

Carolinas MGMA Annual Business Meeting
Friday, May 16th 2025 | 8:45 am | Wilmington Convention Center

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** – Michelle Wallace, Carolinas MGMA President welcomed everyone to the Business Meeting at the Spring Conference in Wilmington, North Carolina.
2. **Approval of the Meeting Minutes** – There was a motion to approve the September Fall Conference Business Meeting minutes as presented. Motion was seconded and approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** – Lisa Gouin, Carolinas MGMA Treasurer highlighted Carolinas MGMA's financial standings announcing the annual audit was complete for 2024 and YTD financials are showing we are on target to meet budget for the year.
4. **President's Message** – Michelle Wallace shared the board's excitement towards the direction the newly created Carolinas MGMA is heading and recognized Charlie Furr, immediate past President, for his work bringing NCMGMA and SCMGMA together to form Carolinas MGMA. Michelle reported the development of operations focused on education, networking, and bolstering support to local chapters.
5. **President's Award** – Michelle Wallace announced Steven Fogg was the recipient of the President's award for outstanding contribution to the association, it's members and to the profession of medical practice management.
6. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **ACMPE** – Michelle Wallace noted that Todd Pittman provided a committee report during his ACME presentation prior to the start of the meeting.
 - b. **Advocacy** – Joannie Brantley reported expressed her goal to be strong leadership voice for both North and South Carolina members. She challenged members to share stories and issues faced within their practices that impact operations and negatively affect patient care, introducing the current committee members and asked for additional volunteers
 - c. **Affiliate Development** – Steve Cox confirmed we meet our 2025 goal of \$310,000 in alliance sponsorship. Thank you to the members who support our Alliance Sponsors and to our sponsors who support this organization and our mission.
 - d. **BCBS** – Reported on behalf of Karen Lawrence, CPC, FACMPE noted that despite their challenges, BCBS continues to engage with our membership during our scheduled quarterly meetings and noted the need to keep a strong committee for this reason. She also promoted BCBS online appeals for medical necessity and appeals noting transparency in the review process and increased efficiencies. Currently only 20% of the docs/groups are utilizing the online appeals process and would like to see those numbers increase.
 - e. **Communications** – Rafe Martin reported on behalf of Stephen Fogg, MA and shared the upcoming Prior Authorization Podcast is on track. To date, we've released 7 Podcasts, averaging 70 listeners per podcast. Asked the membership to provide additional ideas for content of

future podcasts. Evaluating communication needs across both states and looking for ways to utilize communication efforts to support advocacy initiatives.

- f. Conference – Courtney Bain recognized the newly expanded committee due to the merger with SCMGMA. She encouraged attendees to complete the conference survey. The 2025 Fall conference is planned for Myrtle Beach in Kingston Plantation from September 17 - 19. Spring 2026 Annual Conference location has not been finalized. She thanked the attendees and encouraged the membership to promote this event. Given low attendee numbers and feedback, the Committee is looking to hold a shortened conference in March 2026. More details to come.
 - g. Education – Steve DeBiasi provided clarification pertaining to responsibilities of education at the Conferences vs. the Education Committee. Ed Committee handles Master Class and Webinars. Given poor interest in the Master Class, we will be relaunching that program as an Executive healthcare summit November 6th and 7th in Greenville, SC. Structure will differ from Master class, but the timing will be the same. Will have a focus on AI, panel discussions, and member presentation. Steve also noted the new Webinar series scheduled for August 2025 that will focus on leadership communication and improving team-based communication. This series is a fee-based offering.
 - h. Governance – Chad Gorley reported on the make-up of the committee i.e. Past Presidents and. He discussed the Davis Watson Scholarship Fund with the 50/50 raffle and advised there are five scholarships available to Student members. The committee also review the association bylaws and oversee and vote on the Practice Admin and Practice of the Year nominations.
 - i. Emerging Leaders – Sanela Ahmectovic introduced the members of the Emerging Leaders committee's vision to building an environment where people can build core skills of a leader while building meaningful relationships. Looking for a 1:1 Mentorship program rather than a group setting. Plan to hold monthly meetings virtually with an in-person meeting at the 2025 Fall Conference. Looking for mentors and as well as individuals who are interested in joining the program.
 - j. Membership – Misty Nelson, co-chair of the membership committee reported membership is at 781 members total, including affiliate and affiliate sponsors. In total there are 79 affiliates, 49 affiliate sponsors, four faculty committees, and 126 student members. Committee had a goal of retaining 70% of SC Active members. We are currently 32 members short of achieving that goal. Will be launching a new Outstanding Chapter award in 2025.
 - k. Payer/Medicaid/Medicare –of Doral Jacobsen, FACMPE, MBA reported the committee meets every other month with payers with a stated goal be a liaison to all major payers in North Carolina; foster sustainable and collaborative relationships with these payors; increase member awareness to payor landscape; and to act as a resource for pulling fee schedules for the payers. resource to addressing overarching payer issues. The committee will continue to monitor and provide updates to the membership as they become available.
 - l. Student Outreach – Abby Bagaasen, co-chair of the committee thanked the sponsors who provided financial support to the student attendees of the meeting. The committee is currently recruiting new members, particularly as the student membership population continues to grow. She noted they are looking to grow student involvement within MUSC and other South Carolina institutions that offer Health Administration programs.
7. **There was a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Motion was seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.**