

State Board of Polysomnography
124 Halsey Street, Newark, NJ
March 13, 2012
Public Session Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the State Board of Polysomnography was held at 124 Halsey Street, 7th Floor, Monmouth Conference Room, Newark, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Chair, Michael Lahey.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Michael J. Lahey, RPSGT, Chair
Sara Rose Gallagher, RPSGT
Kathleen A. Feeney, RPSGT
Penni L. Smith, RPSGT
Mitchell L. Rubinstein, RPSGT, Vice Chair
Don J. Fahy, RPSGT

Also in Attendance:

Susan Carboni, Deputy Attorney General
Lolly Merced, Representing the Acting Executive Director
Elizabeth Greenblatt, Regulatory Analyst
Tiesha Frederick, Administrative Staff
Christopher Goscimski, Intern

Absent:

Gerald J. Ferencz, MD
John Penek, MD

III. RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

January 10, 2012 Public Session Minutes

No minutes were submitted.. Minutes will be submitted for review at the next scheduled meeting.

IV. ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

1. New Licensed Polysomnographers

A list of newly licensed polysomnographers was submitted to the Board for its review and approval.

Tyrone K. Melvin	49FC00021700	Patricia S. Staniewicz	49FC00021800
Michael H. Vreeland	49FC00021900	Patricia L. Smith	49FC00022000
Elia E. Jimenez	49FC00022100	Ruth M. Caramucci	49FC00022200
Jeffrey N. Boyle	49FC00022300	Andrea M. Konstance	49FC00022400
Elizabeth A. Roberts	49FC00022500	Adrienne M. Zeigler	49FC00022600
Sophia Mitchell	49FC00022700	John P. Smith	49FC00022800
Patricia Singleton	49FC00022900	Taina Jean Louis	49FE00000600
Earl D. Simmons, Jr.	49FW00029200	Michael A. Lama	49FW00029300

A motion was made by Don Fahy and seconded by Kathleen Feeney to affirm the list of initially licensed polysomnographers. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Monthly Report

A monthly report of all board business was submitted to the Board for informational purposes.

3. Budget Report

A quarterly budget report of all of the board's finances was submitted to the Board for informational purposes.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Review of new sleep credentials - RST

This matter was tabled for further discussion at the next scheduled meeting. Ted Thurn of the AASM will make a presentation at the next scheduled meeting regarding the RST credentials.

2. Polysomnography Proposal - N.J.A.C. 13:44L-2.3 - Amendment Alternate Draft - Regulatory Analyst Elizabeth Greenblatt to discuss with the Board

Regulatory Analyst Greenblatt discussed amendments to the Board's proposed regulations to enable PhDs to become technologist.

A motion was made by Mitchell Rubinstein and seconded by Kathleen Feeney to approve the proposed amendments with changes, provided that DAG Carboni does not have any

substantial recommendations upon her subsequent review. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion of recognition of N.J. Licensure by Medicare

This matter was tabled for the next scheduled meeting for further discussion.

4. Discussion of Accreditation vs. Licensure and job roles among the various tech licensure levels

This matter was tabled for the next scheduled meeting for further discussion.

5. Provisional Order of Denial (Zina Lewis)

A provisional order of denial was issued to Zina Lewis. Since no response has been received from Ms. Lewis, a motion was made by Penni Smith and seconded by Don Fahy to issue a Final Order of Denial to close this matter. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of Scope of Practice with consideration to Qualified Medical Director (QMD)

The amendments will make it easier for licensed physicians to be considered qualified medical directors by amending the definition of “qualified medical director” to make it more consistent with the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (the “AASM”) medical director standard. In addition, the proposed amendments will permit trainees and technicians to practice in sleep centers that are either State-licensed or accredited by the AASM.

The Board is also proposing to amend its rules so that non-trainee applicants for technicians’ licenses may substitute successful completion of either the Certified Polysomnographic Technician’s examination (the “CPSGT”) or the Registered Polysomnographic Technologist’s examination (the “RPSGT”), for successful completion of the currently required Commission on the Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (“CAAHEP”) course of study. The Board is also proposing amendments to various definitions throughout the rules for clarification purposes.

The Chair, Michael Lahey and Regulatory Analyst will submit draft regulation for further discussion and review at the next scheduled meeting.

**2. Registered Sleep Technologist (RST) credential for licensing
(Request by Lynnda M. Kane, Polysomnographic Technician)**

Ms. Kane is requesting the Board to accept the Registered Sleep Technologist (RST) credential awarded by the American Board of Sleep Medicine (ABSM) as an equivalent to the RPSGT credential.

The Board is taking this matter under consideration while reviewing the RST credentials.

3. Licensure Application - Amaury Linares (Denial of licensure)

The Board was advised that Mr. Linares applied for a polysomnographic trainee license. However, he is more than six (6) months in arrears of his child support obligations. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:17-56.44(d), a license cannot be granted to Mr. Linares until the child support arrearage are less than six (6) months.

This was submitted for informational purposes.

4. Licensure Application - Juan Freire (Denial of licensure)

The Board was advised that Mr. Freire applied for a polysomnographic trainee license. However, he has outstanding student loans in default status. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21.2, a license cannot be granted to Mr. Freire until his student loan is either out of default status or a new payment arrangement has been made to satisfy this loan.

This was submitted for informational purposes.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kathleen Feeney and seconded by Sara Rose Gallagher to close public session and go into executive session for the purpose of reviewing complaints and disciplinary matters.. Motion carried unanimously.

The public session ended at 10:55 a.m.