

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Professional Licensing Boards**  
**237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA**  
**Tuesday, January 14, 2020 - 9:00 a.m.**

The Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy met on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. The following members were present:

**Board Members Present**

Dorothy Gaskin, PT, Board Chair  
Charles Bass, PT, Board Member  
Laurri Wallace, Board Member  
Destiny Hebert, Board Member  
Terri Burner, Board Member  
Norma Nunez-Cortes, Consumer Board Member

**Administrative Staff Present**

Adrienne Price, Executive Director  
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist  
Charlotte Mason, Licensing Supervisor

**Board Members Absent**

Anne Thompson, Vice Chair  
Chad Whitefield, Board Member

**Attorney General's Office**

Melissa Tracy, Assistant Attorney General (via teleconference)  
Kirsten Daughdril, Senior Assistant Attorney General, (via teleconference)  
Alison Spencer, Senior Assistant Attorney General (via teleconference)

**Visitors Present**

Dr. Katherine Sylvester, PT, DPT, Physical Therapy Association of Georgia (PTAG)

**Call to Order:** Ms. Gaskin established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**Dr. Cortes 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: Dorothy Gaskin, Charles Bass, Destiny Hebert, Laurri Wallace, Terri Burner and Norma Nunez-Cortes.**

**OPEN SESSION**

**Miscellaneous Executive Discussion**

**1. License Requirements for PT Faculty**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Ms. Gaskin seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to release the Memo of Advice from the Attorney General's Office to the Board of Regents and CAPTE to disseminate to accredited and pending educational institutions regarding license requirements for physical therapy faculty in the state of Georgia.

Destiny Hebert joined the meeting at 9:16 a.m.  
Kirsten Daughdril and Melissa Tracy left the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

**2. PT200011**

Ms. Gaskin motioned, Dr. Cortes seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to Legal Services to issue a Private Consent Order for Renewal of Licensure with a fine of \$1500 for false attestations on the renewal application, and flag for CE audit.

### **Executive Session Minutes**

#### **1. November 5, 2019 Executive Session Board Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Gaskin motioned, Dr. Burner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the November 5, 2019 executive session minutes as amended.

Ms. Gaskin motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to repeal Board Rule 490-4-.03. Continuing Competency Audit, and to refer Board Rule 490-2-.04. Training Permits, back to the Rules Committee for further review.

### **Attorney General's Report – A. Spencer**

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

### **Applications for Board Review**

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

<b>Applicant 2830220</b>	Approve Letter of Employment and issue license.
<b>Applicant 2839663</b>	Issue license with a Letter of Concern regarding alcohol and criminal history.
<b>Applicant 2826336</b>	Table. Applicant is ineligible for licensure by endorsement based on BR Rule 490-2-.10(2)(a). Must reinstate license in another state or consider a Petition for Rule Waiver or Variance.
<b>Applicant 2839345</b>	Request 480 hours traineeship agreement per Board Rule 490-2-.04(a)(4).
<b>Applicant 938593</b>	Renew license with a Letter of Concern regarding criminal history.
<b>Applicant 2796577</b>	Approve traineeship agreement.

**At the conclusion of the Executive Session of Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 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**

Ms. Price introduced the Board to Licensing Supervisor, Charlotte Mason, and stated she will be an excellent addition to the team as she comes with 13 years' experience with the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Georgia Office of Secretary of State.

**Agenda** Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Hebert seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the agenda as presented.

### **Open Session Minutes**

#### **1. November 5, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Burner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the November 5, 2019 open session minutes as amended.

## **2. December 3, 2019 Special Projects Open Session Teleconference Minutes**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Hebert seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the December 3, 2019 special projects open session teleconference minutes as presented.

## **3. January 7, 2020 Special Projects Open Session Teleconference Minutes**

Dr. Cortes motioned, Dr. Burner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the January 7, 2020 special projects open session teleconference minutes as presented.

### **Licenses to Ratify November 5, 2019 – January 7, 2020**

Dr. Cortes 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 – Myopain Dry Needling Seminars – Jan Dommerholt, President, CEO**

Dr. Hebert motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to notify the writer that the information will be applied on a case-by-case basis.

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

- 1. November 2019 News Brief**
- 2. National Physical Therapy Exam (NPTE) – Faculty Newsletter 4th Quarter**
- 3. 2020 Budget**
- 4. December 2019 News Brief**
- 5. Forum Winter 2019**
- 6. Training: Trauma's Impact on Boundary Violation Investigations Training**

Dr. Burner motioned, Dr. Cortes seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion for Mr. Whitefield to attend the FSBPT training as a representative of the Board, with Dr. Wallace as the alternate designee if he is unable to attend.

- 7. Correspondence - PT Compact Commission**
- 8. NPTE Comment Summary and Candidate Satisfaction Survey**

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

### **Discussion – Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) Accreditation Actions November 2019**

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

### **Discussion – Foreign Credentialing Commission on Physical Therapy (FCCPT) Jurisdiction Newsletter 2019**

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

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

- 1. Network News 4th Quarter 2019**
- 2. INPTRA Webcast: Using Claims Data to Identify Risks in PT Practice**

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

### **Discussion – Special Projects Committee – L. Wallace**

- 1. Georgia Ethics and Jurisprudence Course Checklist**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Hebert seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the recommendations from the Committee regarding the update to the Georgia Ethics and Jurisprudence Course Checklist.

## **2. Messaging**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Burner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the recommendations from the Committee regarding messaging for recording and retaining continuing education documentation once aPTitude is discontinued.

### **Discussion – LC 41 2146 – Proposed Amendments to O.C.G.A. § 43-33**

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to O.C.G.A. § 43-33, as information. Ms. Price alerted the Board that the proposed amendment is HB 752 and it is scheduled for its 1<sup>st</sup> reading in the legislature this morning. She stated that PTAG indicated that they do not foresee any issues with its passage.

### **Petitions for Rule Waivers**

#### **1. Rule Waiver – BR 490-2-.03(g) – Agarwal, Pratibha**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Mr. Bass seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(g) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate hardship.

#### **2. Rule Waiver – BR 490-2-.03(1)(g) – Abundo, Marjorie**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Cortes seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(1)(g) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate hardship.

#### **3. Rule Waiver – BR 490-2-.03(1)(d) – Lacandazo, Kenneth**

Dr. Cortes motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(1)(d) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate hardship.

#### **4. Rule Waiver – BR 490-2-.03(1)(g) – Lacandazo, Kenneth**

Dr. Cortes motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(1)(g) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate hardship.

#### **5. Rule Waiver – BR 490-2-.03(g) – Bittencourt, Edsel**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Cortes seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to grant the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(g) based on sufficient evidence to substantiate hardship.

#### **6. Rule Waiver – BR 490-2-.03(b) – Bittencourt, Edsel**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Cortes seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to grant the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(b) based on sufficient evidence to substantiate hardship.

#### **7. Rule Waiver – BR 490-2-.03(d) – Bittencourt, Edsel**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Cortes seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to grant the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(d) based on sufficient evidence to substantiate hardship.

#### **8. Rule Waiver – BR 490-2-.03(g) – Patel, Yashwi**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Burner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(g) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate hardship.

#### **9. Rule Waiver - BR 490-2-.03(1)(g) – Varughese, Aby**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Hebert seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(1)(g) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate hardship.

#### **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:

- Upcoming Session of the Georgia General Assembly
- Exam Licensure and Disciplinary Database Agreement
- Annual Ethics Commission Affidavit of Public Officer Filings

Mr. Bass motioned, Dr. Wallace 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**

Ms. Gaskin reviewed the Board's goals for 2019 so that the Board can determine if any of the goals are still relevant for 2020.. She reported that the Alternative Approval Pathway was successful. The ELDD contract was signed; therefore, the Board has achieved those goals. She further indicated that goals surrounding the capture of licensees who qualify to perform dry needling, the streamlining of application and licensing processes, increased compliance with continuing education requirements and passing amendments to Board rules remain ongoing. Based on the audits, there has been a 50% capture of the Dry Needling designation. The Board and its Committees have worked diligently to simplify the application and licensing processes.

Ms. Gaskin reiterated that during the presentation of the statistical data, Ms. Price conveyed approximately 59% of licensees had not begun the renewal process until the last two weeks of December. As a result, large volumes of renewal applications were received simultaneously during that timeframe. Additionally, several licensees have not uploaded Continuing Education Certificates appropriately into aPTitude and/or have not submitted appropriate documentation to address other holds, i.e. sanctions, convictions and/or continuing educations audits, resulting in a delay in the completion of the renewal process.

Melissa Tracy joined the meeting at 12:14 p.m.  
Alison Spencer left the meeting at 12:14 p.m.

Ms. Gaskin reported that the Board website continues to be reviewed and updated regularly, as systems allow. The Board has reviewed and made recommendations for amendments to Board Rules, which will be posted for public rule hearings. The Board has successfully completed two outreach initiatives and worked to create/adopt disciplinary guidelines. She stated that she feels that these goals should remain.

Ms. Gaskin then queried the Board for suggestions on 2020 goals. In addition to the goals previously discussed, it was the consensus of the Board to work on the implementation of CE Broker and the issuance of compact privileges.

Dr. Wallace motioned, Mr. Bass seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Board Chair's report and goals for 2020 as presented.

#### **Miscellaneous Discussion**

##### **1. 2020 Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) Forum**

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to FARB, as information.

**2. Rules Committee Meeting Date**

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Hebert seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to schedule a Rules Committee teleconference for Friday, January 24, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

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

**Minutes reviewed and edited by:** Charlotte Mason, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director

**Minutes approved on:** March 10, 2020

DOROTHY GASKIN  
**BOARD CHAIR**

ADRIENNE PRICE  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**