Texas Medical Board

BOARD MEETING
June 29, 2026

The meeting was called to order on Monday, June 29, 2026 at 8:03 a.m. by Board President Sherif Zaafran, M.D. Board members present were: Kandace Farmer, D.O., Vice President *(joined at 9:30 am)*; Michael Cokinos, Secretary/Treasurer; Sharon Barnes *(joined at 8:30 am)*; Devinder S. Bhatia, M.D.; Garry Crain; George L. DeLoach, D.O.; Luisa del Rosal; James Distefano, D.O.; Kelly Green, M.D.; Tomeka Herod; Zach Jones, M.D.; Robert Martinez, M.D.; LuAnn R. Morgan; Jayaram B. Naidu, M.D.; Linda C. Troncoso; and David G. Vanderweide, M.D. Manuel Quinones, Jr., M.D. and Jason Tibbels, M.D. were not present.
Staff members present were: Brint Carlton, J.D., Executive Director; Chris Palazola, J.D., Director of Operations; Scott Freshour, J.D., General Counsel; 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, Discussion regarding Committee Assignments and Structure Dr. Zaafran discussed a new structure for the Licensure and DPRC committees to streamline the meetings.

Agenda Item #3, Discussion, recommendation and possible action regarding withdrawing published rules under Chapter 173, Office-Based Anesthesia Services, Subchapter B, concerning IV Ketamine Therapy Standards, approved for publication by the Board on April 13th, 2026.
After discussion, **Dr. Martinez moved, Ms. Morgan seconded, and the motion passed to withdraw published rules under Chapter 173, Office-Based Anesthesia Services, Subchapter B, concerning IV Ketamine Therapy Standards, approved for publication by the Board on April 13th, 2026.**

Agenda Item #4, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding proposed rule amendments to 22 T.A.C.

a. **Chapter 173 - Chapter 173, Office-Based Anesthesia Services, Subchapter B, concerning Parenteral Ketamine Therapy Standards**
   Mr. Carlton presented the proposed rule amendments. Several individuals and organizations made comments. After discussion, **Ms. Morgan moved, Dr. Distefano seconded, and the motion passed to approve proposed rule amendments to Chapter 173 - Chapter 173, Office-Based Anesthesia Services, Subchapter B, concerning Parenteral Ketamine Therapy Standards for publication with suggested changes.**
b. **Chapter 161 - §161.35 Continuing Medical Education (CME) Requirements for License Renewal**
   (a)(2)
   (D) forensic evidence collection
   (E) nutrition and metabolic health

After discussion, **Mr. Cokinos moved, Dr. DeLoach seconded, and the motion passed to approve the proposed rule amendments to Chapter 161 - §161.35 Continuing Medical Education (CME) Requirements for License Renewal for publication in the Register.**

c. Chapter 160 - §160.8 Employee Training and Education

After discussion, **Ms. Troncoso moved, Ms. Del Rosal seconded, and the motion passed to approve the proposed rule amendments to Chapter 160 - §160.8 Employee Training and Education for publication in the Register.**

d. Chapter 169 – Delegation. Mr. Carlton announced proposed amendments to Chapter 169 were being withdrawn by staff. No action was taken. §169.25 Other Delegation

§169.26 General Standards

§169.27 Medical Director and Delegating Physician Responsibilities

e. Chapter 183 - §183.16(a)(1)(C) - forensic evidence collection

After discussion, Dr. Jones moved, Ms. Morgan seconded and the motion passed to approve the proposed rule amendments to Chapter 183-183.16(a)(1)(C) for publication in the Register.

Agenda Item #5, Open Forum for Public Comment. Open comment was held at 8:51 a.m. Eighteen individuals made comments on the proposed rule amendments to Chapter 173, concerning Parenteral Ketamine Therapy Standards.

Consent Agenda, Discussion/Action Items – to be considered and any time the full board is in session:

1. **Consideration and approval of the April 13, 2026, Medical Board Meeting Minutes and actions items.**

After discussion, **Ms. Morgan moved, Ms. Herod seconded, and the motion passed to approve the April 13, 2026, Medical Board Meeting Minutes and action items.**

Agenda Item #6, Adjourn. There being no further items, **Ms. Del Rosal moved, Ms. Barnes seconded, and the motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 a.m.**