

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
**Board Meeting**  
**September 18, 2012**  
**Professional Licensing Boards**  
**237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA**  
**9:00 a.m.**

The Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy met on **September 18, 2012** for the purpose of conducting business.

**Board Members Present:**

Bo Hamil, President  
Charlene Portee  
Emily Garner  
Stefanie Palma  
Dorothy Gaskin  
Chad Whitefield  
Monty Strickland  
John Cowherd

**Staff Present:**

Amy Morelli, Assistant Attorney General  
Tanja Battle, Executive Director  
Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist

**Visitors Present:**

Katherine Sylvester, PTAG  
Peter Heusuer, PTA Applicant  
Toni Edwards, PT Muscogee Co. Schools

**Open Session**

Bo Hamil established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:12a.m.

Bo Hamil introduced the visitors.

**Consideration of minutes from the July 17, 2012 board meeting**

John Cowherd made a motion to approve the public and executive session minutes from July 17, 2012 Board Meeting, Stefanie Palma seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Consider for ratification licenses that have been administratively issued**

Emily Garner made a motion to ratify the list of licenses issued July 14, 2012 – September 14, 2012, John Cowherd seconded and the Board voted unanimously to in favor of the motion.

**Correspondence from Anshumala Shivakoty**

The Board voted to send a response stating that the letter is unclear. The Board will need additional information before being able to provide a response. Amy Morelli recommended sending her the requirements for licensure.

**Correspondence from Evelyn Orenbunch**

The Board considered this correspondence which was forwarded from the Georgia Board of Veterinary Medicine regarding rehabilitation services. The Board voted to acknowledge, to the Board of Veterinary Medicine, the review of such. O.C.G.A. § 43-33-3(7) states that the practice of Physical Therapy is restricted to human beings. As such, the Board has no authority regarding the rehabilitation of animals. It did express an interest in the Board of Veterinary Medicine’s progress regarding rules related to this matter.

**Correspondence from Heidi Herbst Pakkonen**

The Board discussed preapproving continuing education courses. Dr. Portee indicated that she was not in favor of such. The Board concurred. Discussion ensued about Continuing Competence Units (CCUs) versus contact hours. The Board voted to send a letter asking if there is a formula for converting contact hours to CCUs as O.C.G.A. § 43-33-16 speaks to the former.

**Correspondence from Leigh Ann Frick**

The Board considered the question regarding whether or not supervision via electronic means, such as SKYPE, is an option. The Board directed staff to send a response indicating that it cannot offer legal advice.

**Correspondence from Nickie Wolfe**

The Board discussed the inquiry regarding supervision of home health aides. The Board directed staff to respond with a reference to Rules 490-8-02 and 490-8-.03 Stefanie Palma made a motion to refer the matter to the Rules Committee to assess whether any amendments were necessary, Chad Whitefield seconded and the Board voted in favor of the motion.

**Correspondence from Scott Boschetto**

The Board directed staff to respond with a letter indicating that it cannot offer legal advice. Chad Whitefield recommended referencing Rule 490-8-.02.

**Correspondence from Shelly Kueny**

The Board voted to send a letter indicating that licensure would be required.

**Correspondence from T. Andy Smith**

The Board voted to send a letter in response referring Mr. Smith to Rule 490-11-.01(b).

**Bayo Sedenu Rule Waiver Request 490-2-03(g)**

Emily Garner made a motion, John Cowherd seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to deny.

**Annual Policy Review**

The Rules Committee made recommendations to amend the policies. “Ethics” was removed throughout the policies and replaced with “electronic Georgia Jurisprudence Exam.” “Policy #16” was removed from the table of contents as no such policy is on record. Additionally, item ‘c’ was removed from Policy #11. Finally, the Board voted to insert “FSBPT” before “Retro Tools” in Policy #14. The Board voted to accept the recommendations.

The Rules Committee recommended that no amendments were necessary regarding PTA Supervision. The Board voted to accept the recommendation.

**Executive Director’s Report** – Ms. Tanja D. Battle

Ms. Battle announced the closing of the Archives Division as of November 1, 2012 and stated it would only be open in limited capacity. As such, the annual meeting would not be held there. She asked if the Board would be amenable to holding the meeting in the Examination Building B adjacent to the main Professional Licensing Boards Division. Dr. Palma made a motion to change locations of the meeting to the alternately proposed site, Mr. Cowherd seconded the motion and the Board voted in favor of the motion.

Stefanie Palma made the motion, Monty Strickland seconded and the Board voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §43-1-19(h)(2), 43-11-47(h) and §43-1-2(k) to deliberate and to receive information on applications, investigative reports and the Assistant Attorney General's report. Voting in favor of the motion were Bo Hamil, Stefanie Palma, Charlene Portee, Emily Garner, Dorothy Gaskin, Chad Whitefield, Monty Strickland and John Cowherd. The Board entered into Executive Session at 10:25 a.m.

### Executive Session

The Board discussed the following:

#### Applications:

1. F.A.E-Remediation Plan
2. J.L.O.H.-PTA Reinstatement
3. J.M.L. - PTA Applicant
4. M.A.K. – PT Exam
5. P.D.H. - PTA Applicant
6. P.E.S.-Applicant with no records of passing the NPTE-PTA Exam
7. W.K.R.-Florida endorsement applicant
8. K.P-Request regarding CE

Cognizant's Report – Chad Whitefield  
Case PT110006

Attorney General's Report – Ms. Amy Morelli  
D.M.- Consent Order

Status Report  
Interview with N.E.

F.M.

No votes were taken in Executive Session. Bo Hamil declared the meeting back in Open Session.

### OPEN SESSION

#### VOTE:

#### Applications:

1. F.A.E-Remediation Plan- Stefanie Palmer made a motion to refer F.A.E. to Policy#2 and advise her that she needs to focus on areas that were determined to be her areas of weakness. Also, as part of the motion, staff is to remind her that this will be the final permissible attempt at examination. John Cowherd seconded the motion and board voted in favor of the motion.

2. J.L.O.H.-PTA Reinstatement- Emily Garner made a motion to approve for the exam and apply for traineeship upon successful passage of such. Stefanie Palmer seconded the motion and the Board voted in favor of the motion.
3. J.M.L. - PTA Applicant- Dorothy Gaskin made a motion to approve, Stefanie Palmer seconded and the Board voted in favor of the motion.
4. M.A.K. –Stefanie Palmer made a motion to recommend an on-site exam review course rather than an online course in addition to accepting her remediation. John Cowherd seconded the motion and the Board voted in favor of the motion.
5. P.D.H. - PTA Applicant- Emily Garner made a motion to approve, Stefanie Palmer seconded and the Board voted in favor of the motion.
6. P.E.S.-Applicant with no records of passing the NPTE-PTA Exam-The Board directed staff to refer her to the rule for guidance regarding a fourth attempt at passing the examination.
7. W.K.R.-Florida endorsement applicant – Stefanie Palmer made a motion to approve with no restrictions, Emily Garner seconded and the Board voted in favor of the motion.
8. K.P-Request regarding CE- John Cowherd made a motion to recommend 480hours of traineeship and 30hours of CE for previous biennium and notice that she will be required another 30 hours for the upcoming renewal. Stefanie Palmer seconded and the Board voted in favor of the motion.

**Cognizant's Report** – Chad Whitefield  
Case PT110006-Closed with no action

**Attorney General's Report** – Ms. Amy Morelli  
D.M. -Consent Order-Charlene Portee made a motion, Stefanie Palma seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the Consent Order.

### **Miscellaneous**

Bo Hamil acknowledged the hard work of Amy Morelli, Board Attorney, who is leaving the Attorney General's Office to take another position.

### **Legislation:**

Dr. Charlene Portee relayed a report from PTAG President in which she discussed arising issues concerning the raising of co-payments and how other states have been successful in passing that legislation.

Bo Hamil discussed the evolution of the level of support staff that he has seen over his years of service with the Board. He has been extremely pleased with the efficiency of the office and acknowledged that, despite the significant budget cuts, the efforts of the staff have reflected the Board positively. He offered, on behalf of the Board, any help to assist the Secretary of State's Office.

Stefanie Palma made a motion, John Cowherd seconded, and The Board voted to relocate the November 12<sup>th</sup> Public Meeting to Macon.

No more business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 12:13p.m.

The next Physical Therapy Board meeting will be on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the Office of the Professional Licensing Boards, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

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Bo Hamil, President  
The Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

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Date

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Tanja D. Battle, Executive Director  
The Georgia State Board of Pharmacy

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Date