

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Professional Licensing Boards**  
**237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA**  
**March 18, 2014 \* 9:00AM**

The Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy met on Tuesday, March 18, 2014. The following members were present:

**Board Members Present**

Bo Hamil, PT- President  
Stefanie Palma, PT  
John Cowherd, Consumer Member  
Chad Whitefield, PTA  
Emily Garner, PT  
Reid Lawson, PT  
Monty Strickland, PT (via teleconference)

**Administrative Staff Present**

Adrienne Price, Executive Director  
Wanda Jaffe, Licensing Supervisor  
Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist

**Attorney General's Office**

D. Williams-McNeely, Assistant Attorney General

**Visitors**

Katherine Sylvester, PTAG  
Stephanie Allen

Mr. Hamil established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**OPEN SESSION**

**Oath of Public Officer** New Board Member, Reid Lawson

**9:15a.m Dr. Charlene Portee via teleconference** The Board said their farewells to Dr. Portee and presented her with a plaque for her hard work and dedication throughout the years.

**Open Session Minutes**

1. January 28, 2014 Mr. Cowherd motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the January 28, 2014 Board meeting minutes.
2. February 21, 2014 Mrs. Garner motioned, Mr. Strickland seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the February 21, 2014 teleconference minutes.

**Licenses to Ratify January 25, 2014 – March 13, 2014** Mrs. Garner motioned, Mr. Cowherd seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the ratification list.

**Correspondence from Allison Tresca** Dr. Palma motioned, Mrs. Garner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer correspondence regarding using the term “osteopractor” to Special Projects.

**FSBPT Annual Meeting & Delegate Assembly Sept.18-20, 2014 San Francisco, CA** The Board accepts the correspondence as information; potential delegates to attend the meeting are Dr. Stefanie Palma and Mr. Bo Hamil.

**Correspondence from FSBPT Exam Licensure Disciplinary Database** The FSBPT unveiled a new pilot program intended to describe how well each jurisdiction is participating in the Exam, Licensure and Disciplinary Database and offered suggestions on how each state may better participate. Mr. Price explained that this program will assist a great deal when it comes to accessing data across the states. Attorney General Ms. Williams-McNeely explained that the biggest issue with a 3<sup>rd</sup> party is confidentially so it must be considered on a contractual basis. Dr. Palma made a motion to accept for further research and consider a contractual basis. Mrs. Garner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Correspondence from Susan Lindeblad** Dr. Palma motioned, Mr. Cowherd seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer correspondence to rules committee and consider revising BR 490-2-.03

**Rule Waiver from Roderic Chua** Mrs. Garner motioned, Mr. Cowherd seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition for waiver of Board Rule 490-4-.04 due to no compelling reason to adjust the rule.

**Correspondence from CAPTE: Upcoming Program Review**

The Board accepts the correspondence as information.

**Correspondence from Dry Needling by PTAs**

Mr. Strickland explains that this was a fairly new topic and he is not for including PTAs in the treatment of modality and thinks it would cause friction with Acupuncturists. Dr. Palma explains BR 490-9-.05 excludes PTA therefore they should not be performing it. Mr. Whitefield agrees with leaving it as is due to concern that PTA's do not have enough training in that field and suggests reviewing at a future date. Mr. Cowherd motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the request that the language of the BR 490-9-.05 be amended to allow PTA's to utilize dry needling as a treatment modality under the current competency requirements as stated for PT's.

**Rules Committee March 11, 2014**

Mr. Cowherd motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the March 11, 2014 Rules Committee Minutes.

1. Discussion: 490-2-.04 Training Permit                      Attorney General presented memo of advice and the Board referred Board Rule 490-2-.04 back to Rules Committee for final revision and language.
2. Discussion: Policy 15                      The Board recommends adding the following statement to the last sentence of Policy 15: Each applicant not licensed in the State of Georgia must individually apply to the state Board along with any applicable fees.  
Refer question to the Administrative Staff: Is the Board still using ICA, IERF and FCCPT?
3. Discussion: Sojourner/State of Emergency Provision                      The Board refers Sojourner provision back to the Rules Committee to review along with O.C.G.A. §43-1-28.

**Special Projects Review from the January 17, 2014 Meeting**

At this time there is no active list of peer reviewers and PTAG should have a suggested peer review list. Dr. Palma suggested that peer review work should be considered for continuing competence. Practice pattern from the guide (practice areas) through PTAG for a list of experts in each practice area.

**Miscellaneous**

1. O.C.G.A. 43-33-15 Endorsement                      Refer to Rules Committee
2. Rule 490-2-.09 Endorsement                      Refer to Rules Committee
3. Same – Verification of Employment Form                      Dr. Palma motioned, Mrs. Garner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the addition of verification of employment.

**Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Price presented the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications and complaints/compliance, legislative business, administrator training, aPTitude update, and system outages which may delay processing times. The Board accepts the report as presented.

**Board's Chairperson Report**

**Board's Vice President**

Mrs. Garner motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to appoint Dr. Stefanie Palma as Vice President of the Board.

**Rules Committee Member**

Mrs. Garner motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to appoint Mr. Reid Lawson to the Rules Committee

**\*Note:** Ms. Price will invite the Secretary of State to the May 2014 Meeting for a face to face update with the Board.

**Dr. Palma made the motion, Mrs. Garner seconded and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §43-1-19(h)(2) 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, Reid Lawson, Stefanie Palma, John Cowherd, Emily Garner, Chad Whitefield, and Monty Strickland.**

**At the conclusion of Executive Session on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 Mr. Hamil declared the meeting to be "open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were obtained during Executive Session.**

**OPEN SESSION**

**Executive Minutes**

Mr. Cowherd motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the January 28, 2014 Board Meeting executive minutes.

**Applications** Mr. Cowherd motioned, Dr. Palma seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the application recommendations as presented.

1. Y.G.A. Deny for licensure and send a letter of concern in reference to following the Board Rules; applicant must reapply by endorsement
2. C.C.B. Approve for NPTE & refer to FAQ for a better remediation plan
3. A.E.H. Approve for NPTE with a letter of concern regarding additional education required after 4<sup>th</sup> attempt
4. R.C.H. Approve for licensure with 1000 hour traineeship
5. J.B.L. Approve for NPTE & refer to FAQ for a better remediation plan
6. P.I.P. Approve waiver of Verification of Eligibility of Licensure from the country where applicant obtained education. Grant petition for waiver of BR 490-2-.04 regarding traineeship upon receipt and proper posting and present to a Board Member for review.
7. A.S. Approve request to terminate probation
8. C.B.T. Deny due to failure to meet the continuing education requirements and refer to Board Rule 490-4-.02
9. C.A.W. Approve for licensure pending receipt of petition for waiver of BR 490-2-.09 and documentation from original source that they no longer have scores
10. S.B.W. Approve for Licensure
11. S.E.W. Approve for NPTE

**Attorney General's Report- D. Williams-McNeely** Dr. Palma motioned, Mrs. Garner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Attorney General's report as presented.

1. C.H. Mrs. Garner motioned, Mr. Cowherd seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to investigations for an interview with patients and charts to determine the actual procedures performed.
2. D.M. Mrs. Garner motioned, Mr. Cowherd seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to Attorney General's Office for summary suspension and refer to the Georgia State Medical Composite Board regarding advertising as a licensed Medical Doctor and Acupuncturist.

**Cognizant's Report – Chad Whitefield** Dr. Palma motioned, Mrs. Garner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Cognizant's Report as presented.

1. PT120002 Close, no action
2. PT140003 Close, no action
3. PT140005 Close, no action
4. PT130016 Send a letter of concern explaining that having Athletic Trainers in the clinic is acceptable as long as they are aware that they cannot render treatment to patients.
5. PT130012 To be determined
6. PT140009 To be determined
7. PT120012 To be determined

**Miscellaneous**

1. Correspondence from Mr. Bowen – PT008642 Mr. Cowherd motioned, Mrs. Garner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny request and uphold previous decision

No more business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 12:48pm

**Minutes recorded by:** Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist  
**Minutes reviewed and edited by:** Wanda Jaffe, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director  
**Minutes approved on:** May 20, 2014

**BO HAMIL**  
**BOARD PRESIDENT**

**ADRIENNE PRICE**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**