

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY EXAMINERS**  
**Board Zoom Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, January 22, 2021 - 1:00 p.m.**

The Georgia State Board of Podiatry Examiners met via Zoom meeting on Friday, January 22, 2021. The following members were present:

**Board Members Present**

Dr. Leonard La Russa, DPM, Chair  
Dr. Joseph Giovinco, DPM, Vice Chair  
Dr. Sarvapalli Jokhai, DPM, Board Member

**Administrative Staff Present**

Adrienne Price, Executive Director  
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist  
Charlotte Mason, Licensing Supervisor  
Meagan Doss, Complaints/Compliance Analyst

**Board Members Not Present**

Ms. Judy Sanders, Consumer Board Member

**Office of Attorney General**

Mary Brannen, Assistant Attorney General

**Visitors Present**

Marit Sivertson, J.D., Executive Director, Georgia Podiatric Medical Association (GPMA)

**Call to Order**

Dr. La Russa established that a quorum of the Board was present and the meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m.

**OPEN SESSION**

**Agenda**

The Board accepts the agenda as presented.

**Board Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2021 Board Zoom Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Jokhai motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the January 7, 2021 open session zoom meeting minutes and the January 7, 2021 executive session zoom meeting minutes as presented.

**Licenses to Ratify October 23, 2020 – January 15, 2021**

Dr. Jokhai motioned, Dr. Giovinco 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.

**Correspondence – APMLE Part III Letter to the State Boards**

The Board accepts the correspondence regarding APMLE Part III, as information.

**Discussion – Concerns Regarding Effective Date of Rule Requirement – Marit Sivertson, JD, GPMA**

Based on concerns expressed by GPMA, the Board entered into a discussion regarding language in the proposed rule which requires Chronic Pain CME. After further discussion, Dr. La Russa motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to rescind the previous motion to post for hearing, and to refer Board Rule 500-5-.01. Continuing Education Hours. Amended. back to the Rules Committee for further review per this discussion.

Ms. Sivertson queried Ms. Price on the effective date of the requirements and the timeline for the passage of the rule. Ms. Price stated that based on the discussion the requirements would likely in effect for the 2023 biennium and the rule could be ready for hearing in late 2021 or early 2022.

**Discussion – Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards (FPMB)**

1. 2020 Q4 Newsletter
2. AMPLE Part II CSPE & Residency Programs – Report Update
3. REPORT OUT – APMLE Part II CSPE Residency Programs – 2021-01-03
  - a) Request for Information
  - b) APMA – Survey Cover Letter. Final
  - c) APMLE Licensing – 2020-09-16
  - d) APMLE Part II CSPE Residency Programs – 2020-11-10

The Board accepts the correspondence provided regarding FPMB, as information.

**Discussion – American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) – Council on Podiatric Medical Education Call for Comment**

1. APMA(a) - CPME 320 Draft I
2. APMA(b) - CPME 330 Draft I
3. APMA(c) - Substantive Changes to CPME 320 Draft I
4. APMA(d) - Substantive Changes to CPME 330 Draft I

The Board accepts the correspondence provided regarding APMA, as information.

**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. In addition, she addressed the following topics with the Board:

- FBI Approval of Fingerprint-based background check legislation

Ms. Sivertson asked if Ms. Price would be willing to provide GPMA copies of any information that may be forwarded to licensees for this renewal cycle regarding the background check requirement so that they can engage in a coordinated effort to assist in keeping licensees fully informed and educated with the legislative change. Ms. Price indicated that she will share the information.

Dr. L Russa motioned, Dr. Jokhai 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. La Russa, DPM**

No report presented.

**Dr. Giovinco motioned, Dr. Jokhai 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 Board members present: Dr. La Russa, Dr. Giovinco, and Dr. Jokhai.**

**At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Friday, January 22, 2021, Dr. La Russa 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.**

<b>OPEN SESSION</b>
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**Attorney General’s Report – M. Brannen**

Dr. Jokhai motioned, Dr. La Russa seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Attorney General’s Report as presented.

**Applications for Board Review**

Dr. La Russa left the meeting at 2:03 p.m.  
Dr. La Russa joined the meeting at 2:14 p.m.

Dr. Jokhai motioned, Dr. La Russa seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendation made in Executive Session:

**Applicant 2914200** Issue the license with a reservation of rights letter indicating that the Board reserves the right to sanction the license based upon the outcome of the malpractice case.

**Applicant 2894387** Issue the license in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-35-13.

**Adjournment** With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 2:18 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 31, 2021

LEONARD LA RUSSA  
**BOARD CHAIRPERSON**

ADRIENNE PRICE  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**