

California Board of Naturopathic Medicine

Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2025

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Dara Thompson, ND, President
Andy Yam, MPP, Secretary
Bruce Davidson, PhD
Diparshi Mukherjee, DO
Vera Singleton, ND
Setareh Tais, ND

MEMBERS

ABSENT:

Minna Yoon, ND, Vice President – Absent with cause

STAFF PRESENT:

Rebecca Mitchell, Executive Officer (EO)
Yuping Lin, Program Legal Counsel, Legal Affairs Div., DCA
Deepi Miller, Regulations Counsel, Legal Affairs Div., DCA
David Bouilly, Moderator, SOLID Unit, DCA
Susan Kilcrease, Legislative Analyst, for DCA Board/Bureau Relations
Suzanne Balkis, Budget Manager, DCA Budget Office
Kaila VanLindt, Budget Analyst, DCA Budget Office
Raquel Oden, Program Analyst, Co-Moderator, CBNM
Florencia Francisco, Consumer Protection Srv. Analyst, CBNM

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE:

Yeaphana LaMarr, Principal Consultant, Sen. Business, Professions
and Economic Development Committee

Agenda Item 1

[Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum](#)

Dara Thompson, N.D., President, California Board of Naturopathic Medicine (CBNM or Board) called the meeting of the CBNM to order on October 8, 2025, at 9:10 a.m. A quorum was present, and due notice was provided to all interested parties.

Agenda Item 2

[Public Comment](#)

The Board invited public comments on items not included in the agenda. No public comments were received at any of the meeting locations.

Agenda Item 3

[Discussion and Possible Action on Department of Consumer Affairs \(DCA\) Updates](#)

a. [Executive Office](#)

Susan Kilcrease, Legislative Analyst, presented the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Executive Office Update on behalf of the Board and Bureau Relations Office.

Ms. Kilcrease informed the Board of the upcoming reorganization of the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency, which will be divided into two separate agencies effective July 1, 2026. She emphasized that DCA will continue to keep stakeholders informed throughout the transition and noted that the reorganization is not expected to result in significant changes to DCA's day-to-day operations.

Ms. Kilcrease also advised that the Director was excited to welcome DCA's new Board and Bureau Relations leadership team. Lucia Saldivar joined as Deputy Director, and Shelly Jones as Assistant Deputy Director.

Saldivar brings legislative experience from her time in the California State Assembly, while Jones brings extensive leadership experience from her roles within DCA and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

They will both be at upcoming meetings and thanked the Board Members for the continued partnership during the transition.

Lastly, she reported that the Annual Report for all DCA programs has been completed as required by the Legislature. The reports have been submitted, and DCA's Director extended appreciation to all Board staff for their efforts in completing this important task.

b. [Budget Office](#)

Kaila VanLindt, Budget Analyst, Budget Office, DCA, provided the Board's budget update, along with Suzanne Balkis, Budget Manager. Projections for Expenditures, Revenue and Fund Condition were presented to the board members and was provided in the meeting materials.

No public comments were made during this agenda item.

Agenda Item 4

[Review and Possible Approval of September 17, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes](#)

EO Mitchell provided the Board members with a draft copy of the September 17, 2025, Board meeting minutes. The Board had an opportunity to review the minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

The Board members approved the September 17, 2025, minutes as submitted.

No public comments were made during this agenda item.

Motion – Davidson / Second – Singleton, to approve the 917/2025 board meeting minutes as submitted. Roll call vote taken; motion carried 4-0-0. (YES – Thompson, Mukherjee, Yam, Davidson / NO – none / Abstentions – Singleton, Tais).

Agenda Item 5 **[Discussion and Possible Action on Executive Officer's Report](#)**

- a. Program Updates**
- b. Licensing Program**
- c. Consumer Protection Services Program**

This Item was tabled due to time prioritization of the Sunset Report.

Agenda Item 6 **[Status Update and Report of the Board's Current Rulemaking Proposals](#)**

EO Mitchell provided a brief update on the following:

- a. [Delegation of Functions](#)**
The Delegation of Functions Rulemaking file was approved by OAL on 09/16/2025. The regulation becomes effective on 01/01/2026.
- b. [Inactive Status](#)**
This Rulemaking file is currently under staff review. Proposed language will be provided at a future meeting for Board's consideration.
- c. [Retired Status](#)**
This Rulemaking file is currently under staff review. Proposed language will be provided at a future meeting for Board's consideration.
- d. [IV and Advanced Injection Therapy](#)**
The IV and Advanced Injection Advisory Committee will continue its work on the IV injection proposal and will provide recommendations to the full Board. This proposal remains under development.
- e. [Disciplinary Guidelines \(DG\)/Uniform Standards](#)**
Staff will begin working with Regulatory Counsel on the Disciplinary Guidelines (DG) / Uniform Standards rulemaking package.

Agenda Item 7

Discussion and Possible Action of Advisory Committee Meeting Updates and Recommendations

- a. Minor Office Procedures (MOP) Advisory Committee**
- b. Legislative Advisory Committee**
- c. Naturopathic Drug Formulary Advisory Committee**
- d. IV and Advanced Injection Therapy Advisory Committee**

This Item was tabled due to time prioritization of the Sunset Report.

Agenda Item 8

Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on 2026 Sunset Review Report

The Board held a focused discussion on updates to the Sunset Review Report, with particular attention to recent legislative changes and their implications. A color-coded draft was used to help distinguish between previously approved content and new additions, streamlining the review process.

Key topics included challenges related to the licensing population, the impact of legislative changes, and the growing number of delinquent license statuses. Board members emphasized the importance of modernizing the scope of practice for naturopathic doctors in California to better reflect current healthcare needs.

Survey results were noted as a valuable tool for guiding future discussions on licensing and scope-related issues. The Board also acknowledged the significant rise in telehealth usage since the COVID-19 pandemic, expressing interest in obtaining provider statistics to better understand this shift.

Concerns were raised about the prevalence of unlicensed activity online, underscoring the need for improved regulation of internet-based practices. The Board also discussed the value of physician members in enhancing the quality of deliberations and decisions related to naturopathic medicine.

It was noted that the Board currently lacks the authority to charge fees for continuing education course reviews, which limits its ability to offer this service. Additionally, outdated regulations continue to create administrative challenges for naturopathic doctors, particularly in areas such as maternity leave documentation.

Staff were directed to gather key attachments for the report, including organizational charts and major studies. The Board aims to complete the remaining sections of the report by the end of next week to allow for timely committee review.

Public comment was opened, and Yeaphana LaMarr, Principal Consultant for the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee, provided remarks regarding the Sunset Review. In response to a question from President Thompson about the content of the Sunset Review Report, Ms. LaMarr explained that while this year's template includes some new elements related to online practice, the majority of the questions were also present in the 2021 Sunset Review.

Agenda Item 9 [Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Dates](#)

Items added for upcoming meeting:

- Licensee Practice/Scope Data Survey
- Sunset Review Report – Draft
- Board Member Appointments

The next meetings will be scheduled for the following:

- Special Meeting (Finalize Sunset Report): 11/19/2025, 9am – 5pm
- Special Meeting (Approve Sunset Report Production before Print): 12/03/2025, 9am – 5 pm
- Quarter 1 2026 (Jan-Mar): Will send a Doodle Poll out for this meeting
- Quarter 2 2026 (Apr-Jun): Will send a Doodle Poll out for this meeting
- Quarter 3 2026 (Jul-Sept): Will send a Doodle Poll out for this meeting
- Quarter 4 2026 (Oct-Dec): Will send a Doodle Poll out for this meeting

No public comments were made during this agenda item.

Agenda Item 10 [Adjournment](#)

There being no further business or public comment, President Thompson adjourned the meeting at 11:32 a.m.