

## **MINUTES – Special Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 19, 2025**

Teams Meeting

The Education Standards and Practices Board (ESPB) meeting was called to order at 8:00am by Board Chair Cory Steiner. Present by video conference were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Amber Fridley, Dustin Hager, Evan Kritzberger, Sarah Lerud, Sheila Schlafmann, Patti Stedman, Cory Steiner, and Superintendent Kirsten Baesler. Angela Nagel was absent.

Also present were ESPB Executive Director Rebecca Pitkin, Assistant Director Mari Riehl, and Amy Bigelow from ESPB and Mark Openshaw and Allyson Hicks from Office of Attorney General.

**Marcellais, Rhawnie** – At the March 2024 meeting the board passed a motion to issue an immediate suspension of Ms. Marcellais's license pending the outcome of her criminal trial. In June 2024 the board voted to move to litigation to revoke her license by publication after unsuccessfully attempting to serve her settlement agreement numerous times. Ms. Marcellais was ultimately convicted of a federal child abuse charge. In September 2024 the board passed a motion to revoke Ms. Marcellais's license under NDCC 16.1-13-25(1)(d), in addition to the prior citations for being in violation of NDCC 15.1-13-25(1)(c) and 15.1-13-25(1)(j).

The default order has been received and granted by the Office of Administrative Hearings. Attorney Mark Openshaw verified that all board members had reviewed the documents and said their job today is to decide if they'd like to accept the recommended findings of the Administrative Law Judge and issue the notice of default. Once approved this then gets served upon Ms. Marcellais and if she doesn't sign, the default order will become effective. The board will then need to meet again to accept the default judgement.

Patti Stedman made a motion to accept the findings of the administrative law judge, including the finding of fact, conclusions of law, notice of default, and recommended default order. Motion seconded by Evan Kritzberger. Patti thanked Mark for reviewing all information and said it's the needed next step. Board members who voted yes were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Amber Fridley, Dustin Hager, Evan Kritzberger, Sarah Lerud, Sheila Schlafmann, Patti Stedman, and Cory Steiner. None opposed. Motion carried.

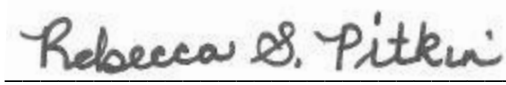
The second document provided to the board is the amended notice of default and order on default. A motion would be needed to issue the notice of default to be served upon Ms. Marcellais. This will trigger the 7 days she has to respond. Since she's currently incarcerated it will be served upon her in person.

Evan Kritzberger made a motion to issue amended notice of default and order of default upon Ms. Marcellais. Motion seconded by Siri Coleman. Board members who voted yes were Jenny Bladow, Siri Coleman, Amber Fridley, Dustin Hager, Evan Kritzberger, Sarah Lerud, Sheila Schlafmann, Patti Stedman, and Cory Steiner. None opposed. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10am.

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Chair

  
Secretary/Executive Director