

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Professional Licensing Boards**  
**237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA**  
**Tuesday, September 24, 2019 - 9:00 a.m.**

The Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy met on Tuesday, September 24 2019. The following members were present:

**Board Members Present**

Dorothy Gaskin, PT, Board Chair  
Dr. Anne Thompson, EdD, PT, Vice Chair  
Charles Bass, PT, Board Member  
Chad Whitefield, PTA, Board Member  
Dr. Norma Nunez-Cortes, EdD, Consumer Board Member  
Dr. Laurri Wallace, DPT, Board Member  
Dr. Destiny Hebert, DPT, Board Member

**Administrative Staff Present**

Adrienne Price, Executive Director (via teleconference)  
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist  
Amanda Califf, Licensing Supervisor  
Jessica Uzzo, Staff Attorney

**Attorney General's Office**

Melissa Tracy, Assistant Attorney General

**Board Members Absent**

No members absent.

**Visitors Present**

Jesse Crews (via teleconference)  
Katherine Sylvester, PT, Physical Therapy Association of Georgia (PTAG)  
Daniel Dale, PT, DPT, Physical Therapy Association of Georgia (PTAG), President  
Terri Burner, Three Rivers Home Health  
Tiera Lyon-Evans, Integra Rehabilitation  
Sandra Eskew Capps, PT  
Nick Valencia

**Call to Order:** Ms. Gaskin established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

**OPEN SESSION**

**Agenda**

The Board accepts the agenda as amended.

**Board Expressions – Service of Jesse Crews, Consumer Board Member**

Ms. Gaskin expressed immense gratitude for Mr. Crews' service stating it was an honor and privilege to work with him. The full Board shared similar sentiments saying he will be greatly missed. Ms. Gaskin read the wording on a plaque which is to be mailed to Mr. Crews from the Board.

Mr. Crews, former Consumer Board Member, addressed the Board stating that he has had a wonderful experience during his time of service on the Board, which spanned five (5) years. He remarked that he enjoyed getting to know each member as well as the staff, he is thankful for all of the sweet words from the members and for the plaque honoring his service to the Board. He also expressed congratulations to the new Consumer Board Member, Dr. Nunez-Cortes.

Jesse expressed appreciation for the support of the current and previous Board members and the staff. He said that he salutes the work the Board does to support, regulate and protect the field of Physical Therapy.

Ms. Gaskin said it was her great pleasure to know Mr. Crews and that his lively personality, sense of humor and his adeptness in regards to Robert's Rules of Order as the Board's "unofficial" parliamentarian, will be greatly missed as he kept everyone in line.

Jesse Crews left the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

### **Open Session Minutes**

#### **1. September 3, 2019 Board Teleconference Minutes**

Mr. Bass motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the September 3, 2019 open session teleconference minutes as presented.

#### **Licenses to Ratify July 2, 2019 – September 17, 2019**

Dr. Thompson motioned, Dr. Wallace 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 – Questions Regarding GA Jurisprudence Discussion – Sandy Eskew Capps, PT**

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Bass seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to notify the writer that the Board accepts the correspondence as information and referred the matter to the Special Projects Committee for review.

#### **Correspondence – Can Home Health Visit Documentation Be Initiated by a PTA – Rebecca Saunders**

Mr. Whitefield motioned, Dr. Hebert seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to notify the writer that the administrative staff nor the Board members themselves are able to interpret Georgia law and rules for any third party and to consult legal counsel of their choosing to assist them in an interpretation of the professions practice act, O.C.G.A. § 43-33, and that documentation of treatment and coordination of care by all parties is always recommended.

#### **Discussion – Physical Therapy Association of Georgia (PTAG) Student Conclave – September 28, 2019**

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to PTAG as information and noted that Vice Chair, Anne Thompson, as well as Executive Director, Adrienne Price, have made plans to attend.

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

##### **1. National Physical Therapy Exam (NPTE) Candidate Satisfaction Survey**

- a) For Prometric for April – June 2019
- b) By Month – Complete
- c) Law Exam Candidate Satisfaction Survey by Month – Complete

##### **2. FSBPT Compact Map**

##### **3. Board Assessment Task Force – Stakeholder Input**

##### **4. July News Brief**

##### **5. August News Brief**

##### **6. National Physical Therapy Exam (NPTE) Faculty Newsletter 3rd Quarter 2019**

##### **7. Motions for the Delegate Assembly**

##### **8. Educators Satisfaction Survey**

##### **9. Fraudulent Communication to Licensees**

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to share the correspondence regarding Fraudulent Communication to Licensees with PTAG's president and liaison to alert their membership.

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

#### **Discussion – International Network of Physiotherapy Regulatory Authorities (INPTRA)**

##### **1. INPTRA Webcast – Global Trends in Regulation – July 24, 2019**

##### **2. Network News September 2019**

### **3. Digital Practice White Paper & Survey**

### **4. Webcast – PT Regulation & Practice in China – October 1, 2019**

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

#### **Discussion – O.C.G.A. 43-33 – Georgia Physical Therapy Act (as adopted and incorporated July 8, 2019)**

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to O.C.G.A. § 43-33, as information.

#### **Discussion – Board Rule 490-2-.04. Training Permits – Governor Certification of Active Supervision – effective 09.17.19**

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to Board Rule 490-2-.04. Training Permits, as information.

Jessica Uzzo joined the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

#### **Discussion – Amendments to the Joint Secretary Rules on Late Renewal Periods, Jessica Uzzo, Staff Attorney**

Ms. Uzzo presented the Board with information concerning the proposed Joint Secretary of State Rule amendments regarding the lapsed-late renewal period. The current lapsed-late renewal period is 90 days and the proposed amendment will change this time limit to 30 days. If passed, the change would go into effect for the next renewal cycle and not apply towards the current renewal cycle.

The proposed rule amendment will encourage licensees to renew in a timely manner to avoid a more costly reinstatement fee. If passed, the amended rules will apply to all Boards who do not have statutory provisions to the contrary. Ms. Uzzo pointed out that the current Board Rule regarding the lapsed-late renewal period would need to be amended to fall in line with the Joint Secretary Rule.

Mr. Bass motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to support this change in congruence with the proposed amendment to the Joint Secretary Rules.

Jessica Uzzo left the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

#### **Discussion – 2020 Board Meeting Dates**

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

January 14  
March 10  
May 12  
June 9 (Rules Committee)  
July 14  
September 22  
November 17

Mr. Whitefield motioned, Dr. Hebert seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the 2020 Board meeting dates as amended.

#### **Executive Director Report – A. Price**

Executive Director's report presented the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications, the number of licensees, renewal applications and complaints/compliance matters.

Other Relevant Topics she discussed included the following:

- Reorganization of Boards Due to Workflow
- License Renewal

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to share the License Renewal update as presented in the Executive Director's Report with PTAG for dissemination to their members.

Dr. Thompson motioned, Dr. Hebert seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Executive Director's report as presented.

#### **Board Chair's Report – D. Gaskin, PT**

Ms. Gaskin welcomed Dr. Cortes to the Board. She then shared her experience from attending the FSBPT Regulatory Training in August. She encouraged the Board to attend these events in the future if the opportunity arises as it provided good information regarding that which can be communicated as a representative of the Board, as well as the limitations in their roles as Board members.

Ms. Gaskin reviewed the Board's strategic initiatives that were discussed during the January meeting of this year and noted that several of the Board's goals have been met or are currently in the process of completion. The implementation of the Alternative Approval Pathway and the dry needling designation set up were provided as examples of goals that have been met.

She noted that the Board and its Committees have simplified and streamlined the application process and some of the information on the Board website, but she also concluded that these exercises continue to be a work in progress.

Dr. Thompson motioned, Mr. Whitefield seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Board Chair's report and recommendation as presented.

**Mr. Whitefield motioned, Dr. Wallace 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: Ms. Dorothy Gaskin, Dr. Anne Thompson, Mr. Chad Whitefield, Mr. Charles Bass, Dr. Destiny Hebert, Dr. Laurri Wallace and Dr. Norma Nunez-Cortes.**

**At the conclusion of the Executive Session of Tuesday, September 24, 2019, Ms. Gaskin 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. September 3, 2019 Executive Teleconference Minutes**

Dr. Thompson motioned, Dr. Hebert seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the September 3, 2019 executive session teleconference minutes as presented.

#### **Attorney General's Report – M. Tracy**

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

#### **Miscellaneous Executive Discussion**

##### **1. PT150004**

Dr. Thompson motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding timely documentation and record keeping.

##### **2. PT200004 - M.L.H. Discussion**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Mr. Bass seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to close the case, no jurisdiction.

### **3. Cases for Closure Due to No Jurisdiction**

Dr. Hebert motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to close the following cases, no jurisdiction.

**PT170061**  
**PT170134**  
**PT170156**  
**PT170221**  
**PT170158**  
**PT170150**  
**PT170193**  
**PT170272**  
**PT170145**  
**PT170101**  
**PT180035**  
**PT180033**  
**PT170239**  
**PT180005**

### **Applications for Board Review**

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

**Applicant 2793820**      Issue license with a Letter of Concern regarding disciplinary action in another jurisdiction.

**Applicant 2806591**      Issue license with a Letter of Concern regarding alcohol and criminal history.

**Applicant 2792616**      Approve verification of employment and issue license.

Dr. Thompson motioned, Dr. Nunez-Cortes seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept a letter from an applicant's employer on company letterhead in lieu of the required verification of employment notarized form. The letter must state the company does not have a notary on staff, therefore the verification of employment cannot be completed in its entirety.

**Applicant 2817809**      Issue license with a Letter of Concern regarding criminal history.

**Applicant 2814900**      Request that the applicant complete a 480-hour Traineeship Agreement.

**Applicant 2797492**      Issue license with a strong Letter of Concern regarding unlicensed practice to include a recommendation to review the appropriate processes for licensure and renewal, given that the applicant's employer is a multi-state agency.

**Applicant 2823636**      Request that the applicant complete a 480-hour Traineeship Agreement.

**Adjournment:**    There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

**Minutes recorded by:**                      Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist

**Minutes reviewed and edited by:**      Amanda Califf, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director

**Minutes approved on:**                      November 5, 2019

**DOROTHY GASKIN**  
**BOARD CHAIR**

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