the Governor for reappointment.
7. **ACTION ITEMS – PLEASE READ / WATCH PRIOR TO THE DISCUSSION**: Public Discipline Documents
  - <https://www.kgw.com/article/news/investigations/sick-medicine/kgw-sick-medicine-investigation/283-346cce4c-d180-4a10-b29a-1cf0d4ef493b>
  - Public Member Josh Luper, who was excused from the April meeting, provided his opinion related to the manner in which the Board posts discipline. Discussed concern looking at changing the website to be less transparent, and that posting discipline is the bare minimum, and have an issue with manipulating the algorithm to make us less visible and transparent to the public, especially stemming from a request from a licensee whose discipline is posted and wants to make it difficult to find her discipline.
  - Reviewed public comments submitted to Board related to posting discipline on the Board website. Including follow up from Dr. Jocelyn Cooper initial and follow up request to the Board to remove her discipline from the webpage / post discipline in manner that would not result in discipline coming up through a Google search.
  - Baptista notes that Dr. Cooper circulated a petition to licensees that were recently disciplined – specifically asking them to: *“Please fill out the form to sign the petition*

*requesting the OBNM to remove their Disciplinary Action webpage. Help create parity in reporting discipline by asking the OBNM to follow the same standards as other ND boards including those in WA, CA, AZ and VT. We are asking the board to remove their Disciplinary Actions page and replace this with a Provider Look-Up tab. This is a fair and reasonable request in order to support our providers who have had unfortunate events happen to them. We deserve respect and nondiscrimination.”*

- Baptista noted that she was not going to address her same arguments made at the last meeting and was initially not going to discuss public display of discipline in other states because it has no bearing on Oregon law, and the Governor and Oregon’s public expectations for transparency. All laws start and end at the borders of each state – including scope of practice, discipline laws, as well as public records / public information requests. Therefore, the way that California / Arizona and Washington is not as relevant as comparisons to other health boards in the state of Oregon. However, because Dr. Jocylen Cooper asserted on her petition that OBNM should post discipline consistent with Washington, California and Arizona, and made several misstatements regarding the laws in those states, Baptista believes clarifications and corrections to her statements are necessary. There are several ways that each of those states requires discipline notice that are significantly different from Oregon:
  - Washington State: Issues press releases when disciplinary actions are taken against all medical professionals (monthly to several times a month), including naturopathic doctors that are licensed by the Washington State Department of Health. These announcements are part of their routine "State Disciplines Health Care Providers" press releases from the Department of Health’s Health Systems Quality Assurance Division. These releases include a broader list of health-care providers—including naturopathic physicians—and summarize the actions taken (e.g., suspensions, restrictions, or ***informal dispositions***) in a single public statement. When a naturopath is disciplined formally (suspension, restriction, agreed order), their case is included alongside other practitioners in these press releases, including the naturopath’s name, license number, nature of the misconduct, and summary of the sanction. These press releases are sent to all state licensing agencies.
    - Google Search Results (as quoted below) from licensees listed in the press release:
      - “Esther Valle Washington”– Discipline from May 2025 – First on the Google search result
      - “Leilei Wang” Disciplined in July 2024 – First on Google search result
  - California: The Patient’s Right to Know Act of 2018, [SB 1448 \(Hill, Chapter 570\)](#), requires naturopathic doctors who are placed on probation for the acts of serious misconduct identified below to notify their patients. This legislation added [Business and Professions Code section 3663.5](#).
    - On and after July 1, 2019, this law requires licensees placed on probation to notify patients of their probationary status for cases that involve the following:
    - The commission of any act of sexual abuse, misconduct, or relations with a patient as defined in [Business and Professions Code section 726](#) or [729](#); or

- Drug and/or alcohol abuse directly resulting in harm to patients, or to the extent that such use impairs the ability of the licensee to practice safely; or
- Criminal conviction directly involving harm to patient health; or
- Inappropriate prescribing results in harm to patients and a probationary period of five years or more.
- Licensee serving a probationary term for the violations cited above are required to provide a separate disclosure to a patient, or patient's guardian or health care surrogate, before the patient's first visit following the probationary order. The separate disclosure must include:
  - The licensee's probation status;
  - The length of the probation;
  - The probation end date;
  - All practice restrictions placed on the licensee by the California Board of Naturopathic Medicine (Board);
  - The Board's telephone number; and
  - An explanation of how the patient can find further information about the licensee's probation on the licensee's profile page on the licensee's profile page on the Board's online license information website.
  - The licensee shall obtain from the patient, or the patient's guardian or health care surrogate, a separate signed copy of that disclosure.

○ Arizona: 32-3214. Board actions; public access to records; website

- If a health profession regulatory board *dismisses a complaint*, the *record of that complaint is available* to that regulatory board and the *public* pursuant to section 39-121 but may not appear on the board's website. ("dismisses a complaint" means that a board does not issue a disciplinary or non-disciplinary order or action against a licensee or certificate holder. (ONLY discipline orders are public in Oregon)
- All disciplinary actions – *and non-disciplinary actions* against a licensee or certificate holder shall be available on the health profession regulatory board's website for not more than five years. (Oregon in perpetuity)
- Letters of concern and advisory letters may not be made available on the website, but a copy of such letters are available to the public pursuant to section 39-121 and shall be provided to any person on request.

- Oregon Health Related Boards:

- Oregon Medical Board – lists licensee discipline through monthly Board meeting minutes, dating back to 2017. Google search results from terms in quotes:
  - “Gary Levinson Md” – Disciplined in March 2025 - First google search result. With the following sentence under the licensee verification heading:

- On March 6, 2025, Licensee entered into a Stipulated Order with the Board for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct. With this Order, Licensee retires his ...
  - “Eleazar Lawson MD” – Disciplined in July 2024 – Third on google search result. With the following sentence under the licensee verification heading:
    - Allegation: Allegation negligence caused multiple hospitalizations, multiple surgeries, physical disability & permanent disfigurement. Reported: 08/11/2022.
  - “Anthony Cull, MD” – Disciplined on January 4, 2024 – First and 7<sup>th</sup> on Google search result, with the following sentence under the 7<sup>th</sup> result with licensee verification heading
    - CULL, Anthony S., MD; MD25143 | Portland, OR. On January 4, 2024, Applicant entered into a Stipulated. Order with the Board for failure to establish good ...16 pages
  - ED of Medical Board, suggested search of “Steve Beranek, MD”
    - Disciplined in Oregon 2008, First on the Google search results: MD24812 - Beranek, Steven Ray, MD - OR License Verification  
Licensee entered into a Stipulated Order with the Board on January 10, 2008. In this Order Licensee surrendered his Oregon medical license while under ...
    - Disciplined in CA in 2002. Second Google result: PDF  
Jun 11, 2002 — On October 27, 1993, the Respondent, **Steven Ray Beranek, M.D.**, was duly issued a license to practice medicine in the State of Alabama, License ...
  - OMB Discipline actions with a summary are published quarterly newsletter to send out to all licensees, and available to the public.
- Oregon Board of Dentistry
- Board of Dentistry voted in June 2014, to remove the names of dentists it has disciplined from the board's official newsletter, and only narrowly pulled back from removing their names from official state meeting minutes. (NOTE – the OBNM does not publish names of licensees who the Board votes to issue a NOPD in the minutes – nor does OBNM put the name of licensees who have discipline in the newsletter)
  - Board of Dentistry Decision was covered in the Oregonian on July 11, 2014 – with the headline: Oregon Board of Dentistry makes details of new discipline cases harder to find. In most relevant part the article states:
    - While disciplinary information on an individual dentist can still be looked up online, to find out those recently disciplined will now take significantly more effort by the public. It requires entering license numbers from the newsletter into the board's online search function.
    - Former board president Norman Magnuson, a Eugene dentist. "Those who have been disciplined don't want their names out in the community." Portland dentist Todd Beck, a board member, made the

motion to remove names at the June 27 board meeting, saying the names served no purpose. "All it does is pour salt in the wound," he said. "It's just mean, it's spiteful and it's fodder for gossip."

- The decision to remove names pits the dentistry board practice against that of other state boards who routinely include the names of those disciplined in newsletters or in frequent discipline roundups [posted online](#) and sent out by email. (link to OMB)
- Ruby Jason, the executive director of the Oregon State Nursing Board, says the idea of releasing the names of those recently disciplined is that "the public has a right to know this information."

"Yes, it is incredibly embarrassing" for those disciplined, she said, but "the state has given you your license. You have public trust. ... I personally believe (naming) is a deterrent."

- Even with the change, a Google search in quotes below resulted in the following google results.
  - "Noelle K. Colmenero discipline" – Disciplined Feb 2025 – showed as 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> on the google search result.
  - "Matthew Bierman Orthodontist Discipline" disciplined in June 2024 – showed as the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> google result.
- Oregon Board of Nursing. CORRECTION – Nursing Board posts like OMB, lists licensee discipline through monthly Board meeting minutes, dating back to 2023. However, the google result title link is the same as OBNM, "OSBN Disciplinary Action" Google search results from terms in quotes:
  - "Robert Eck nurse" – Disciplined July 2024 – First on google search result
  - "Babbette Murphy discipline" – Disciplined July 2024 – First on Google search result
- Oregon Physical Therapy Board: Physical Therapy – list of licensees disciplined dating back to 2001 <https://www.oregon.gov/pt/Pages/Disciplinary-Actions.aspx>
  - Recent discipline (other than one serious case that involved serious misconduct that had multiple results for malpractice, lawsuits, and criminal charges) do not show up on the first two pages of google search results.

- OBNM

- Average licensees disciplined annually – 8-10; less than 1% of the licensee base
- Average number of licensees on the discipline page – generously 50 licensees – 4% of the licensee base. (currently 36 licensees are listed – 3% of the licensee base)
- Average licensee discipline is 2 years
- (currently) Licensee discipline listed on website for 5 years (commit to 5 years)
- Mission of the Board – protection of the public
- Expectation of the Governor – enhanced transparency, as public servants we serve the public - public notice of rulemaking, strategic / DEI plans, budget documents – AND recordings – not just minutes - of public meetings and public comments posted on the website.

- ED Baptista's opinion **Disciplinary actions are public documents and ensure they are**

**findable via Google.** This aligns with the core principles of public safety, transparency, and informed consent in healthcare.

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- **Naturopaths are primary care providers**, and patients deserve access to their full professional history. Especially as Oregon prides itself on being the leader of the profession – with the MOST expansive formulary and arguably scope of practice in the nation.
  - Public notice is essential in cases where a practitioner has been disciplined when there was harm to the patient, and in my opinion **most especially** in cases of discipline for unethical conduct, **patients have the right to know before engaging in care.**
  - A public, searchable disciplinary record – that can be indexed on google, where we know vast majority get their information, builds **accountability and trust** in the profession.
- 
- Baptista will compromise / commitment to only list the discipline for the last five years on the webpage but will not make any other changes – because her charge is to protect the patients and the public, and the Governor’s expectation has repeatedly called for the utmost of transparency. This is completely within the EDs discretion to keep and maintain the website as is. If the Board disagrees, the remedy is to remove this from ED discretion / delegation of authority.
  - Public Member Kate Walkins-Wright had an issue with the petition circulated, with the passive language- specifically “*order to support our providers who have had unfortunate events happen to them.*” Implying / stating there was no wrong doing on the part of the licensee, and devalues the work the Board puts in to making the determination for violation and appropriate discipline. The additional sentence - “*We deserve respect and nondiscrimination*” this is not discrimination and was bothered that word was put in this petition and used in the healthcare setting. They are not being discriminated against for the Board being transparent. It is not appropriate and should not be part of this petition and the Board should not consider it in their decision.
  - Chair Dr. Ryan Minarik – echoed Walkins-Wright statements regarding the inappropriate wording, and how it lacks consideration for how many hours the Board spends reviewing investigations and determining whether there is a violation and appropriate discipline. Finding a violation and imposing discipline isn’t something that was “done to a practitioner” it is due to their actions that we base a decision on whether it violates statutes / rules / core ethical principles. ED also did a considerable amount of research than our initial discussion that shows the multiple issues related to what we initially heard were comparable practices. And the context of how low the numbers of licensees being disciplined and found on a google search is also helpful. It is not hurting the profession; it is elevating the profession by being transparent.
  - Dr. Ryan Martin – [comments were difficult to hear on the recording] Generally discussed how long is reasonable to keep discipline up and searchable – five, ten, fifteen years - forever, but five years a reasonable time. Board should be transparent, but be in line with other Boards, which this context provided.

- Dr. Zia Robles Hernandez / Kate W-Wright – discussed having a clearer explanation on the website in lay persons terms what is the burden of proof and what is the discipline process, and investigation process. Baptista committed to making those updates.
- Dr. Zia Robles Hernandez – [comments were difficult to hear on the recording] Generally discussed the shame associated with being disciplined and understands why a licensee would be embarrassed by having the discipline public but needs it to be transparent. Context of how few licensees are disciplined, and how low the repeat rate was helpful.

## 8. ACTION ITEMS: REVIEW PRIOR TO THE MEETING/FOR BOARD DISCUSSION:

- a) Delegation of Authority – Review for Edits or Approval As Is. ED likes to have delegation of authority in front of the Board bi-annually, generally in June. This is the time to review the delegation of authority to determine whether its working / not working and whether or not the Board wants changes. At any point the Board can change the delegation of authority.  
**Board motion to continue the delegation of authority as written: 7-0 approved.**
- b) Best Practice Survey – Board needs to fill out and return to Robin.
- c) Rule Making
  - i. Adopted Rule: 850-005-0190 Board and Formulary Council Member Compensation
  - iii. Question/clarification re: 850-040-0240 Section (6) IV Therapy: Passage of Parenteral Medicine NPLEX elective exam. **Board discussion:** Regarding the intent of the rule, the intent was starting on Jan. 1, 2025, any licensee who wants to perform or supervise IV therapy must pass the Parenteral Medicine NPLEX elective exam. Any licensee who – prior to Jan. 1, 2025, did not qualify for IV therapy for chelation, ketamine, ozone, must pass the exam to qualify.
  - iii. Repeal: 850-010-0301 Mask, Face Covering, Face Shield Requirements. No longer necessary – repeal.
- d) OBNM Website Changes – Review and Comment
  - i. <https://www.oregon.gov/obnm/Pages/Applicants.aspx>
  - ii. <https://www.oregon.gov/obnm/Pages/Renewal.aspx>
  - iii. <https://www.oregon.gov/obnm/Pages/Practice%20Areas%20Requiring%20Additional%20Education%20Training.aspx>
  - iv. <https://www.oregon.gov/obnm/Pages/ContinuingEducation.aspx>
  - v. <https://www.oregon.gov/obnm/Pages/PDMP-and-DEA.aspx>
  - vi. <https://www.oregon.gov/obnm/Pages/Notice-of-Proposed-Rules-for-Public-Comment.aspx>
- e) Continuing Education Approval Forms:
  - i. [Licensee CE Application for Board Approval of Continuing Education Programs Attended](#)
  - ii. [Licensee CE Application for Board Approval of IV/Injection & Ketamine Therapy Continuing Education Programs Attended](#)
  - iii. [Licensee Application for Board Approval of Self-Directed Activities](#)

- iv. [Program Provider Application for Board Approval of Continuing Education Programs](#)
- v. [Program Provider Application for Board Approval of Continuing Education Programs IV/Injection & Ketamine Therapy Continuing Education Programs](#)

7. Legislative Update

- a) HB 3042-1 – Passed and signed by the Governor. ED Baptista will establish a RAC to update discipline rules based on the new statute.
- b) SB 5524 - Budget Bill – Passed and signed by the Governor. Possibly a fee increase at / by next legislative session.

8. Director's Report

- a) UWS NMD Candidacy Announcement
- b) Review of OBNM Expenditure Documents
- c) Summer Newsletter – ED will be very clear regarding the new CE rules, requirements, new restrictions.
- d) Thank you, Dr. Walter!!!

9. Public Comment Received for Review

- a) Email Exchanges with Dr. J Cooper, ND & Dr. Jason Black, ND
- b) Petition from disciplined licensees

10. Open Public Comment [https://oregon.public.law/rules/oar\\_918-040-0040](https://oregon.public.law/rules/oar_918-040-0040).

DOJ Public Meetings Manual: (In relevant part see PDF Page 324)

[https://www.doj.state.or.us/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/public\\_records\\_and\\_meetings\\_manual.pdf](https://www.doj.state.or.us/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/public_records_and_meetings_manual.pdf)

Dr. Joclyn Cooper: I wasn't on for everything, but be mindful of confirmation bias, if I was on the Board and serious topic came up for discussion, I would rely on my own research, I would not rely on one person, who has already made a decision, its just disappointing to hear. It seems like ... the rationale I heard from MB was not accurate... it does not speak to the fact that these discipline orders come up when you put in a provider's name in google.... I heard you reference other states that have to put it on their website are for gross actions and that is not what we are discussing here ... I understand the concept of transparency, but in Arizona they don't just come up you have to go searching for them... so I just disagree unilaterally with what was presented to you guys...the last thing I want to say is that over the last couple months I had the privilege to talk to 20 or so of the people that are listed on your discipline page and I was blown away with how the discipline orders have affected them...some of them weren't even aware if they googled their name that would show up – some said it was affecting their practice, but more importantly the fact that they had disciplinary actions and what that did to them emotionally and psychologically - I heard from providers that contemplated suicide, quit the profession, closed their practice, that retired, that moved out of state. I think you need to look at it a little bit further...

- Dr. Minarik question – are these emotional issues, from being disciplined, or are these emotional issues from googling their name finding their discipline through a google search – want to keep the public comment to the issue of the google search.

- Dr. Cooper response / continues - The whole fall out, the fact there was discipline and the continued shame that comes along with it... one leads to the other, the initial disciplinary action, and then the fact that they have to live for the rest of their career with a google search that shows they made a mistake... so I'm suggesting there is more



to it than to your noble....your desire for transparency there are other ways to go about it that were mentioned in the last meeting.

Dr. Geller Public Comment: Thank you to the Board members and public listening. Here to discuss how it has affected me, every aspect of my life, the suicidality, and it hurt my business. The fall out that continues from this is difficult, asking the Board to have compassion for practitioners on the google searching...the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> thing on the google search is the Board discipline, with a hyperlink to the board discipline. It is something I won't escape, it won't go away, I'm coming to terms with this – but this search affects all aspects of my life. People closest to me in my life have empathy for me...I try my best to practice naturopathic medicine, I'm an advocate for naturopathic medicine... I'm simply asking to please make more attainable for me to continue my business and practice medicine in this state and allow me to have greater success. I have had a very difficult time getting and keeping patients... I went to school like everyone else, I thought practicing naturopathic medicine would be easier than this, but this has been very difficult.