NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF DIETETICS/NUTRITION
BOARD MEETING
9:00 A.M.
1135 KILDAIRE FARM ROAD, SUITE 200
CARY, NC 27511

[ELECTRONIC ONLY MEETING]

OPEN MINUTES: March 27, 2026

Board Members:	Sarah Thomas, Babbi Hawkins, Christie Nicholson, Deanna Didiano, Janice Shannon, Maggie King
Staff:	Marnie Jones, *Executive Director;* Frances Cheung, *Licensing Administrator;* Laine Moye, *Licensing Coordinator*
Guest(s):	Henry Jones, *NCBDN General Counsel,* Jerri Hasek, *Member of the Public*
Absent:	*Patricia Pitts*

Call to Order – Sarah Thomas
The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. A quorum was present. No conflicts of interest were presented.

The agenda was sent out to the Board electronically for review. Maggie made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Janice seconded the motion. Roll call to approve agenda:

- Babbi – Approve (& present)
- Janice – Approve (& present)
- Maggie – Approve (& present)
- Sarah - Approve (& present)

Secretary's Report – Sarah Thomas (for Patricia Pitts)
The February 2026 open and closed meeting minutes were provided for electronic review prior to the meeting. Maggie motioned to approve the February 2026 minutes as presented. Janice seconded the motion. Sarah asked if there was any discussion on the motion. No further discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Babbi – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

Treasurer's Report – Sarah Thomas (for Christie Nicholson)
The February 2026 Cash Flow report, Savings report, Budget report, and Investment report were sent for prior review to the Board electronically. Marnie noted that the $5,000 credit from Bank of America has officially been credited/refunded for the Social Security registration fee dispute. Janice motioned to approve

the February 2026 financial reports as presented. Maggie seconded the motion. Sarah asked if there was any discussion on the motion. No further discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Babbi – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

Public Comment – Sarah Thomas
Jerri Hasek, member of the public, was informed that her application will be reviewed in closed session today and that she is welcome to stay throughout the meeting during open session.

- Christie and Dr. Didiano joined the meeting at 9:08am.

Licensing Administrator Report – Frances Cheung
Frances reported the total active licensee count at 5,433 and the Provisional licensee count at 9. Since the last administrative numbers report given during the last Board meeting on February 20th, there have been 201 new licensees, fifty-five licensees have gone inactive, and fourteen licensees have relinquished.

4,321 licensees have renewed their licenses to date.
725 licensees have not yet Renewed/Gone Inactive/Relinquished.

Neon yellow reminder postcards were mailed out at the end of February.

Two reminder emails have been sent this month to all licensees with expiration date of 3/31/2026. Another email reminder will go out today, and next week.

Closed Session
Christie motioned to close the meeting for discussion regarding **Applications**, pursuant to Article 33C of Chapter 143, §143-318.18(6) and Article 5 of the Bylaws, Section 4 (8), **Legal Consultation**, pursuant to Article 33C of Chapter 143, §143-318.11 (3) and NCBDN ByLaws, Article V (5) Section 4(3) and **Investigations**, pursuant to Article 33C of Chapter 143, §143-318.11(7) and NCBDN ByLaws, Article V (5) Section 4 (7). Maggie seconded the motion. No further discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

- Jerri Hasek was moved to the waiting room.

- Jerri Hasek left the meeting at 9:12am.

Legal Consultation – Henry Jones and Marnie Jones

Compact Updates from Weldon

- Senator Burgin seems interested in sponsoring the Compact bill. It is possible that he may want to move forward with an omnibus bill, where any compact out there that North Carolina is not a part of, he will want North Carolina to join. It seems likely that the bill will be passed, but how/when it will be introduced is unknown.
- Marnie plans to attend the monthly NCAND meetings and is expecting an update during the April meeting.

- Henry joined the meeting at 9:16am.

SS Verification Updates

- The Board and Counsel discussed the continuing legalities surrounding the provisions in HB926.

No SSN Applicant Inquiry

- A potential applicant from Canada sent an email inquiry about applying for a NC license without a SSN.

Investigations – Marnie Jones and Henry Jones
Please see the Investigation report for full details.

The Board reviewed renewal applicant YU-DZJBBA.

The Board reviewed renewal applicant RHOD-UD7TJ5.

The Board reviewed renewal applicant CLAY-I3VR71.

The Board reviewed new applicant SURV-ACBKWX.

Application Review – EdComm and Marnie Jones

The Board discussed potential Category C applicant Kassahara.

The Board discussed an inquiry from a licensee who is currently in inactive status with a lapsed RDN credential and inquiring about whether she can be an active LDN without holding an RDN credential.

- Henry left the meeting at 10:42am.

The Board reviewed RHousen's updated documentation.

The Board reviewed the application submission for GHasek.

Maggie motioned to re-open the meeting at 10:50 am. Dr. Didiano seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

Open Session – Sarah Thomas

Actions related to closed session:

- Maggie motioned to approve sending letter to Renewal Applicant YU-DZJBBA. Christie seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

- Maggie motioned to approve sending draft letter in response to SSN inquiry from Allen. Dr. Didiano seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Maggie motioned to issue deficiency letter to Applicant Housen, indicating deficiency of 333.25 hours, of which 77 must be in Category C and 329.25 must be considered Direct Experience. Christie seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Dr. Didiano motioned to send Cautionary letter to Applicant SURV-ACBKWX. Maggie seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Dr. Didiano motioned to approve Applicant Hasek for licensure. Maggie seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Janice motioned to approve Renewal Applicant RHOD-UD7TJS. Dr. Didiano seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.
- Janice motioned to approve Renewal Applicant CLAY-I3VR71. Dr. Didiano seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll call to approve the motion: Babbi – Ywes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.

Update: Early RRC Review – Marnie Jones

A letter had been sent to OAH petitioning for early review of the Board's rules. Marnie and Henry attended the OAH meeting on March 26th, where the early review request was granted and the report was also reviewed during the meeting. The Rules Review Commission's next step is to send the Board's Rules to APO to determine if they agree with the Commission's agreement with the Board.

Compact Information/Update – Marnie Jones

Senator Burgin is likely to sponsor the Compact bill, although it may be done via an Omnibus bill.

Unfinished Business/New Business – Marnie Jones

- Due to a new state auditor and a new auditing policy, the Board will need to send the Board's auditor contract after the bidding process to the state auditor. Marnie noted that the next 3 year contract will be in 2027.
- There are currently no updates on filling Dr. Didiano's position.
- Christie and Pat's Board terms will expire in June 2026 and their positions will need to be filled. The Board has received 2 recommendations for an LDN in private practice; both resumes will be forwarded to the Appointment office for consideration.

Public Comment – Sarah Thomas

- N/A

Christie motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:05am. Maggie seconded the motion. No further discussion. Roll call to approve motion: Babbi – Yes, Christie – Yes, Dr. Didiano – Yes, Janice – Yes, Maggie – Yes, Sarah – Yes.