

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY EXAMINERS
Board Zoom Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 28, 2022 - 1:00 p.m.

The Georgia State Board of Podiatry Examiners met via Zoom meeting on Friday, January 28, 2022. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

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

Administrative Staff Present

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

Board Members Absent

Ms. Judy Sanders, Consumer Board Member

Office of Attorney General

Mary Brannen, Assistant Attorney General

Administrative Staff Absent

Meagan Doss, Complaints/Compliance Analyst

Visitors Present

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

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 accepted the agenda as presented.

Open Session Minutes – October 15, 2021 Open Session Board Zoom Meeting Minutes

Dr. La Russa motioned, Dr. Jokhai seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the October 15, 2021 open session Board zoom meeting minutes as presented.

Licenses to Ratify: October 8, 2021 – January 21, 2022

Dr. Jokhai motioned, Dr. La Russa 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 – Question Concerning Course for 3-hours of Required Education on Controlled Substance Prescribing – Marit, Sivertson, JD, Executive Director, GPMA (Georgia Podiatric Medical Association)

Dr. La Russa motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to notify the writer that the course is approved.

Discussion – Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards (FPMB)

1. NBPME CSPE Survey Responses Needed_FPMB 2021 Fall Meeting Recap (Prt 1)
2. NBPME CSPE Survey Letter – (Prt 2)
3. Fall Meeting - Meeting Recap – 2021 (Prt 3)
4. RFI – Podiatrist Supervision of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy
5. RFI – Podiatrist Supervision of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy - FINAL REPORT - 2022-01-10

Dr. La Russa motioned, Dr. Jokhai seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion for Dr. La Russa to notify the Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards that the Georgia State Board of Podiatric Examiners would like the report to reflect that there are no restrictions regarding Podiatrist Supervision of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy within the statute in Georgia.

6. 2021 Q4 Newsletter

The Board accepts the correspondence provided regarding FPMB, 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. Other relevant topics included:

- Georgia General Assembly
- Annual Ethics Commission Affidavit of Public Officer Filings

Dr. Jokhai motioned, Dr. Giovinco 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. La Russa motioned, Dr. Jokhai seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion 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 28, 2022, 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.

OPEN SESSION

Executive Session Minutes – October 15, 2021 Executive Session Board Zoom Meeting Minutes

Dr. Jokhai motioned, Dr. Giovinco seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the October 15, 2021 Executive Session Board zoom meeting minutes as presented.

Attorney General's Report – M. Brannen

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

Cognizant Report – J. Giovinco, DPM

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

POD210006 Schedule Respondent for an Investigative Interview.

POD210007 Close the case due to insufficient evidence.

POD210008 Schedule Respondent for an Investigative Interview.

POD210010 Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding patient care with a recommendation that the Respondent consult with wound specialists frequently in the future.

POD210011 Close the case due to lack of responsiveness from the complainant.

POD210012 Close the case due to lack of responsiveness from the complainant.

POD220006 / POD220002 Close with a Letter of Concern regarding the prescribing of expensive products without evidence of efficacy.

Adjournment With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 2:19 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: April 29, 2022

LEONARD LA RUSSA, DPM
BOARD CHAIRPERSON

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR