

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
Board WebEx Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 4, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

The Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy met via WebEx on Tuesday, March 4, 2025. The following members were present:

Board Members Present

Anne Thompson, Chair
Destiny Hebert, Vice Chair
Terri Burner, Board Member
Claire Mullin, Board Member
Laurri Wallace, Board Member

Administrative Staff Present

Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor
Sherry Strong, Complaint/Compliance Analyst

Board Members Absent

Ashley Camoosa, Board Member
Charles Bass, Board Member
Everett Tyler, Consumer Board Member

Attorney General's Office

Giovanna Franchi Souza, Assistant Attorney General

Visitors Present

Drashi Patel
Rachael Walton-Mouw
Steven
Dhara Shah, PT, American Physical Therapy Association-Georgia (APTA-GA) President
Ben Braxley, American Physical Therapy Association-Georgia (APTA-GA) President-Elect
Ruth Maher, PT, Ph.D., DPT, WCS, Physical Therapy Department Head, University of North Georgia
Alicia Hill
Daniel Dale, PT, American Physical Therapy Association-Georgia (APTA-GA), Past President
Tina Spears, PT
Sandy Eskew Capps PT, DPT, American Physical Therapy Association-Georgia (APTA-GA)
Dre
Stan S.
EPark

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

OPEN SESSION

Agenda The Board voted by acclamation to accept the agenda as presented.

Open Session Minutes – January 14, 2025 Open Session WebEx Meeting Minutes

The Board voted by acclamation to approve the January 14, 2025 Open Session WebEx Meeting Minutes, as amended for attendance. Dr. Hebert motioned, Dr. Burner seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the friendly amendment to the minutes regarding board member attendance as presented.

Licenses to Ratify: January 9, 2025 – February 27, 2025

The Board voted by acclamation to ratify the licenses by application and by reinstatement that were issued in accordance with the Board Rules and Policies between Board meetings.

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

1. Join Us March 14-16 for an NPTE Item Writing Workshop

2. The Good, The Bad, and the Crazy _ The Most Intriguing Recent Legal Cases
3. 2025 NPTE Policies_Effective March 23, 2025
4. February 2025 NPTE Workshop for Educators
5. January News Brief
6. CBA Webinar Servicemembers Civil Relief Act
7. Regulatory Hour – Board Audits_Don't Let Your Board Ride Off Into the Sunset
8. February News Brief
9. Survey Results
 - i. Survey Results NPTE - Q4 2024
 - ii. State Application Processing Satisfaction - Q4 2024
 - iii. GA October 2024 NPTE Survey Comments
10. Stakeholder Engagement in Good Times and Bad Times

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Burner seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the correspondence in reference to FSBPT as information.

Discussion – PT COMPACT – Home State Audit Process

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Gaddis seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the correspondence in reference to PT COMPACT as information.

American Physical Therapy Association – Georgia Chapter (APTA-GA) – Dr. Dhara Shah, PT, DPT, President

Dr. Shah requested clarification on the recent letter that went out to physical therapy educational institutions regarding the use of the PT and PTA designators. Dr. Thompson and Ms. Price explained what the statute requires if anyone should any use the regulatory designators, and that any faculty member using the title(s) must be licensed as a PT or PTA in Georgia or have a Compact Privilege to practice within the State of Georgia [O.C.G.A. §§ 43-33-11(b) & (c)].

She thanked Dr. Thompson and Ms Price for clarifying this requirement and expressed her appreciation to the Board and Ms. Price for coordinating the April meeting to organize and collaborate on the development of a new renewal webinar for licensees to navigate GOALS.

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Burner seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the APTA-GA Chapter Report as presented.

Petitions for Rule Waiver

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Burner seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to table the petitions for Rule Waiver and the Petitions for Rule Variance to review the applications for licensure in Executive Session prior to rendering a decision on the petitions.

1. BR 490-2-.03(b)_Patel, Drashti
2. BR 490-2-03(1)(g) & BR 490-2-04_Patel, Drashti
3. BR 490-2-.03(1)(a)_Patel, Drashti
4. BR 490-2-.03(d)_Park, Eunse
5. BR 490-2-.03(b)_Esteban, Hubert

Petitions for Rule Variance

1. BR 490-2-.03(a)_Park, Eunse
2. BR 490-2-.03(g)_Park, Eunse
3. BR 490-2-.03(1)(e)_Chibum, Bae
4. BR 490-2-.03(1)(g)_Chibum, Bae

Executive Director Report – A. Price

The 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 discussed included the following:

- Annual Ethics Commission Affidavit of Public Officer Filings
- Rules Hearing
- PLB Updates
- Regulatory Designators
- Georgia General Assembly

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Executive Director’s Report as presented.

Board’s Chairperson Report – A. Thompson

1. **Strategic Planning – Board Assessment Resource (BAR)**
2. **PT Board Strategic Planning Profile_2019 to Present**

Dr. Thompson addressed the Board on Strategic Planning for 2025 and their responses to the Board Assessment Resource (BAR) through FSBPT. The BAR covers topics such as licensure processes, engaging with the public in various categories, as well as board performance, outreach and education, soliciting feedback, and complaint resolution. Dr. Thompson relayed that some processes presented in the BAR are not under the Board’s purview.

Dr. Thompson shared that the Board will continue the 2019-present Strategic Planning Profile to include Annual Board Member Training, which will be handled by the Attorney General’s Office in today’s meeting in Executive Session, attending APTA-GA Chapter’s imPacT conference, offering the Navigating the License Renewal Process Continuing Education Course in 2025, and assigning Ms. Mullin the task of exploring opportunities for engagement beyond FSBPT.

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Burner seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Board’s Chairperson Report, and 2025 Strategic Plan as presented.

Dr. Wallace motioned, Dr. Burner 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: Anne Thompson, Destiny Gaddis, Terri Burner, Laurri Wallace, and Claire Mullin.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session of Tuesday, March 4, 2025, Dr. Thompson 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

Petitions for Rule Waiver

1. **BR 490-2-.03(b)_Patel, Drashti**

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Wallace 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 a substantial hardship.

2. **BR 490-2-.03(1)(g) & BR 490-2-.04_Patel, Drashti**

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to grant the petition to waive 490-2-.03(1)(g) & BR 490-2-.04 based on sufficient evidence to substantiate a substantial hardship.

3. BR 490-2-.03(1)(a)_Patel, Drashti

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Wallace seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to grant the petition to waive BR 490-2-.03(1)(a) based on sufficient evidence to substantiate a substantial hardship.

4. BR 490-2-.03(d)_Park, Eunse

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Wallace 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 a substantial hardship.

5. BR 490-2-.03(b)_Esteban, Hubert

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Wallace 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 a substantial hardship.

Petitions for Rule Variance

1. BR 490-2-.03(a)_Park, Eunse

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Burner seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition for variance of BR 490-2-.03(a) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate a substantial hardship.

2. BR 490-2-.03(g)_Park, Eunse

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

3. BR 490-2-.03(1)(e)_Chibum, Bae

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Burner seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition for variance of BR 490-2-.03(1)(e) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate a substantial hardship.

4. BR 490-2-.03(1)(g)_Chibum, Bae

Dr. Mullin motioned, Dr. Burner seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to deny the petition for variance of BR 490-2-.03(1)(g) based on insufficient evidence to substantiate a substantial hardship.

Cognizant Summary Report – L. Wallace, DPT

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

- PT250393** Close the case.
- PT250396** Close case due to no regulatory practices/laws or rules being broken by the Respondent based on information from the complaint.
- PT250409** Close the case due to unresponsiveness.
- PT250406** Close the case based on insufficient information to proceed with an investigation.
- PT250412** Close the case based on insufficient information to proceed with an investigation.
- PT250391** Close the case for lack of evidence.
- PT250423** Close the case due to no jurisdiction and refer the complainant to the Corporations Division to refile the complaint.

Cognizant Ratification List

Dr. Burner motioned, Dr. Mullin seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to ratify the Cognizant recommendation as presented.

Executive Session Minutes – January 14, 2025 Executive Session WebEx Board Meeting Minutes

Dr. Gaddis motioned, Dr. Burner seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the January 14, 2025 Executive Session WebEx Meeting Minutes as presented.

Attorney General’s Report – G. Souza

Dr. Burner motioned, Dr. Gaddis seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion to accept the Attorney General’s Report and advice as presented.

Legal Services MEMO

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

- 1. **Request for Reconsideration – PT250444** Uphold the previous motion. May negotiate a payment plan for fine to be paid in full.
- 2. **Case for Ratification – PT250430** Accept order as received.

Applications for Board Review

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

- Applicant 4192410** Issue the license with a Letter of Concern regarding criminal history.
- Applicant 4219122** Approve 480-hour Traineeship Agreement, pending resubmission to align start date with this date of approval.
- Applicant 4000777** Refer to the Attorney General’s Office for an Order for a Mental and Physical Examination (OMPE). If returned with able to practice with reasonable skill and safety, refer results to Cognizant for review.
- Applicant 4223998** Must complete 1000-hour Traineeship Agreement.
- Applicant 4192890** Refer to Legal Services for a Public Consent Order for Renewal of Licensure with a fine of \$1000 for false attestation on the renewal application and failure to meet CE requirements. Must complete four (4) hours of Georgia Ethics and Jurisprudence or the GA JAM within 90 days of the order docket date and pay the fine in full within six (6) months of the order docket date. Flag for Audit.

Adjournment: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Michelle Hornaday, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed by: Meagan Doss, Licensing Supervisor & Adrienne Price, Executive Director
Minutes approved on: May 20, 2025

ANNE THOMPSON, PT, EdD
BOARD CHAIR

ADRIENNE PRICE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF
PUBLIC MEETING**

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 *et seq.*, requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specific exceptions relied upon. O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting in question.

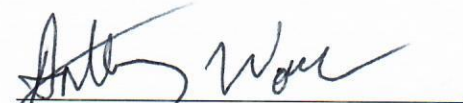
Comes now E. Anne W. Thompson the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the Physical Therapy Board.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On, March 4, 2025 this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of the members present voted to close the meeting or a portion thereof for the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for the closure of this meeting was:
O.C.G.A. §43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h)
5. The subject(s) discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are:
To deliberate applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications and investigative reports.

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NOT


Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 12th day of March 2025


Notary Public

Anthony Wolff
NOTARY PUBLIC
CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA
My Commission Expires
09/18/2027