

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
Teleconference Minutes
Professional Licensing Boards
237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA
February 14, 2013 * 8:30 a.m.

Board Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

D. Williams-McNeely, Assistant Attorney General
Tanja Battle, Executive Director
Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist

Dr. Portee established a quorum called the meeting to order 8:30 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

Jurisprudence Tool Addendum

Mr. Hamil summarized previous discussions regarding the Jurisprudence tool. He emphasized that the Board voted for the electronic examination with an understanding that the fee would not be more than \$35. The Board members agreed that the additional fee to Prometrix was never discussed. Dr. Palma asked if FSBPT understood that the fee issue was non-negotiable. Ms. Battle stated that she made that clear on the conference call with FSBPT. Ms. Gaskin concurred. Additionally, she stated she was under impression that you pay every time you take the test. Mr. Hamil said that the Board's current rule specifically states that the Federation would administer the Jurisprudence Examination and that the rule would need to be rescinded. Discussion ensued regarding what data there exists to justify this requirement. Mr. Whitefield indicated that complaint cases have not reflected a lack of understanding of the laws and rules. As a point of clarification, Ms. Battle mentioned that the existing rule did not need to be rescinded, but rather amended and posted.

Mr. Hamil made a motion to amend the rule to its previous language to allow for adequate planning. Ms. Gaskin seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Ms. Battle stated she would bring the proposed language to the Board at its next meeting for consideration.

Correspondence from Leslie F. Taylor-Request for State Board Consideration

The Board considered this correspondence in which it was asked to allow new graduates of CAPTE-accredited PT programs to apply for a temporary new graduate license, bridging the time from DPT graduation to NPTE testing. Dr. Portee indicated that previous legal advice given to the Board was that temporary licenses could not be issued. Mr. Cowherd and Ms. Gaskin both expressed concern regarding issuing a license before the passage of an examination. Dr. Palma is concerned that not enough value was being placed on what students are doing in their programs and that Board should revisit. Ms. Williams, Assistant Attorney General stated that the rules do not allow the Board to approve such. Mr. Hamil suggested sending the matter to the Rules Committee. Dr. Portee suggested that this matter not be sent to the Rules Committee until advice was received from the Attorney General's Office.

Dr. Palma made a motion to have Ms. Williams, Assistant Attorney General research the matter and report back to the Board at the March 2013 meeting. Ms. Garner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Correspondence from David Momah

Mr. Hamil asked if the Board gave Mr. Momah a year to pay the fine. Dr. Portee and Dr. Palma suggested that he pay the fine first. Ms. Williams, Assistant Attorney General stated that according to the Consent Order the Board cannot delay licensure if Mr. Momah does not pay the fine first. Mr. Whitefield asked if the license will be monitored if reinstated and Dr. Portee concurred and suggested Mr. Momah report to the Board every 3 or 6 months. Ms. Williams, Assistant Attorney General suggested the Board reinstate license with conditions. Mr. Whitefield made a motion to reinstate the license under a consent order. Dr. Palma seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Hamil shared that Senate Bill 445 has been withdrawn by the Secretary of State.

Ms. Battle was asked about the bill that proposes moving the Boards of Dentistry and Pharmacy. She relayed that HB 132 move would move the Boards to the Department of Community Health and will be heard on Wednesday. The Accountancy Board also has legislation that proposes it will become an administratively attached agency.

Dr. Portee departed at 9:25 a.m.

No further discussion and the Board Meeting adjourned at 9:35am.

The next Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy meeting will be on Tuesday March 26, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. at the Office of the Professional Licensing Boards, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

Bo Hamil, President
The Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy

Date

Tanja D. Battle, Executive Director
Professional Licensing Boards

Date