

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
Board Meeting Minutes
Professional Licensing Boards
237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA
Tuesday, September 18, 2018 - 9:00 a.m.

The Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy met on Tuesday, September 18, 2018. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Dr. Stefanie Palma, DPT, Chairperson
Dorothy Gaskin, PT, Vice Chair
Dr. Anne Thompson, EdD, PT, Board Member
Charles Bass, PT, Board Member
Monty Strickland, PT, Board Member
Chad Whitefield, PTA, Board Member
Jesse Crews, Consumer Member

Administrative Staff Present

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

Attorney General's Office

D. Williams-McNeely, Senior Assistant Attorney General
(via teleconference)

Board Members Absent

No members absent.

Visitors Present

Sandra Eskew Capps, PT

Call to Order: Dr. Palma established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda

Mr. Crews motioned, Ms. Gaskin seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the agenda as presented.

Open Session Minutes

1. August 29, 2018 Board Teleconference Minutes

Ms. Gaskin motioned, Mr. Bass seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the August 29, 2018 open session Board teleconference minutes as presented.

Licenses to Ratify July 10, 2018 – September 11, 2018

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

Correspondence – CollegeAffordabilityGuide.org – Deb Molfetta, Outreach Coordinator

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Crews seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to notify the writer that the Board thanks them for their correspondence but declines their request to post the provided information on the Board website as their organizational structure is not consistent with the Board's mission.

Correspondence – Marshall School of PT – Dr. D. Scott Davis

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Crews seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer the writer to O.C.G.A. § 43-33-11(d)(2-3) regarding supervision.

Discussion – Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT)

- 1. Candidate Survey Report April - June 2018**
- 2. 2018 LIF Report – PUBLISHED for Members 08-15-18**

3. **2018 Annual Meeting**
4. **2018 Delegate Handbook**
5. **News Briefs July 2018**
6. **News Briefs August 2018**
7. **Faculty Newsletter 3rd Quarter**

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to FSBPT as information.

Discussion – International Network of Physiotherapy Regulatory Authorities (INPTRA)

1. Newsletter August 2018

The Board accepts the August 2018 INPTRA Newsletter as information.

Discussion – Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)

1. Accreditation Actions July 24, 2018

The Board accepts the CAPTE Accreditation Actions for July 24, 2018 as information.

Discussion – Dry Needling

1. Recording Within aPTitude

2. Correspondence – Dry Needling Certification Requirements – Katherine E Walker

Dr. Thompson motioned, Ms. Gaskin seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to notify the writer that if dry needling hours have been recorded in aPTitude in excess of fifty (50) hours, there must be sufficient evidence that OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard was taught within the dry needling course in order to fulfill licensure requirements (BR 490-9-.05). This requirement has been in place since 2012. Acceptable documentation would include the course outline and/or a written record from the course instructor, which clearly states the OSHA information was included in the dry needling course content in excess of the 50 hours of dry needling course work.

Chad Whitefield joined the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

2. Alternate Pathways for Practitioner Documentation of Dry Needling Coursework

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Strickland seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer Board Rule 490-9-.05. Dry Needling to the Special Projects to review and realign instructions for registration of dry needling coursework to meet rule requirements and identify alternative pathways for documentation to represent evidence of dry needling instruction for practitioners prior to 2015.

Discussion – Board Rule 490-2-.03. Licensure Foreign-Educated Applicants

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Crews seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer Board Rule 490-2-.03. Licensure Foreign-Educated Applicants to the Attorney General's Office for a Memorandum of Authority with the friendly amendments, and if no objections, vote to post.

The Board discussed the economic impact of Board Rule 490-2-.03. Licensure Foreign-Educated Applicants upon licensees. Ms. Gaskin and Dr. Thompson seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative.

Board Rule 490-2-.03. Licensure: Foreign-Educated Applicants

- (1) All applicants who are graduates of educational programs conducted in a foreign country that are not accredited by CAPTE and approved by the Board must submit credentials prescribed by the Board in order to be considered for approval to take the licensing examination.
 - (a) Transcripts must be evaluated by a credential evaluation agency approved by the Board to determine if the professional instruction is substantially equivalent to that of entry-level United States-educated therapists. The credentialing evaluation agency shall send its evaluation and a copy of the official transcript directly to the Board. A list of credentialing agencies approved by the Board shall be included in each application packet. ~~Additional lists may be obtained from the Board office.~~

[\(i\) If the applicant does not hold a physical therapy or physical therapist assistant license in the](#)

United States at the time of application to this Board, the professional instruction shall also meet the standards of the most recent Coursework Tool (CWT) adopted by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy.

~~(i)~~(ii) If the applicant is applying for licensure by endorsement/reciprocity and has actively practiced within the past two (2) years in the United States, the professional instruction from a non-CAPTE accredited program shall be evaluated by the standards of the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Coursework Tool (CWT) that was in effect at the time the applicant graduated from their physical therapy or physical therapist assistant educational program.

- (b) Proof of licensure/certification/registration, that is current and in good standing, to practice physical therapy, or proof of appropriate eligibility to practice physical therapy, in the country of education must be submitted.
 - (c) Verification of licensure/certification/registration in all jurisdictions in which the candidate holds or has ever held a license/certification/registration must be submitted.
 - (d) Applicants educated in a non-English speaking physical therapy program must take and receive a passing score of 89 on the IBT TOEFL to include: a passing score of ~~24~~22 on the writing section, a passing score of ~~21~~22 on the reading section, a passing score of ~~18~~21 on the listening section and a passing score of ~~26~~24 on the speaking section before being allowed to sit for the licensure examination. Official score results must be submitted to the Board.
 - (e) Applicants educated in an English speaking physical therapy program must have a school official submit an official letter to the Board attesting that the physical therapy curriculum was taught in English.
 - (f) Once a completed application is on file and prior to initiation of a traineeship, all foreign educated applicants must take and pass the NPTE and the examination on the laws governing the practice of physical therapy in Georgia and the rules of the Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy.
 - (g) All foreign-educated applicants must complete a Board-approved traineeship consisting of a minimum of 480 hours, which must be completed within three (3) months of the issuance of the traineeship permit. *This requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Board if the applicant has demonstrated clinical competency with a minimum of 5 years of continuous active practice and license in good standing.* ~~The Pre Examination Traineeship hours may be used toward the satisfaction this requirement (See Board Rule 490-2-.04).~~
- (2) Applicants educated in a foreign physical therapy program that is accredited by CAPTE and approved by the Board, do not have to submit a credentials evaluation ~~and~~ but they must meet the conditions of Board Rule 490-2-.02.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 490-2-.03

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-33-3, 43-33-10, 43-33-12, 43-33-15, and 43-33-17.

History. Original Rule entitled "Board Action Upon Application for Registration" adopted. F. and eff. June 30, 1965.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 1, 1973; eff. May 21, 1973.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Licensure: Foreign-Educated Applicants" adopted. F. Jan. 19, 2005; eff. Feb. 8, 2005.

Repealed: New Rule of the same title adopted. F. May 12, 2010; eff. June 1, 2010.

Amended: F. May 23, 2013; eff. Jun. 12, 2013.

Amended: F. Aug. 26, 2015; eff. Sep. 15, 2015.

Discussion – Use of oPTion in Disciplinary Cases – A. Thompson

Dr. Thompson reviewed FSBPT's practice based tool, oPTion, and outlined her experience from taking the course. She indicated oPTion is a generalized tool and cannot be tailored for a practice deficit; therefore, it was her recommendation that the course not be used as a remediation tool in disciplinary cases. However, Dr. Thompson

recommended its use for continuing competence under the category of self-instruction. She noted the course would become a useful tool over time.

Ms. Gaskin motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept oPTion as three (3) hours of continuing education credit under self-instruction.

Discussion – Taskforce on Application Forms and Processes – D. Gaskin and A. Thompson

Ms. Gaskin and Dr. Thompson presented the Board with recommendations for streamlining the application process. Their review provided for simplified language, the deletion of unnecessary information and clarifying existing instructions.

Mr. Whitefield motioned, Mr. Bass seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion for the continuation of the Application Taskforce for the purpose of providing the Board with further recommendations based on today’s discussion and present their findings during the November 13, 2018 Board meeting.

2019 Board Meeting Dates

All meetings are scheduled for Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.

- January 22, 2109
- March 19, 2019
- May 21, 2019
- July 9, 2019
- September 24, 2019
- November 5, 2019

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the 2019 Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy meeting dates as presented.

Board Member Elections

1. Board Chairperson

Mr. Crews motioned, Dr. Thompson seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to re-elect Dr. Stephanie Palma as the Board’s Chair.

2. Vice Chairperson

Mr. Crews motioned, Dr. Thompson seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to re-elect Ms. Dorothy Gaskin as the Board’s Vice Chairperson.

3. Complaints/Disciplinary Cognizant

Mr. Crews motioned, Dr. Thompson seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to re-elect Mr. Chad Whitefield as the Board’s Complaint/Disciplinary Cognizant.

4. Application Cognizant

Mr. Crews motioned, Dr. Thompson seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to re-elect Dr. Anne Thompson as the Board’s Application Cognizant.

Executive Director Report – A. Price

Executive Director’s report presented the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications and complaints/compliance matters. Ms. Price informed the Board that the Alternative Approval Pathway Agreement between the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State and FSBPT been executed. She noted that Board Rule 490-3-.02 Re-examination has been referred to Legal Services for submission to the Governor’s Office to initiate the supervision process. Upon approval, the rule will likely go into effect by December 2018 at the latest.

Ms. Price revisited the Board’s July meeting discussion regarding Minimum Date Set and National Crime Information Center Fingerprint Background Checks where members shared their concerns. She stated that per

Board vote, the information has been referred to Ms. Katherine Sylvester, PTAG Liaison, to share with the Board of Directors at PTAG as it relates to their agenda regarding amendments to the Physical Therapy Act.

Mr. Crews motioned, Ms. Gaskin seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Executive Director's report as presented.

Board's Chairperson Report – S. Palma

Dr. Palma presented the Board with her Chairperson report, which addressed Board efforts in creating a more efficient application process. She stated she is hopeful the efforts will provide clearer, concise information for the licensees in the future. Ms. Price recognized the Board's hard work and responsiveness to staff in efforts to streamline these processes.

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Crews seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Board's Chairperson Report as presented.

Miscellaneous Discussion

1. Federation of Associations of Regulatory Board (FARB) Board Member Training

Ms. Price provided information regarding the upcoming FARB training. She explained the need for Board member participation and that the Code of Ethics for Board members will be an important discussion topic. She indicated that the Governor's Office will be provided the attendance records for this training and advised Board members not to ignore the registration email.

Mr. Crews motioned, Mr. Strickland 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. § 50-14-2(1). O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k)(4), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19(h)(2) & (4) to receive and review information pertaining to Applications. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included the Board members: Dr. Stefanie Palma, Dorothy Gaskin, Charles Bass, Monty Strickland, Chad Whitefield, Dr. Anne Thompson and Jesse Crews.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session of Tuesday, September 18, 2018, Dr. Palma 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 taken during Executive Session.

OPEN SESSION

Executive Session Minutes

1. August 29, 2018 Executive Meeting Minutes

Ms. Gaskin motioned, Dr. Thompson seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the August 29, 2018 executive session Board teleconference minutes as presented.

Attorney General's Report - D. Williams-McNeely

1. Supplemental Memo – BR 490-3-.02

Ms. Gaskin motioned, Mr. Bass seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Attorney General's report as presented.

Legal Services MEMOS

1. Case for Reconsideration

- a) **PT170144** Ms. Gaskin motioned, Dr. Thompson seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to amend the previous motion to reduce the fine to \$500. Notify applicant that the fine is for false attestation and unrelated to taking more than ten (10) hours of continuing education in one day. The amended Order should remove the reference to taking more than ten (10) hours in one day.

2. Cases for Closure

- a) **PT180089** Ms. Gaskin motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to the Attorney General's Office for a Hearing or Voluntary Surrender or Public Consent Order with a fine of \$1000 for failure to meet CE

requirements and false attestation on renewal application, to be paid within ninety (90) days of order docket date until the following terms and conditions are met: Proof of completion of nine and a half (9.5) hours CE, four (4) of which must be in Georgia Ethics and Jurisprudence, which must be submitted within sixty (60) days of order docket date. CEs submitted to satisfy the terms of the order and/or the biennium may not be applied towards the requirements of the current or future biennia and flag for CE audit.

b) PT180097

Dr. Thompson motioned, Ms. Gaskin seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to the Attorney General's Office for a Hearing or Voluntary Surrender or Public Consent Order with a fine of \$1500 for failure to meet CE requirements and false attestation on renewal application, to be paid within ninety (90) days of order docket date until the following terms and conditions are met: Proof of completion of fifty-two (52) hours CE, eight (8) of which must be in Georgia Ethics and Jurisprudence, which must be submitted within sixty (60) days of order docket date. CEs submitted to satisfy the terms of the order and/or the biennium may not be applied towards the requirements of the current or future biennia and flag for CE audit.

c) PT180094

Dr. Thompson motioned, Ms. Gaskin seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to the Attorney General's Office for a Hearing or Voluntary Surrender or Public Consent Order with a fine of \$1500 for failure to meet CE requirements and false attestation on renewal application, to be paid within ninety (90) days of order docket date until the following terms and conditions are met: Proof of completion of fifty-two (52) hours CE, four (4) of which must be in Georgia Ethics and Jurisprudence, which must be submitted within sixty (60) days of order docket date. CEs submitted to satisfy the terms of the order and/or the biennium may not be applied towards the requirements of the current or future biennia and flag for CE audit.

Cognizant's Report – C. Whitefield

Dr. Thompson motioned, Ms. Gaskin seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendation made in Executive Session.

PT190003

Issue the license with Letter of Concern regarding action in another jurisdiction.

Jesse Crews left the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

Applications

Dr. Thompson motioned, Ms. Gaskin seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session.

Application 2696458

Approve to retake the NPTE based on no current statutory basis for denial.

Application 2735056

Issue the license upon notifying applicant they must contact aPTitude to reorganize account.

Application 2748571

Table pending receipt of requested clarification from applicant regarding place of employment and duties for location and dates stated. If no unlicensed practice is found, issue license upon receipt of proof of completion of thirty (30) hours of CE.

Application 2724081

Issue the license.

Application 2737707

Issue the license with Letter of Concern regarding criminal history.

Application 2738150

Applicant must submit certified proof that terms of previous consent order have been satisfied. Upon verification and proper recording of CE within aPTitude, issue license with Letter of Concern regarding action by another jurisdiction, criminal history and proper recording of CE within aPTitude.

Application 241031

Refer to Legal Services for a Public Consent Order with a fine of \$500 for false attestation on renewal application and flag for CE audit. Fine to be paid within ninety (90) days of the docket date of the order

Traineeship Agreements

Mr. Whitefield motioned, Mr. Bass seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session.

Application 2689539

Rescind previous motion, accept traineeship as presented and issue license.

Adjournment: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by: Kathy Osier, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director

Minutes approved on: November 13, 2018

DOROTHY GASKIN, PT
BOARD CHAIR

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR