

**CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD  
OF  
BARBERING AND COSMETOLOGY**

**LICENSING AND EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2023**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tonya Fairley  
Yolanda Jimenez  
Colette Kavanaugh  
Jacob Rostovsky  
Steve Weeks

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Kristy Underwood, Executive Officer  
Carrie Harris, Deputy Executive Officer  
Alex Torkelson, Licensing and Operations Chief  
Sabina Knight, Board Legal Counsel  
Allison Lee, Board Project Manager  
Natalie Mitchell, Board Analyst  
Shelby Edmiston, HR Liaison/Presenter

**1. AGENDA ITEM #1, CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Kristy Underwood called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

**2. AGENDA ITEM #2, ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON**

**Motion:** Yolanda Jimenez nominated Steve Weeks as Committee Chair. Tonya Fairley seconded. Mr. Weeks accepted the nomination.

No comments were received from the public.

Motion to nominate Steve Weeks as Committee Chair carried; 5 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

The following committee members voted "Yes": Tonya Fairley, Yolanda Jimenez, Colette Kavanaugh, Jacob Rostovsky, and Steve Weeks.

**3. AGENDA ITEM #3, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 9, 2023, COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES.**

Chair Weeks commented that the minutes are usually accurate and typically require no changes. They are also good and comprehensive for other Board members and general public who do not attend the Committee meetings. Mr. Rostovsky agreed, adding that he was not at the last meeting, and the minutes helped prepare him for this meeting.

**Motion:** Yolanda Jimenez moved to approve the January 9, 2023, Committee meeting minutes. Tonya Fairley seconded.

No comments were received from the public.

Motion to approve the January 9, 2023, Committee meeting minutes carried; 4 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

The following committee members voted "Yes": Steve Weeks, Tonya Fairley, Yolanda Jimenez, and Colette Kavanaugh.

The following Committee Members abstained: Jacob Rostovsky.

#### **4. AGENDA ITEM #4, REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE EXAM PASS RATES**

Ms. Underwood mentioned that the exam pass rates are slowly climbing. The Committee was provided with data showing the pass rates for quarters one, two, and the current quarter three. She indicated that she had met with the Chief of the Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE) last week. They scheduled several meetings to look at historically low passing schools that have not had an acceptable pass rate in quite some time.

Ms. Underwood further mentioned that staff had reviewed bell curve data of the exam pass rates. The data would be presented at the next Board meeting. She stated that there are many moving parts on the pass rates. She has scheduled monthly calls with the exam vendor to discuss the exams. The Board has also recently launched the ability for schools to look at content areas where their students are doing poorly. It will be rolled out in about a month.

Chair Weeks asked if the additional data on exam pass rates was done in consultation with the BPPE. He also asked about any specific ideas the BPPE might have on dealing with the pass rates. Ms. Underwood stated that schools have been asking for the information for a long time, but the Board has yet to have the ability to give it to them. It is being done because the current exam vendor, PSI, can provide that information. With regard to conversations with the BPPE, Ms. Underwood stated that neither the Board nor the BPPE has any set pass rates in their statutes. There is a pass rate for accredited schools, however, this is a concern because several of the accredited schools are well below the threshold of pass rates.

Ms. Underwood stated that the BPPE does not look at pass rates. They look at the quality of education, and this is one of the things that will be the focus of their scheduled meetings - to look into the schools and see what can be done about the schools that have had very low pass rates for a long time.

Mr. Rostovsky asked if there was any information on the dip in electrolysis and the areas students are having difficulty passing. Ms. Underwood mentioned that there are only three schools in electrology. There are some concerns with one of those schools, which the staff is looking into. She added that the problem had been identified, but it was not something that she could discuss publicly.

Mr. Rostovsky also asked if the low pass rates revolved around areas related to consumer protection, such as health and safety. He believed the low rates might be a

good thing initially because it helps identify ways to improve consumer protection. Ms. Underwood agreed that Mr. Rostovsky's sentiments were especially true for electrology. She indicated that the scope of electrology would be discussed at the Board meeting to ensure that all the Board members understand what electrology entails and how it is growing. She also noted that there are a lot of sensitive situations for electrology where people might get harmed and might not want to report. The Board, therefore, wants to ensure that only well-qualified electrologists are allowed in the industry.

No comments were received from the public.

#### **5. AGENDA ITEM #5, PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

No comments were received from the public.

#### **6. AGENDA ITEM #6, SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

Mr. Rostovsky raised the topic of accessibility and training. Accessibility during education to teach materials or have materials be processed for individuals who might have different ways of learning or come from diverse backgrounds. He noted that teaching materials should be more approachable, particularly for non-traditional schooling. Chair Weeks agreed that accessibility is important to education and pass rates.

#### **7. AGENDA ITEM #7, ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business to discuss, so the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:21 a.m.