

Arizona State Board of Nursing

Katie Hobbs
Governor



Joey Ridenour
Executive Director

Special Board Meeting Minutes

The Special Board meeting of the Arizona State Board of Nursing was held at 8:40 am Friday, June 12, 2026, at Wild Horse Pass, Ironwood Conference Room, 5040 Wild Horse Pass Blvd, Chandler, AZ, with Dr. Carolyn McCormies, RN, MS, FNP-BC, President, presiding.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT :

Dr. Carolyn McCormies, DNP, MSN, FNP-BC, President
Dr. Lisa Smith, PhD, RN, CNE, Secretary
Dr. LaWanda Dupree, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, Member
Dr. Angela Fountain, DNP, CRNA, Member
Christine Ellis, RN, BSN, Member
Dr. Carmen Hill-Mekoba, DNP, APRN-BC, Member
Kyra Locnikar, Member
Dr. Margi J. Schultz, PhD, RN, CNE, PLNC, FAADN, Member
Terri Berrigan, LPN, Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bahney Dedolph, Member
Suzette Lacy, RN, BSN, MHA, Member

STAFF:

Joey Ridenour, RN, MN, FAAN, Executive Director
Sara Steffen, MSN, ANP-C, Associate Director, Complaints & Investigations

9:00 - 1045

II. Roll Call. Opening Remarks and Objectives: Goals for the Day- Carolyn McCormies (Information)

III. Discussed Last Year's Retreat Information - Carolyn McCormies
(Fountain left meeting at 9:01 and returned at 10:23)

1045 - 1100

Break

11:00 - 12:30

Discussed Personality & Communication Styles Test and Results - Carolyn McCormies

Discussed "What to Keep Doing, What to Stop Doing & What to Start Doing" - All

12:20 - 13:15

Lunch

- 13:15 - 14:45** VI. Small groups discussed governance scenarios and best options to address each example.
- 14:45 - 15:00** Break
- 15:00 - 16:30** Discussed the following with all board members participating.
- A. Initiatives for Board Effectiveness
- Optimize Meeting Operations: Maximize focus and time management, minimize telephonic communication, and continue holding strategic board retreats.
 - Enhance Report and Motion Clarity: Improve the clarity of investigative reports and standardized board options, and allow staff to recommend specific language for new motions.
 - Cultivate a Positive Culture: Foster an environment of openness, clear communication, mutual support, and collaborative team dynamics.
 - Connect with Constituents: Maintain a dedicated focus on understanding and accurately contextualizing the needs of the board's constituencies.
 - Keep encouraging participation in NCSBN committees and meetings; continue to appoint mentors for new board members.
 - Plan special board 4 hour meetings every six months to focus on educational topics and remove from scheduling time during regular board meetings.
 - Continue board member succession planning for officer roles.
- B. Professional Commitments from Board Members
- Regulatory and Legislative Engagement: Dedicate greater attention and involvement to rules, legislation, and advocacy efforts supporting the board and staff.
 - Support Across All Nursing Roles: Actively contribute to the advancement and support of all nursing designations, including APRNs, RNs, LPNs, and LNAs.
 - Promote Trust and Objectivity: Prioritize objective decision-making, build relationships rooted in trust and respect, and ensure the timely distribution of critical information.
 - Active Participation and Accountability: Commit to consistent attendance, active engagement in board work, and regular acknowledgment of positive feedback.
- 16:30 - 16:45** IX. Wrap Up: Proposed a special board meeting for an educational focus on February 12, 2027, 9am to 1:00 pm.. Staff will determine conference room availability.

Adjournment:

Dr. Hill-Mekoba motioned and Angela Fountain seconded, and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the June 12, 2026, meeting at 16:45.

DRAFT