

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
Board Teleconference Minutes
Friday October 7, 2016 - 08:30 a. m.

The Georgia State Board of Occupational Therapy met on Friday, October 7, 2016.

Board Members Present

Rachele Branson, OTR/L, Chairperson
Robert McClellan, OTR/L
Rafael Salazar, OTR/L
Susan Stallings-Sahler, OTR/L
Mary Louise Austin, Consumer Member

Administrative Staff Present

Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Michelle Foster, Board Support Specialist
Kathy Osier, Licensing Supervisor

Board Members Absent

Melissa Thurlow, OTR/L, Vice Chair

Attorney General's Office

Janet Jackson, Assistant Attorney General

Visitors Present

No visitors present

Call to Order

Ms. Branson established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

Board Meeting Agenda

Mr. Salazar motioned, Ms. Stallings-Sahler seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the agenda as posted.

Discussion – Rule Variance/Waiver Requests

1) Deborah Jackson BR 671-3-.08(3)(e)(f)

Mr. Salazar motioned, Mr. McClellan seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to grant the Petition for Variance of BR 671-3-.08(3)(e)(f) and allow the petitioner to obtain the continuing education hours online for the 2014-2016 biennium only.

Mr. Salazar motioned, Mr. McClellan seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to rescind the previous motion and refer to Legal Services to issue a Private Consent Order for a Renewal of Licensure for failure to meet the continuing education requirements of the 2014-2016 biennium to include the requirement that the respondent complete 24 hours of Continuing Education for the 2014-2016 biennium online, 22 hours of which must be related to direct patient care and the remaining two (2) hours must be in Ethics. All 24 hours must be completed prior to January 31, 2017 and may not be applied towards the current biennium (2016-2018).

Discussion – CE Broker

Mr. McClellan motioned, Mr. Salazar seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor to proceed with contract negotiations regarding the use of a CE tracking system.

Miscellaneous Discussions

Discussion – OTs and OTAs Working Unlicensed in Georgia During a Natural Disaster While Licensed in Another State

Ms. Stallings-Sahler shared with the Board that she had recently been contacted via email by an individual who is currently licensed as an occupational therapist in South Carolina and is having to evacuate to Georgia because of Hurricane Matthew. The individual wanted to know if she would be able to treat her patients if she travels to Georgia with them. Ms. Price informed the Board that their Practice Act does not include any provisions for one to work as an OT or OTA in this state without a license. However, if the requirements of the Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioner Act (O.C.G.A. § 38-3) are met, OTs and OTAs may work in this state on a temporary basis.

Ms. Stallings-Sahler motioned, Mr. McClellan seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) (1) (2), O.C. G.A. § 43-1-2 (k) (4), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19 (h) (2) & (4) and O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1) to deliberate on Applications, to receive the Attorney General's, Enforcement, and Cognizant Reports, and to conduct Applicant Interviews. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Board Members: Ms. Branson, Mr. Salazar, Mr. McClellan, Ms. Stallings-Sahler, and Ms. Austin.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Friday, October 7, 2016, 2016, Ms. Branson 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

Ms. Stallings-Sahler motioned, Mr. McClellan seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session:

Applications

- 1) Applicant T.B. Board Cognizant is to review the file and provide staff with feedback regarding the number of hours needed in order to meet the Physical Agent Modalities (PAMs) requirements. If the applicant questions why additional hours are required, inform the applicant that the Board considers applications on a case-by-case basis and based upon their review, the findings determined additional hours are required.

Miscellaneous Executive Discussions

Mr. McClellan motioned, Ms. Stallings-Sahler seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session:

Direct staff to include a statement on the home page of the Licensing Division of Occupational Therapy website notifying the public when application forms have been updated to help ensure the public does not submit outdated forms when attempting to obtain a license.

Attorney General’s Memo

Mr. McClellan motioned, Ms. Stallings-Sahler seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session:

- 1) F.C. Amend the previous motion to include a requirement for personal quarterly reports.

Adjournment No further business was discussed and the meeting adjournment at 9:19 a.m.

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| Minutes recorded by: | Michelle Foster, Board Support Specialist |
| Minutes reviewed and edited by: | Kathy Osier, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director |
| Minutes approved on: | November 18, 2016 |

RACHELE BRANSON _____
BOARD CHAIR

ADRIENNE PRICE _____
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR