



Texas Medical Board

BOARD MEETING

April 13, 2026

The meeting was called to order on Monday April 13, 2026 at 10:27 a.m. by Board President Sherif Zaafran, M.D. Board members present were: Michael Cokinos, Secretary/Treasurer; Sharon Barnes; Devinder S. Bhatia, M.D.; Garry Crain; George L. DeLoach, D.O.; Luisa del Rosal; James Distefano, D.O. (*arrived at 10:53 am*); Kelly Green, M.D.; Tomeka Herod; Zach Jones, M.D.; LuAnn R. Morgan; Jayaram B. Naidu, M.D.; Manuel Quinones, Jr., M.D.; Jason Tibbels, M.D.; Linda C. Troncoso; and David G. Vanderweide, M.D. Board members not present were: Kandace Farmer, D.O., Vice President and Robert Martinez, M.D. Staff members present were: Brint Carlton, J.D., Executive Director; Chris Palazola, J.D., Director of Operations; Rajesh Shenava, M.D., Medical Director, and various other staff.

Agenda Item # 1, Mission Statement. Dr. Zaafran read the board's mission statement. *Our Mission is to protect and enhance the public's health, safety and welfare by establishing and maintaining standards of excellence used in regulating the practice of medicine and ensuring quality health care for the citizens of Texas through licensure, discipline, and education.*

Agenda Item #2, Board Member Report. Dr. Zaafran reported that the Board had continued to receive feedback and comments on the rules regulating ketamine therapy standards under Chapter 173, adopted in March. Based upon the feedback, the Board has been provided with new draft language incorporating the feedback and will consider whether to withdraw the adopted rules and reopen the rulemaking process.

Agenda Item #3, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action rescinding the adoption of Chapter 173, Office-Based Anesthesia Services, Subchapter B, concerning IV Ketamine Therapy Standards, adopted by the Board on March 27, 2026. After discussion, Dr. Zaafran moved and Dr. Quinones seconded, and the motion passed to rescind the adoption of Chapter 173, Office-Based Anesthesia Services, Subchapter B, concerning IV Ketamine Therapy Standards, §§173.6-173.15 adopted by the Board on March 27, 2026.

Agenda Item #4 Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding proposed rule amendments to 22 T.A.C. Chapter 173, Office-Based Anesthesia Services, Subchapter B, concerning IV Ketamine Therapy Standards, §§173.6-173.18. After discussion, Dr. Tibbels made a motion to approve the proposed rule as presented, with the addition of language stating, "meets the latest moderate sedation guidelines published by the ASA dependent on the intended level of anxiolysis or sedation to be achieved.to 173.10(c) and (d), for notice and comment.

Del Rosal seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Agenda Item #5, Open Forum for Public Comment. Several individuals and organizations made oral comments: Kelly Light - Transcend, Tim Goelz - Transcend, Annabelle Morrice – Transcend, Amanda Woltering – Transcend, Jack Frazee--Texas Nurses Association; Michelle DeLeon - Illumma, Dan Mulcahy, Tamara Vaught, Christina Potts, Lakshmi Koyyalagunta, M.D.-Texas Pain Society, and Momin Zafarula- Neuroglow.

Agenda Item #6, Adjourn. Dr. Quinones moved, Dr. Vanderweide seconded, and the motion passed to adjourn the meeting at the end of public comment. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm at the conclusion of public comment.