

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF DIETETICS/NUTRITION  
BOARD MEETING  
6:30 PM  
1135 KILDAIRE FARM ROAD, SUITE 200  
CARY, NC 27511

**[ELECTRONIC ONLY MEETING]**

OPEN MINUTES: February 4, 2021

Board Members Present: Ananya Sen, Amanda Holliday, Patricia Pitts, Analia Camarasa

Director: Charla Burill, Executive Director

Ex-Officio: Marnie Jones, Administrative Specialist

Guests: Traci Hobson, ANA (formerly BCNS) legislative representative

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M. A quorum was present. Amanda Holliday (on behalf of Dr. Sen) asked if there were any conflicts. None declared. Dr. Sen motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Patricia Pitts seconded the motion. All approved.

**21 NCAC 17 .0114 CODE OF ETHICS FOR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND CONDUCT**

Changes to align with formatting of statute noted. Reviewed Code of Ethics of ANA and CDR and discussed possible additions to the licensure Code of Ethics. Charla reviewed some of these possible insertions. Charla directed to add some of the discussed language that might help provide clarity:

- (5) Adds language for Continuing Education
- (9) Adds language regarding appropriate use of technology for telehealth
- (11) Adds language about collaboration with a patient's health care team
- (15) Adds language about coding and billing accurately
- (16c) removes language about moral turpitude (Charla reminded the Board about a previous movement to remove this type of language from laws as viewed as too subjective/ambiguous
- (18) Edits language to be clearer

**SECTION .0500 – INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS, COMPLAINTS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS - Recommended new section to be added (replacing 21 NCAC 17 .0116)**

**21 NAC 17.0501 DEFINITIONS**

Definitions would address Good Cause, Investigative Committee, and who is a licensee. All agree with proposed changes.

**21 NCAC 17. 0502 COMPLAINTS**

Charla researched on behalf of the Board which other boards in NC and out of NC accept anonymous complaints. Research was shared electronically prior to the meeting. The Board reviewed this together.

There seems to be more boards that do NOT accept anonymous complaints than who do. Analia raised a concern regarding a whistleblower and fear of reprisal, should a person NOT be allowed to remain anonymous. The Board debated the merits of both allowing and not allowing anonymous complaints. Analia felt the Board has a duty to accept them. Charla reviewed some proposed language that would allow for anonymous complaints, but also provided that if an anonymous complaint was to be investigated, it must include enough substantive information to support the allegation.

Charla then reviewed the investigative process with the Board. The Board discussed at length the ability of the Investigation Committee to have the power to close issues or issue a non-disciplinary letter of caution. It was clarified that any matter rising to any sort of discipline to a licensee would be brought before the whole Board. Debate continued and the decision was made to continue the discussion at the next working session.

**Public Comment** – Amanda (on behalf of Dr. Sen)

Amanda asked if there was any public comment. Traci Hobson thanked the Board for working with the ANA and had no specific direct comments to offer.

Charla reviewed the full rules process and comment period information for everyone's benefit.

Amanda motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Sen seconded the motion. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.