

**Approved Joint Panel  
Administrative Board Meeting Minutes  
Psychiatric Security Review Board  
October 30, 2024**

An administrative meeting of the Psychiatric Review Board Joint Panel was convened on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at 4:03 pm via Microsoft Teams and teleconference. An agenda for the meeting can be found [here](#). The meeting was recorded and posted on the Board's agency [website](#). The following provides a brief summary of the meeting minutes.

**Board Members, PSRB staff and members of the public via Teams and phone were:**

Adult Panel – Anne Nichol, J.D. (Chair, attorney member), Scott Reichlin, M.D. (psychiatrist member), Trisha Elmer, P.P.O. (probation member), Julie Duke (public member.) and Wilson Kenney (psychologist member.)

Juvenile Panel – Stewart Newman, M.D. (Chair, psychiatrist member) and Marisha Childs, J.D. (attorney member.) Karey Casebier (probation member) and Cari Boyd (public member.)

PSRB Staff – Alison Bort, Executive Director, Katrina Tonsfeldt, Deputy Director, Maria McCormack, Hearings Officer, Priya Tripathi, ISS4, and Laura O'Meara, ESS2.

Public Present – Megan Harper, OHA, Scott Manning, OHA, Jason Trombley, DAS, Christa Jones, OHA, Aaron James, DOJ

**Meeting Minutes**

Chair Anne Nichol called the meeting to order at 4:03pm. There was quorum and all board members were present. Chair Nichol called for public comments. There were none. Approval of previous meeting minutes were deferred to the next meeting due to time constraints.

Dr. Bort presented the following updates.

The upcoming board meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2024, from 9:00 to 10:30 AM. Key decisions are expected during this meeting, including updates on rules and the 2025-2027 budget.

The Rule Advisory Committee (RAC) has held four meetings since August to update the civil commitment rules, with a focus on incorporating stakeholder feedback before drafting the rules. The process is anticipated to be completed by February 2025. Resources, including draft rules, meeting recordings, and a PowerPoint overview of civil commitment statutes, are available on the public website. Additionally, a Court of Appeals decision related to "extreme risk" has been flagged for board review.

The Danger and Nexus Workgroup-available at the same site as the previous RAC- is planned to address changes in rule interpretation following the Court of Appeals case *Rene III*. However, the

work has been delayed due to ongoing commitments with the Rule Advisory Committee (RAC) and is now expected to begin in December 2024.

The OSH Discharge Dashboard is an initiative tied to the *Mink-Bowman* case, addressing admission timelines at the Oregon State Hospital (OSH). The dashboard tracks readiness for conditional release and discharge timelines, with a focus on identifying and reducing barriers to discharge through collaboration with OSH leadership and analysts. Early metrics indicate that PSRB hearings are scheduled within an average of 38 days, well within the 60-day statutory requirement.

Board members are encouraged to review updates on civil commitment rules and their related legislative history. Key decisions on rules and the budget are anticipated at the December 11 meeting. Additionally, members should monitor updates on the progress of the OSH Discharge Dashboard and the dissemination of related data.

The new case management system, with contracted vendor Speridian, is being developed in phases due to budget constraints, with phases 1 and 2 expected to proceed as planned. Phase 1 focuses on transitioning the database to a secure cloud-based system to enhance cybersecurity, while Phase 2 involves replacing the legacy Access database with Power BI/Power Platform to improve functionality and reporting. Phase 3, which is pending funding, aims to develop an online portal for form submissions and automated reporting. Key benefits of the system include improved security and user experience, enhanced reporting capabilities, and administrative efficiencies, with the potential to support broader state agencies and stake holders in decision-making.

Other announcements highlight ongoing participation in Leadership Oregon, which supports the development of customer service projects tailored to PSRB needs. The customer service policy draft, in conjunction with DAS, is due by December 31, with a focus on setting and documenting clear KPIs, such as response times for evaluations and requests. Efforts are also aimed at improving the relevance of the customer service survey, particularly in assessing stakeholder and client preparation for hearings, while reducing administrative burdens and enhancing stakeholder support.

Additionally, Allison Knight, an experienced defense attorney in PSRB-related cases, has joined with a limited caseload. Kara Kerns was present, who will likely take the place of probation member Trish Elmer in 2025, after the Governor's confirmation. New board member updates and recruitment efforts are also underway. Recruitment is actively ongoing for two positions expiring in June 2025, specifically for psychiatrist and attorney members. These openings are advertised on the "Partners for Diversity" platform, and informational interviews are available. Board members are encouraged to share these opportunities widely.

The PSRB will present its budget to the Ways and Means Committee in early 2025. Upcoming steps include an update on Phase 3 funding in December, continuing board member recruitment, finalizing the customer service policy by year-end, and monitoring legislative developments and economic forecasts.

The agency has submitted its budget proposal to the governor's office, with updates on potential funding constraints expected in December. Legislative concepts include LC 398, which proposes eliminating the Juvenile Panel, consolidating PSRB into a single five-member panel to oversee all programs, and adding a sixth, non-voting senior board member position to provide relief and support. This concept aims to streamline operations, address inefficiencies in the juvenile panel's low caseload, and reduce board member workload.

Legislative Concept 401 seeks judicial immunity for board members, aligning their protections with judicial officers and shielding them from liability for decisions such as conditional discharges.

Legislative Concept 407 aims to strengthen the confidentiality of medical records for hearings, addressing public records challenges and aligning PSRB standards with those of the Department of Corrections.

Legislative Concept 421 proposes allowing the Department of Corrections to share records with the PSRB, resolving issues caused by the current lack of information-sharing without requiring patient release forms.

Dr. Bort announced that the next two Joint Panel Board Meetings are scheduled for December 11, 2024, and February 12, 2025. She then turned the meeting over to Chair Nichol.

Chair Nichol called for public comments at this time. Dr. Andrew Nanton provided feedback supporting the consolidation of the juvenile board, citing its minimal activity. He also recommended that the board consider consulting child-focused psychologists or psychiatrists for complex cases. Regarding patient dissatisfaction with the PSRB process, he noted that patients often receive inaccurate expectations from defense attorneys about the duration and nature of the process. Addressing this issue was suggested as a potential way to improve patient perceptions.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 PM.