

TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
DISCIPLINARY PROCESS REVIEW COMMITTEE

August 13, 2026 10:45 am

Manuel Quinones, Jr., M.D., Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. Other members present were Sharon Barnes, Devinder S. Bhatia, M.D.; Michael Cokinos; ; James S. Distefano, D.O.; Kelly Green, M.D.; Zach Jones, M.D.; Robert D. Martinez, M.D.; LuAnn Morgan; Jayaram B. Naidu, M.D.; Linda Troncoso; David G. Vanderweide, M.D.; George L. De Loach, D.O, Ms. Tomeka Herod, and Sherif Z. Zaafran, M.D.

Louisa Del Rosal, Mr. Garry Crain, Kandace B. Farmer, D.O and Jason K. Tibbles, M.D. were not present. Dr. Vanderweide left at 11 a.m. Dr. DeLoach left at 12 p.m. Ms. Morgan left at 12 p.m.

Staff members present were Stephen Brint Carlton, J.D., Executive Director; Chris Palazola, J.D., Director of Operations; and various other staff.

Agenda Item #2. Formal Designation of Sub-Committees. Mr. Carlton assigned the members into four subcommittees.

Agenda Item #3, Sub-Committee review, discussion and recommendation regarding assigned Agenda Items.

At 10:52 am, Dr. Dr. Martinez moved, Dr. Zaafran seconded and the motion passed that Sub-committees B, C and D move into Executive Session for deliberations concerning disciplinary action, investigative information, peer review information, and rehabilitation orders under the authority of the Medical Practice Act Sections 152.009, 160.006 through 160.008, 164.007(c), and 164.202 & .203, Texas Occupations Code and private consultation and advice of counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, and/or legal matters subject to the attorney-client privilege under the authority of the Open Meetings Act, Section 551.071, Texas Government Code.

A. Sub-Committee A

i. Roll Call Dr. Quinones, Dr. Green, Dr. Bhatia, Ms. Morgan, Mr. Cokinos, and Ms. Herod were present in the sub-committee.

ii. Texas Physician Health Program (TXPHP).

1. Discussion and recommendation regarding referrals.

Dr. Emily Doyle, TXPHP Medical Director, provided a brief overview of Case No. 25-1108 MD and gave a recommendation that the Texas Medical Board accept the referral.

Dr. Doyle provided a brief overview of Case No. 26-0201 and gave a recommendation that the participant remain with TXPHP.

2. Report on Emergent Referrals.

Dr. Doyle gave a brief overview of emergent referral Case No. 26-0303.

3. Other Discussion Items – Program Report

Dr. Emily Doyle presented the Program Activity Report. These were information items only, and no vote was necessary.

iii. Discussion and recommendation regarding routine follow-up on files previously referred from DPRC.

Dr. Rajesh Shenava, Medical Director, provided a brief overview of Case 26-0961 and recommended dismissal.

Dr. Shenava provided a brief overview of Case 26-1092 and recommended dismissal.

Dr. Shenava provided a brief overview of Case 26-3957 and recommended dismissal.

iv. Consideration of membership of the Expert Physician Panel. Dr. Shenava presented information on the appointment and removal of expert physician panel members.

v. Cases Recommended for Dismissal

- 1. Non Standard of Care Cases.** 25-6617 CD, 26-1667, 26-1686, 26-1905, 26-4696, 26-4869, 26-4952, 26-5195, 26-5207, 26-5227, 23-7996 P2 SB, 26-0336, 26-0102, 26-0601, 26-0988 CD, 26-2416 CD, 26-3650, 26-4762, 26-4892, 26-4970, 26-5173, 26-5209, 26-5218, 26-3123 CD, 26-3319, 26-3414 CD, 26-3978, 26-4785, 26-4915, 26-4971, 26-5055, 26-5211, 26-5212
- 2. Standard of Care Cases.** 25-6030, 26-4547, 26-4551, 26-4580, 26-4604, 26-4608, 26-4612, 26-4613, 25-2537 PD (25-2536), 26-0142 PD (26-0162), 26-0162 PD (26-0142), 26-1612 PD, 26-2099 PD P2, 26-2100 PD P2, 26-2101 PD P2, 26-2243 SPH, 26-2548 PD, 26-2799 PD, 26-3022 SPH, 25-5212, 26-0904 (26-0903, 26-0900, 26-0901, 26-0902), 26-1885, 26-2564, 26-2987, 26-0172, 26-0243, 26-0248, 26, 2948, 26-4629, 26-4632, 26-4641, 26-4642, 26-4647, 26-4650, 25-4772 PD, 25-8731 PD (25-6030), 26-0349 PD, 26-1608 PD, 26-2613 PD, 26-2676 PD, 26-2719 PD, 26-2804 SPH. 26-2850 PD, 26-3251 PD, 26-3619 PD, 26-3639 PD, 26-2323, 26-2690, 26-2798, 26-3276, 26-3353, 26-4333, 26-0249, 26-0280, 26-0240, 26-4658, 26-4666, 26-4668, 26-4672, 26-4676, 26-4677, 25-8802 PD, 26-0733 PD, 26-1227 PD, 26-1610 PD, 26-2067 PD, 26-2721 PD P2, 26-2945 PD, 26-2956 PD, 26-3590 PD, 26-3817 PD, 26-3831 SPH, 26-0968, 26-2374, 26-2559, 26-2757, 26-2894, 26-3370, 26-0264, 25-0070, 25-0195, 26-0316

Ms. Morgan pulled case 26-3650 for further discussion and recommended sending a warning letter.

Dr. Green pulled case 26-2987 for further discussion.

Dr. Quinones pulled case 26-0968 and recommended a letter of concern concerning CME with regards to communication skills.

vi. Review, discussion and possible action regarding appeals of dismissed complaints.

- 1. Standard of Care.** 26-2087, 26-2435, 26-4554, 26-3499, 26-4411, 26-4653,
- 2. Non-Standard of Care.** 25-6696, 25-8878, 25-9560 PD, 26-0067, 26-0178, 26-1088, 26-1469 PD, 26-1741, 26-2722 PD, 25-4226, 26-2543, 26-2960, 26-4207, 26-4389, 26-4614, 26-4652, 26-4777, 26-4823, 26-0579 CD (26-0578), 26-0834, 26-1285, 26-1625, 26-3744, 26-3870, 26-3970, 26-4018, 26-4025, 26-4168, 26-4590, 26-4607, 26-4690, 26-5177, 25-7706, 26-0129, 26-0470, 26-1600, 26-2062 PD, 26-3214, 25-6662, 26-2442, 26-2769, 26-3501, 26-3833, 26-4095, 26-4100, 26-4283, 26-4391, 26-4822

Cases 26-4417, 26-5213, 26-5214, 26-4415, 26-4416, 26-0178, 25-4445, 25-4397, 26-3501 and 26-3214 were continued to a future meeting.

The committee closed the meeting to hear an appeal. The appeal was canceled. No executive session was necessary. No action was taken during this period. The committee returned to open session at 1:38 pm.

Open session resumed for Subcommittees B, C and D at 1:39 pm, and it was announced that no action was taken during executive session. A certified agenda of the executive sessions were made.

Agenda Item #4. Presentation and Vote on Sub-Committee's recommendations.

A. Sub-Committee A

ii. PHP Referrals

Ms. Herod moved and Dr Martinez seconded to accept the referral of Case No. 25-1108 MD. The motion carried.

Dr. Bhatia moved and Mr. Barnes seconded that Case No. 26-0201 MD remain under the management of TXPHP. The motion carried.

iii. Follow-Up Files

Dr. Bhatia moved and Dr. Distefano seconded to dismiss Case Nos. 26-1092, 26-3957, and 26-0691. as recommended. The motion carried.

iv. Consideration of Membership of the Expert Physician Panel.

Dr. Bhatia moved and Dr. Jones seconded to grant the approval of 6 appointments on the Expert Panel members list. The motion carried.

Dr. Shenava presented 28 physicians to consider for removal from the expert panel. Dr. Bhatia moved and Ms. Troncoso seconded to remove the 28 physicians from the expert panel. The motion carried.

v. Cases Recommended for Dismissal

- 1. Non Standard of Care Cases.** 25-6617 CD, 26-1667, 26-1686, 26-1905, 26-4696, 26-4869, 26-4952, 26-5195, 26-5207, 26-5227, 23-7996 P2 SB, 26-0336, 26-0102, 26-0601, 26-0988 CD, 26-2416 CD, 26-3650, 26-4762, 26-4892, 26-4970, 26-5173, 26-5209, 26-5218, 26-3123 CD, 26-3319, 26-3414 CD, 26-3978, 26-4785, 26-4915, 26-4971, 26-5055, 26-5211, 26-5212,
- 2. Standard of Care Cases.** 25-6030, 26-4547, 26-4551, 26-4580, 26-4604, 26-4608, 26-4612, 26-4613, 25-2537 PD (25-2536), 26-0142 PD (26-0162), 26-0162 PD (26-0142), 26-1612 PD, 26-2099 PD P2, 26-2100 PD P2, 26-2101 PD P2, 26-2243 SPH, 26-2548 PD, 26-2799 PD, 26-3022 SPH, 25-5212, 26-0904 (26-0903, 26-0900, 26-0901, 26-0902), 26-1885, 26-2564, 26-2987, 26-0172, 26-0243, 26-0248, 26, 2948, 26-4629, 26-4632, 26-4641, 26-4642, 26-4647, 26-4650, 25-4772 PD, 25-8731 PD (25-6030), 26-0349 PD, 26-1608 PD, 26-2613 PD, 26-2676 PD, 26-2719 PD, 26-2804 SPH, 26-2850 PD, 26-3251 PD, 26-3619 PD, 26-3639 PD, 26-2323, 26-2690, 26-2798, 26-3276, 26-3353, 26-4333, 26-0249, 26-0280, 26-0240, 26-4658, 26-4666, 26-4668, 26-4672, 26-4676, 26-4677, 25-8802 PD, 26-0733 PD, 26-1227 PD, 26-1610 PD, 26-2067 PD, 26-2721 PD P2, 26-2945 PD, 26-2956 PD, 26-3590 PD, 26-3817 PD, 26-3831 SPH, 26-0968, 26-2374, 26-2559, 26-2757, 26-2894, 26-3370, 26-0264, 25-0070, 25-0195, 26-0316

Ms. Troncoso moved and Dr. Bhatia seconded to dismiss all cases recommended for dismissal with the exception of 26-3650, 26-2987 and 26-0968.

Dr. Quinones moved and Dr. Distefano seconded to dismiss case 26-3650 with a warning letter. The motion passed.

Dr. Green moved and Dr. Jones seconded to send case 26-2987 for review by a second panelist. The motion passed.

Dr. Quinones moved and Dr. Naidu seconded to dismiss case 26-0968 with a warning letter recommending CME in the topic of communication. The motion passed.

vi. Review, discussion and possible action regarding appeals of dismissed complaints.

- 1. Standard of Care.** 26-2087, 26-2435, 26-4554, 26-3499, 26-4411, 26-4653,
- 2. Non-Standard of Care.** 25-6696, 25-8878, 25-9560 PD, 26-0067, 26-0178, 26-1088, 26-1469 PD, 26-1741, 26-2722 PD, 25-4226, 26-2543, 26-2960, 26-4207, 26-4389, 26-4614, 26-4652, 26-4777, 26-4823, 26-0579 CD (26-0578), 26-0834, 26-1285, 26-1625, 26-3744, 26-3870, 26-3970, 26-4018, 26-4025, 26-4168, 26-4590, 26-4607, 26-4690, 26-5177, 25-7706, 26-0129, 26-0470, 26-1600, 26-2062 PD, 26-3214, 25-6662, 26-2442, 26-2769, 26-3501, 26-3833, 26-4095, 26-4100, 26-4283, 26-4391, 26-4822

Cases 25-2828, 26-4417, 26-5213, 26-5214, 26-4415, 26-4416, 26-0178, 25-4445, 25-4397, and 26-3501 were continued to a future meeting.

Ms. Herod moved and Dr. Naidu seconded to deny all appeals with the exception of cases continued.

B. Sub-Committee B

ii. Review, discussion and recommendations regarding appearing appeals of dismissed complaints.

Dr. Zaafran moved and Dr. Distefano seconded to grant the appeal of case 26-1132. The motion passed.

Dr. Zaafran considered from Subcommittee A, case 26-3214, which was related to case 26-1132.

Dr. Zaafran moved and Ms. Troncoso seconded to grant the appeal of case 26-3214. The motion passed.

Dr. Zaafran moved and Ms. Troncoso seconded to deny the appeal of case 26-2699. The motion passed.

Dr. Zaafran moved and Dr. Martinez seconded to deny the appeal of case 26-2409 with a warning letter with a copy to the nurse practitioner. The motion passed. The committee directed staff to refer the nurse practitioner to the Texas Board of Nursing.

Dr. Zaafran moved and Ms. Troncoso seconded to grant the appeal of case 25-8659 with specific questions to the panelist. The motion passed.

C. Sub-Committee C

ii. Review, discussion and recommendations regarding appearing appeals of dismissed complaints.

Case Nos. 26-0829 and 26-2722 were deferred to a future meeting.

Dr. Jones moved and Dr. Distefano seconded to deny the appeal of case 26-2220 with a warning letter to the Respondent. The motion passed.

Dr. Martinez moved and Dr. Distefano seconded to deny the appeal of case 26-2171 with a warning letter to the Respondent. The motion passed.

Dr. Distefano moved and Dr. Martinez seconded to deny the appeal of case 26-1642. The motion passed.

Dr. Distefano moved and Dr. Martinez seconded to deny the appeal of case 26-1643. The motion passed.

D. Sub-Committee D.

ii. Review, discussion and recommendations regarding appearing appeals of dismissed complaints.

Ms. Barnes moved and Dr. Naidu seconded to grant case the appeal of 26-4085 and send back to investigations. The motion passed.

Ms. Barnes moved and Dr. Bhatia seconded to deny the appeal of case 26-4184. The motion passed. The committee directed staff to open a new case against the correct physician.

At 2:31 pm, Dr. Zaafran moved, Ms. Barnes seconded and the motion passed that the board move into Executive Session for deliberations concerning disciplinary action, investigative information, peer review information, and rehabilitation orders under the authority of the Medical Practice Act Sections 152.009, 160.006 through 160.008, 164.007(c), and 164.202 & .203, Texas Occupations Code and private consultation and advice of counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, and/or legal matters subject to the attorney-client privilege under the authority of the Open Meetings Act, Section 551.071, Texas Government Code.

Open session resumed at 2:53 pm, and it was announced that no action was taken during executive session. A certified agenda of the executive session was made.

Ms. Barnes moved and Dr. Naidu seconded to continue the appeal of case 26-2381 and obtain the medical records for review. The motion passed.

Agenda Item #5. Adjourn

Dr. Bhatia moved and Ms. Herod seconded that the meeting adjourn.

The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Expert Panel Members for Board Approval August 2026					
	LAST	FIRST	LIC#	CITY	SPECIALTY
1	Bietz	Gabriel	P3290	San Antonio	Vascular Surgery
2	Haas	Eric	K5548	Houston	Colon and Rectal Surgery
3	Huang	Richard	N9070	Houston	Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
4	Murthy	Bhamidipati	L3032	Houston	Nephrology
5	Zemmedhun	Gelilla	U1413	Galveston	Anesthesiology – Pain Management

Board Date	Log or Case #	Document Type
8/13/2026	25-0195	Dismissals - Attorney
8/13/2026	26-0316	Dismissals - Attorney
8/13/2026	26-0172	Dismissals - ISC
8/13/2026	26-0240	Dismissals - ISC
8/13/2026	26-0243	Dismissals - ISC
8/13/2026	26-0248	Dismissals - ISC
8/13/2026	26-0249	Dismissals - ISC
8/13/2026	26-0264	Dismissals - ISC
8/13/2026	26-0280	Dismissals - ISC
8/13/2026	26-0336	Dismissals - ISC
8/13/2026	25-6030	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	25-6617	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-0102	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-0601	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-0988	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-1667	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-1686	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-1905	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-2416	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-2948	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-3123	Dismissals - QA Reject

8/13/2026	26-3319	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-3414	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-3650	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	26-3978	Dismissals - QA Reject
8/13/2026	24-0070	Dismissals - SOAH