

GEORGIA BOARD OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS
Board Zoom Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 21, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.

The Georgia Board of Athletic Trainer Examiners met via teleconference on Monday, June 21, 2021. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Russell Hoff, MS, ATC, LAT, Chairperson
Jeff Porter, LAT, Board Member
Yusuf Ali, Consumer Board Member

Administrative Staff Present

Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Charlotte Mason, Licensing Supervisor
Meagan Doss, Complaints/Compliance Analyst

Board Members Absent

No members absent.

Attorney General's Office Present

Melissa Tracy, Assistant Attorney General

Visitors Present

Paul Higgs, AT, Past President, Georgia Athletic Trainers Association (GATA), Governmental Affairs, GATA
Dr. Sandra Eskew-Capps, PT, DPT

Call to Order: Mr. Hoff established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda The Board accepted the agenda as presented.

Open Session Minutes – March 22, 2021 Open Session Zoom Meeting Minutes

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the March 22, 2021 Open Session Zoom Meeting Minutes as presented.

Licenses to Ratify: March 15, 2021 – May 31, 2021

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in the favor of the motion to ratify the licenses by application and by reinstatement that were issued in accordance with Board Rules and Policies between Board meetings.

Discussion – Board of Certification (BOC)

1. **Webinar – CARE Educational Series - PCC Update**
2. **Webinar – State Telehealth Policy Landscape Post-Pandemic**
3. **Webinar – CARE Educational Series – Occupational Licensing Portability**

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in the favor of the motion to accept the correspondence in reference to the Board of Certification as information.

Discussion – Discussion – HB 627 – Athletic Trainer Practice Act

Mr. Hoff reported that he feels he has accomplished what he was tasked to do by the Board. His objective was to point out to the state association which sections of the practice act are outdated, conflicting, and simply need cleaning up, such as educational standards and issues making it difficult for the Board to pursue complaints of unlicensed practice. Mr. Hoff stated the role of the Board now is to stay neutral, and lobbyists should handle any final legislative work on the practice act, as the Board does not have the legal authority to lobby for legislation.

Ms. Price reminded Board members that the discussion on HB 627 was tabled from the last meeting for further review by the Board. The amendments to the law never got out of committee due to the fact that other professions considered the language as an expansion in the scope of practice of an athletic trainer and therefore had pushback. Ms. Price also noted that these concerns were raised by the occupational therapy and physical therapy associations. She also remarked that should the Georgia Athletic Trainer Association (GATA) move forward with amendments, they will need to be presented to the Georgia Occupational Regulation Review Council (GORCC) or risk being vetoed by the Governor.

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion for the Board Chair to reach out to GATA to establish some common ground with those opposed to HB 627, prior to presenting any proposed amendments to GORCC.

Board President's Report – R. Hoff

Mr. Hoff addressed the Board reiterating the importance of all members being present for scheduled meetings as Dr. Scott has officially resigned. He queried staff on the appointment status of a new Board member to replace Dr. Scott. Ms. Price responded that she frequently requests an update from the Director of Executive Appointments for positions for multiple Board vacancies in Healthcare 2 and stated there has been no update, potentially due to the more urgent matters facing the Governor's Office with the recent declared public health emergency.

Executive Director's Report – A. Price

The Executive Director's report presented the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications and complaints/compliance matters which have occurred since the last meeting. In addition, Ms. Price addressed the following topics with the Board:

- Licensure Compacts
- Georgia General Assembly – Senate Bill 114

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Executive Director's Report as presented.

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2 (k); 43-1-19 (h) and 50-14-2 (1) to receive and review information pertaining to applications, pending cases, investigative reports and enforcement matters and to receive the Assistant Attorney General's report. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Board members Russell Hoff, Jeff Porter and Yusuf Ali.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Monday, June 21, 2021, Mr. Hoff 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 Session Minutes – March 22, 2021 Executive Session Zoom Meeting Minutes

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the March 22, 2021 Executive Session Zoom Meeting Minutes as presented.

Attorney General's Report – M. Tracy

- 1. BR 53-3-.05 Licensure by Endorsement for Military Spouses and Transitioning Service Members**
- 2. BR 53-3-.06 Licensure for Active Duty Military and Transitioning Service Members**

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to add an agenda item to the September 13, 2021 Zoom meeting for the purpose of discussing the proposed amendments to BR 53-3-.05 Licensure by Endorsement for Military Spouses and Transitioning Service Members and BR 53-3-.06 Licensure for Active Duty Military and Transitioning Service Members.

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Attorney General's Report as presented.

Complaint Summary Report – R. Hoff

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive session:

AT210003 Close the case.

AT210007 Refer the case to the Attorney General's Office for a hearing for Voluntary Surrender or an Interim Suspension Order pending Board review of the outcome of the criminal case.

Application for Board Review

Mr. Porter motioned, Mr. Ali seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendation made in Executive session:

Applicant 2945941 Issue the license.

Adjournment There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed by: Charlotte Mason, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Minutes approved on: September 13, 2021

RUSSELL HOFF
BOARD PRESIDENT

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR