

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY EXAMINERS
Board Meeting Teleconference Minutes
December 2, 2016 - 1:00 p.m.

The Georgia State Board of Podiatry Examiners met on December 2, 2016. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Dr. Leonard LaRussa - Chairperson
Dr. William B. Turner - Vice Chair
Dr. Rudy Cisco - Board Member

Administrative Staff Present

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

Board Members Not Present

Ms. Judy Sanders - Consumer Member

Office of Attorney General

Betsy Cohen, Assistant Attorney General

Visitors Present

No Visitors Present

Call to Order Dr. LaRussa called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda The Board accepted the agenda as presented.

Open Session Minutes:

July 15, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

Dr. Turner motioned, Dr. Cisco seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the July 15, 2016 Board meeting minutes as amended to correct grammatical errors.

Licenses to Ratify July 8, 2016 – November 25, 2016

Dr. Turner motioned, Dr. Cisco 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 Board Rules and Policies between board meetings.

Discussion – Length of Podiatric Residency Programs

Dr. Turner motioned, Dr. Cisco seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to table a discussion on the Length of Podiatric Residency Programs until the January 20, 2017 Board meeting for further consideration of potential ramifications for amending the rule.

Discussion – Prescribing of Medical Marijuana

The Board requested that Ms. Price keep the Board abreast of any changes in legislation relative to the prescribing of medical marijuana as it has the potential to affect podiatrists.

Discussion – FPMB Update

Dr. LaRussa explained that the Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards (FPMB) is an organization whose mission is to protect the whole nation as it relates to podiatry just as it is the Board's job is to protect the patients of Georgia. He further explained that the organization has been operational since 1936 and informed every one of some of the services offered by the organization to include disciplinary data reports and Part 3 of the National Board Exam. Dr. LaRussa indicated that FPMB also represents podiatry to the Federation of Medical Boards of America by attending and taking part in their national meeting.

Ms. Price advised that the vast majority of state Boards in the country are current members of the FPMB and those Boards can be identified in alphabetical order on the FPMB website. She detailed the following items that FPMB requested that the Board consider:

- 1) FPMB desires more active participation from the State of Georgia as a member organization to include the sharing of public disciplinary and licensure data, at no cost to the Board. She stated that the Board can only share what state law allows the Board to submit.
- 2) FPMB also wants a Board member update which would entail sharing the contact information for each Board Member and she could not do that without Board's consent. She indicated that the organization desires this information so that other member boards may communicate and network with other podiatry boards about different matters effecting licensees in their states. She further stated that contact information is updated regularly so that if a Board member leaves, they also come off FPMB and they stop getting information from the agency.

Dr. Turner motioned, Dr. Cisco seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to authorize Ms. Price to share the Board's contact information for a membership website only, not for public access.

Dr. Turner motioned, Dr. Cisco seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to report public Board data to FPMB that is legally allowed.

Dr. LaRussa motioned, Dr. Turner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to explore entering into agreement with FPMB to allow the organization to become their reporting agent to the National Practitioner Database to avoid double documentation if federal regulation allows.

Executive Director's Report – A. Price

Executive Director's report presented the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications, the number of licensees, and complaints/compliance matters. Ms. Price also reminded the Board to file their annual affidavit of a Public Officer to the Ethics Commission by January 31, 2017.

Dr. Cisco motioned, Dr. Turner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Executive Director's Report as presented.

Board President's Report – L. LaRussa

No report was presented.

2017 Board Meeting Dates

The board members and staff reviewed the tentative dates for the Georgia State Board of Podiatry Examiners Meetings for 2017 as follows:

Podiatry Examiners 1:00 p.m.
Macon, GA Friday, January 20, 2017
Teleconference Friday, April 14, 2017
Macon, GA Friday, July 14, 2017
Teleconference Friday, October 13, 2017

Dr. LaRussa motioned, Dr. Turner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the 2017 Board meeting dates as presented.

Miscellaneous Discussions

Dr. Turner informed the Board that it concerns him when the Board does not discover that a licensee has violated the law until the licensee is convicted or there is a report in the newspaper. He asked if there was anything that can be done to ensure that the Board is notified when incidences occur. He stated if there are potential felonious results concerning a Georgia licensee, the Georgia Board needs to know.

Ms. Price reiterated that one of the benefits of being involved more with FPMB is that if a Georgia licensee had an action taken against them in another state, the Board would know about that action as it relates to licensure. She stated that the Board really doesn't have any avenue at this point to receive information relevant to arrests when they occur as their statute does not require mandatory report and even in that case, the Board must rely on the licensees, members of the public or the media to report that any violations of law have occurred. Ms. Price indicated that there is a system accessible through the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Crime Information Center called Rap-

Back which would notify the Board when a licensee is arrested anywhere in the United States; however, there is a cost associated with the use of the system and a statutory change would be required in order for the Board to gain the authority to access it.

Dr. Cisco motioned, Dr. Turner 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, receive the Attorney General's, Cognizant, and Enforcement Reports. Voting in favor of the motion were those Board members present: Dr. LaRussa, Dr. Turner, and Dr. Cisco.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Friday, December 2, 2016, Dr. LaRussa 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

July 15, 2016 Executive Session Teleconference Minutes

Dr. Cisco motioned, Dr. Turner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the July 15, 2016 executive session minutes as presented.

Attorney General's Report

Dr. Cisco motioned, Dr. Turner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of accepting the Attorney General's Report as presented.

Applications for Board Review

J.C. Dr. LaRussa motioned, Dr. Turner seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to table for additional investigation.

Cognizant Report – Dr. Rudy Cisco

POD160009 Close case, no action.

POD170004 Request a detailed letter of explanation from the licensee regarding the allegations for the Cognizant to review. The Cognizant may close the case if response and evidence provided is not within the jurisdiction of the Board.

Dr. Turner motioned, Dr. LaRussa seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Cognizant Report as presented.

Adjournment With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Minutes recorded by:

Michelle Foster, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Kathy Osier, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director

Minutes approved on:

January 27, 2017

LEONARD LARUSSA
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR