

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
**Board WebEx Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, August 18, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.**

The Georgia State Board of Occupational Therapy met via WebEx on Friday, August 18, 2023. The following members were present:

**Board Members Present**

Rachele Branson, OTR/L, Chairperson  
Robert McClellan, OTR/L, Vice Chair  
Rafael Salazar, OTR/L, Board Member  
Pamela Reddick-Collins, OTR/L, Board Member

**Administrative Staff Present**

Adrienne Price, Executive Director  
Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor  
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist

**Board Members Absent**

Marla Marlowe, OTR/L, Board Member  
Casey Vance, Consumer Board Member

**Attorney General's Office**

Mary Brannen, Senior Assistant Attorney General

**Visitors Present**

Dr. M. Irma Alvarado, PhD, OT/L, FAOTA, Professor, School of Occupational Therapy, Brenau University  
Yunus Ayodeji  
Kristen Neville, State Affairs Manager, American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)

**Call to Order**

Ms. Branson established that a quorum of the Board was present, and called the meeting to order at 9:24 a.m.

**OPEN SESSION**

**Board Meeting Agenda**

Mr. Salazar motioned, Ms. Reddick-Collins seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the agenda as presented.

**Open Session Minutes – June 26, 2023 Open Session Zoom Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Reddick-Collins motioned, Mr. McClellan seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the June 26, 2023 Open Session Zoom Meeting Minutes as presented.

**Ratification List: May 5, 2023 – August 11, 2023 Licenses, Reinstatements and PAMs**

Mr. McClellan motioned, Ms. Reddick-Collins seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to approve the list of licenses issued from May 5, 2023 – August 11, 2023, licenses issued by reinstatement, the Physical Agent Modalities certifications, and limited permits issued between Board meetings.

**Discussion – Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) – Accreditation Actions April 2023**

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

**Discussion – American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)**

1. State Affairs newsletter – Summer 2023
2. 2023 Priority State Legislative Bill Chart - 07-31-2023
3. 2023 State Legislative and Regulatory Reports - 07-31-2023
4. 2023 State Legislative Monitoring Report - 07-31-2023

## **5. 2023 State Regulatory Monitoring Report - 07-31-2023**

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

### **National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)**

- 1. 2022 Mission and Disciplinary Action Data**
- 2. OT Licensure Compact Update – May 2023**
- 3. Regulatory E-Newsletter May 2023**
- 4. State Regulatory Leadership Forum**
- 5. Exam Delivery Vendor Changing in 2024**
- 6. Occupational Therapy Compact Commission-Next Steps**
- 7. E-Newsletter – Important News**

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

### **Discussion – OT COMPACT – Commission Update**

- 1. Compact Delegate**
- 2. Compact Alternate Delegate**

Ms. Reddick-Collins motioned, Mr. McClellan seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to appoint Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor, as Alternate Delegate for the OT Compact in the event Adrienne Price is unable to serve as the Delegate during their scheduled meetings.

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to the OT COMPACT Commission Update as information.

### **Discussion – CE Broker**

- 1. OT Monthly Report\_May\_2023**
- 2. Now Powered by Propelus**
- 3. OT Monthly Report\_July\_2023**
- 4. eNewsletter**

The Board accepts the correspondence in reference to CE Broker as information.

### **Discussion – Consent Order Fines – Distinction between OTs and OTAs**

Mr. McClellan motioned, Ms. Reddick-Collins seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to levy fines against OTs and OTAs for the same amount for most infractions with the ability to adjust the fine on a case-by-case basis.

### **Discussion – Dry Needling Position Statement**

Mr. Salazar motioned, Ms. Branson seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer to Rules Committee to develop an official position statement on dry needling for consideration and approval by the Board to on the website.

### **Discussion – SB 197 – Amendments to O.C.G.A. Ch. 43, Ch. 1, Art. 33 RE Advertisements, Labeling & Representations**

Mr. Salazar motioned, Ms. Branson seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to refer Board Rule 671-4-.02. Unprofessional Conduct Defined. Amended to the rules committee to draft amendments pursuant to the amendments to O.C.G.A. Ch. 43, Ch. 1, Art. 33 RE: Advertisements, Labeling & Representations which became effective July 1, 2023.

## **2024 Occupational Therapy Board Meeting Dates**

All meetings are via WebEx and begin at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, February 23, 2024  
Friday, May 10, 2023  
Friday, August 16, 2024  
Friday, November 1, 2024

Mr. McClellan motioned, Mr. Salazar seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the 2024 Occupational Therapy Board Meeting Dates as presented.

### **Board Chair's Report – R. Branson**

No report presented.

### **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, renewal audits and complaints/compliance matters and the status of renewal applications. Additionally, the Executive Director's Report addressed the following:

- Rules Hearing
- PLB Updates
- Annual Ethics Commission Affidavit of Public Officer Filings

Ms. Reddick-Collins motioned, Mr. McClellan seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Executive Director's Report as presented.

**Ms. Reddick-Collins motioned, Mr. Salazar 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 deliberate on Applications, to receive the Attorney General's, Enforcement, and Cognizant Reports, and to conduct Applicant Interviews. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Board Members: Rachele Branson, Robert McClellan, Rafael Salazar, and Pamela Reddick-Collins.**

**At the conclusion of Executive Session on Friday, August 18, 2023, Ms. Branson 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 obtained during Executive Session.**

## **OPEN SESSION**

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

Ms. Branson motioned, Mr. McClellan seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Attorney General's Report as presented.

### **Cognizant Report – R. Branson**

Mr. McClellan motioned, Ms. Reddick-Collins seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session:

<b>OT200016</b>	Close the case, no jurisdiction.
<b>OT200022</b>	Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding patient records.
<b>OT210010</b>	Close the case, no jurisdiction.
<b>OT220010</b>	Close the case.

**OT220021** Close the case due to lack of information.  
**OT220057** Rescind previous vote to schedule an Investigative Interview and close the case.  
**OT220060** Refer to Investigations as discussed in Executive Session.  
**OT220061** Close the case due to lack of information.  
**OT230005** Schedule an Investigative Interview.  
**OT230007** Close the case, no jurisdiction.  
**OT230011** Close the case with a Letter of Concern regarding alcohol.  
**OT230013** Close the case.

**Miscellaneous Executive Discussion – Case Closures (< 2010)**

Ms. Branson motioned, Mr. McClellan seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to close all complaint cases received on or before December 31, 2010.

**Applications for Board Review**

Ms. Reddick-Collins motioned, Ms. Branson seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the following recommendations made in Executive Session:

**Applicant 3102684** Accept NBCOT Navigator and issue the license.  
**Applicant 3102000** Issue the license with a Reservation of Rights Letter. Applicant must provide the Board with a certified copy of the final disposition of the case within 10 days of receipt.  
**Applicant 3097212** Issue the license with a Letter of Concern regarding arrest history.  
**Applicant 3100001** Issue license with a Letter of Concern regarding false attestation.  
**Applicant 3105171** Issue the license with a Letter of Concern regarding DUI conviction.  
**Applicant 3095399** Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a Public Consent Agreement for Licensure with a with a fine of \$500 for false attestation. Fine to be paid within 90 days from docket date of order. Flag for CE Audit.  
**Applicant 3108205** Issue the license with a Letter of Concern regarding criminal history.  
**Applicant 3103616** Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for a Public Consent Agreement for Licensure with a fine of \$500 for false attestation. Fine to be paid within 90 days from docket date of order. Flag for CE Audit.  
**Applicant 3107302** Issue the license.

**Adjournment** No further business was discussed, and the meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

**Minutes recorded by:** Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist  
**Minutes reviewed and edited by:** Adrienne Price, Executive Director & Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor  
**Minutes approved on:** November 3, 2023

**RACHELE BRANSON**  
**BOARD CHAIR**

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