



AMERICA NEPAL MEDICAL FOUNDATION

Board Meeting 11/17/24:

Attendance:

Bishnu Sapkota - P	Binod Khadka - P	Dilli Bhurtel - P	Upendra Kaphle- P	Suman Regmi - P	Rachna Tiwari- P
Narayan Neupane - P	Bhuphesh Khadka - P	Marvin Brustin JD - A	Binod Dhungana - E	Saroj Kandel - P	Swikrity U Baskota - E
Navin Raj Kaini - P	Santosh Sapkota - P	Raju Century - E	Jivan Lamichhane - P	Sandesh Pandit - P	Rajesh Pandey - P
Bikash Bhattarai - P	Kalpna Shrestha - P	Ganesh Chaudhary - P	Shradha Manandhar - E	Birendra Sah - P	Bivek Wagle - P

Non-Board Members in attendance: Libby Wilson- ELC Co-chair
Dinesh Subedi- 2025 AGM Organizing Committee Chair

Meeting start time: 8.00 PM EST

Agenda:

1. **Approval of board meeting minutes** 7/25/24, 9/29/2024, 9/30/24 and 10/10/2024 tabled and approved unanimously.

2. **ANMF Nepal AGM feedback, ANMF Nepal office expenses:** presented by Dr Bishnu Sapkota.

ANMF Nepal held AGM recently and elected a new executive team. Dr Sandhya Chapagain was elected the new president. ANMF Nepal asks ANMF US to give due diligence in reviewing projects reviewed and approved by ANMF Nepal and ANMF project committee.

Presently, Social welfare council does not allow ANMF Nepal to apply for office expenses as a project. So, ANMF Nepal can add administrative cost up to 20% of the cost of the project as an administrative cost till the cost meets the yearly office expenses for ANMF Nepal. This provision is allowed by SWC.

3. **PATHWAY for physicians to practice in Nepal:** presented by Dr Bishnu Sapkota.

Regarding temporary license, NMC meeting decided to grant temporary license to 15 days, originally agreed on 30 days. The issue was brought again. NMC and NMA chair

agreed to bring the agenda to next full house meeting with proposal to approve for 30 days. This approval will likely be restricted to nonprofit/ academic / government institute only, and both parties will not be able to monetize on it.

Regarding NRN License, individual who completed residence prior to 2012 can get the NRN license without issues. For individuals who completed residency after 2012, he or she must take internal medicine or surgery exam prior to getting full license. There is no fellowship/ subspecialty exam provision yet. NMA/NMC is reluctant to start that yet, still there seems to be question about 1 yr/2yr/3yr fellowship, both NMA and NMC are open to continued dialogue regarding this going forward. Once the exam on IM/Surgery is cleared, NMC will issue license with additional wording-of fellowship trained in the same certificate without exam, so that individual will not have restriction to practice their subspecialty. All parties need to have continuous dialogue on need for subspecialty exam, NMC/NMA are now aware of ACGME/Fellowship requirement/ extent of training/board certification.

Issue of equivalency/Lateral entry: There seems to be reluctance/lack of proper understanding in this area. Some members had concern regarding duration of fellowship 1 yr/2yr/3yr fellowship rather than 3 yr fellowship. Our counter argument was to focus on the content of fellowship rather than years of fellowship. Most attendee agreed to the concept that candidate should be allowed to give exam on the highest trained subspecialty which they practice. A lot of work will be needed to materialize this from NMA/NMC itself first. ANMF should encourage more and more candidates to apply for NRN License, once they realize the burden of issues—this will help bring change.

As far as equivalency is concerned with our fellowship equivalent to DM, lateral entry in academics, it does appear that its institute specific. Currently IOM is the one that provides equivalency, due to multitude of reasons. Presently, IOM has required expertise to analyze the training content of these fellowship, and there does not seem to be any appetite to move this to independent entity or to MEC. However, discussions are being made towards independent body. The idea of lateral entry in academics seems to be more open than before, based on individual credentials per IOM dean.

Current process to apply for equivalency: Needs to apply to CDC (Curriculum Development Center), TU → IOM will then evaluate and approve/disapprove.

Issues of subspecialty promotion (? DM-extra marks)—open for discussion and will need working group.

4. Nepal Health Conclave 2024: will be conducted on Dec 26-27, 2024, in Kathmandu, Nepal. This year's theme, "Connecting Diaspora for Nepal's Healthcare Strengthening," seeks to unite global and local health professionals to explore innovative solutions for Nepal's healthcare system. ANMF US and ANMF Nepal expects robust presence in the meeting. ANMF will have posters on the hallway to depict our works. We plan to also have small booklet about ANMF and its works over the years. MOH has floated the idea of conducting conclave for continuity every 2 years lead by ANMF and MOHP.

5. **29th AGM Planning and organization** – Dinesh/Bishnu/Santosh/Narayan/Navin

ANMF 29th Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled to be held on June 13-15, 2025 at Hilton Mclean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, Mclean, VA, 22102, US. AGM preparation committee has been working behind the scenes. So far, invitation and sponsorship letters is ready. Invitation letter would be disseminated by ANMF secretary. All board members and ELC members are encouraged to reach out to sponsors including medical/non-medical/local, with the target around 100K raised through sponsorship. AGM prep committee urges all board members to reach out to friends and fraternity and advertise for registration.

AGM Agenda along with speakers line up will be prepared by Dr Narayan Neupane. Registration/conference page in website is planned to be open by end of Dec. Organizing committee will continue to meet periodically to assess the progress.

6. Committee reports

- IT Committee update – provided by Santosh Sapkota.
- ERDC update – provided by Dilli Bhurtel
- Collaboration Committee update - provided by Upendra Kaphle
- Membership Committee update- provided by Saroj Kandel
- Mentorship Committee update- provided by Vivek Wagle.
- ELC update - provided by Libby Wilson.
- Publication and PR Committee update- provided by Binod Khadka with plans of holiday newsletter
- Finance Committee update - provided by Kalpana Shrestha
- Project Committee update- provided by Ganesh Chaudhary

All committee meeting minutes submitted to board/ secretary will be uploaded to the website.

6. **Projects Discussion, closure of completed project:**

Project closure:

Project committee recommended that ANMF board close 14 projects below:

1. **21MMDC002** – Establishment of Oxygen Generation Plant with refill and Extension of Covid Ward in Manmohan Memorial Community Hospital, Pharping
2. **21ANMF007** – Oxygen Plant #3 (in Bayalpata Hospital)
3. **21ANMF009** – Sim Lab and Ventilator training *

4. **22HAPS002** – Community Workers Training for post COVID Community Health- (a small letter available but no full report)
5. **22NCCDF001** – ANMF-NCCDF Scholarship Award for Infection Control Nurse Training Program
6. **22ANMF002** – Equipment for Birthing Center at Yaku Health Post
7. **22ANMF006** – Impact evaluation on ANMF funded projects in Nepal
8. **22ANMF005** – Office expense for the year 2021-22 *
9. **22CIC001** – Awareness Creation and Support to Snake Bite Treatment Center *
10. **22TULB001** – TU Lions Blood Transfusion and Research Centre * *
11. **22BP001** – Construction of the Palliative and Hospice Care Unit*
12. **23DRN001** – Baby Warmer for Health Posts in Khotang
13. **23PAHS001/23ANMF002** – Pediatric Critical Care Fellowship Program -?
14. **23IRHD001** – Child not a Bride – Phase 2 – final report – September 2024 *

* – Final reports already sent by grantee but need to be added to ANMF website. Those reports already sent to Prayash

** – Pictures could not be accessed – needs access to goggle drive from grantee

Projects 4 and 13 were not closed.

22HAPS002- full report not available, and fund not transferred yet.

23PAHS001/ 23ANMF002- project not closed yet.

There are 5 projects 20GNKT001, 21NIRI001, 22BP001, 23ANMF001 and 23NIMH001 which have not been completed or reports not available yet.

Project committee requested that there be a private page space that archives all project committee minutes and ANMF Nepal minutes. The existing private page can be updated. It was emphasized that all approved and denied project proposals be archived for future reference on the private page.

3. Projects discussion: New projects application review was provided by Ganesh Chaudhary. Detailed discussions were held on multiple projects.

24NMA001: Project title: Asha Workshop. Ask \$15,000. Board reviewed project committee recommendations. Denied by the board unanimously. Rationale- Expensive, unsustainable. NMC has similar modules available.

24KICH001: Supply of ECHOCHARDIOGRAPHY Machine: Ask \$ 35,000. Board reviewed project committee recommendations. Board asked for more information regarding the pricing, maintenance/ servicing of the ultrasound equipment and utilization

by other nonprofit organizations. The project will be tabled for review in next board meeting. Project manager and assigned board members are to reach out to applying organization for more information.

24KAHS002: PBL tutor training, Asked for \$ 3170. The project was submitted by KAHS, which is not a SWC registered organization. ANMF Nepal will have to submit the application on behalf of KAHS. Board members are all in agreement that there is need of tutor training for the faculty members for problem-based learning for KAHS, which is a new institution at a remote area in early stage of development. Board agreed to conduct a web ballot for possible approval once the project is submitted by ANMF Nepal.

Meeting Adjourned: 11.00 PM EST.

Next Meeting: February 16, 2024, 8 PM EST.