

**STATE BOARD OF POLYSOMNOGRAPHY  
124 HALSEY STREET, NEWARK, NJ  
MONMOUTH CONFERENCE ROOM, 7TH FLOOR  
APRIL 10, 2012**

**PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

This scheduled meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. in the Monmouth Conference Room, 7th Floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, NJ by the Chair, Michael Lahey.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Present:**

Michael J. Lahey, RPSGT, Chair  
Mitchell L. Rubinstein, RPSGT, Vice Chair  
Penni L. Smith, RPSGT  
Kathleen A. Feeney, RPSGT  
Gerald J. Ferencz, M.D.  
Sara Rose Gallagher, RPSGT  
John Penek, MD

**Absent:**

Don J. Fahy, RPSGT

**Also in Attendance:**

Susan Carboni, Deputy Attorney General  
Francine Widrich, Acting Executive Director  
Elizabeth Greenblatt, Regulatory Analyst  
Tiesha Frederick, Administrative Staff  
Ted Thurn, Senior Health Policy and Government Affairs Analyst for the  
American Academy of Sleep Medicine  
Rita Brooks, MED, RPSGT, RST and Director Executive Board for the  
American Association of Sleep Technologists

**Announcement of Quorum**

The Chair announced that a quorum was present. The Chair also announced that in accordance with Chapter 231, of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing to the Office of Secretary of State, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Bergen Record and The Courier Post.

### **III REVIEW OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Penni Smith and seconded by Mitchell Rubinstein to approve the January 10, 2012 Public Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Kathleen Feeney and seconded by Penni Smith to approve the March 13, 2012 Public Minutes with corrections. Motion carried.

### **IV. ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

#### **1. Newly Licensed Polysomnographers**

A list of all initially licensed polysomnographers submitted for the Board to review.

Rubin Francis	49FC00023000	John C. Herkert	49FC00023100
Alneesa S. Shelton-Moore	49FC00023200	Suganthini Premarajah	49FC00023300
Omayra Maldonado	49FE00000700	Arden B. Silva	49FE00000800
Idir Saradouni	49FE00000900	Wilfredo N. Carias	49FW00029400
Bridgett R. Tharp	49FW00029500	Catherine A. Biello	49FW00029600
Anthony D. Biello	49FW00029700	Adrianna Cameron	49FW00029800
Brinnia V. Caravaca	49FW00029900	Jonnathan N. Arboleda	49FW00030000
Keyurkumar H. Koradia	49FW00030100		

A motion was made by Kathleen Feeney and seconded by Penni Smith to affirm the above listed applicants for licensure. Motion carried.

#### **2. Executive Director Monthly Report**

The Monthly Report was submitted for informational purposes.

### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **1. 10:30 a.m. Regulatory Analyst Elizabeth Greenblatt with New Proposed Regulations.**

Elizabeth Greenblatt, the Regulatory Analyst for the State Board of Polysomnography opened the discussion with a re-cap of the March 13th meeting concerning proposed amendments to the Board's current regulations. Ms. Greenblatt provided an extensive explanation of the proposed amendments she drafted for the Board's

review. The Board discussed the proposed amendments and tabled further discussion until the next board meeting.

## **2. Discussion of recognition of NJ Licensure by Medicare.**

This matter was tabled for the next scheduled meeting.

## **3. Applicants through Grandfathering who have not met the requirements for licensure.**

The Board reviewed a list of pending applications for licensure by grandfathering, including the status of each application. The applications have been on file with the Board for over one year. The Board decided on December 14, 2010 during its public session that if an application is still incomplete 12 months from the date of receipt, and after at least 2 deficiency letters were mailed to the applicant, the application would be deemed abandoned and that the application will be deleted from the Board's files.

A motion was made by Kathleen Feeney and seconded by Penni Smith to deem these applications abandoned and deleted from the Board's files. Motion carried.

## **4. Final Order of Denial for Zina Lewis.**

Zina Lewis' Final Order of Denial of Licensure was reviewed by the Board. The Order will be posted to the Board's website.

# **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

## **1. 11:00 a.m. Presentation by Ted Thurn and Rita Brooks of the AASM on the RST Credential.**

Ted Thurn and Rita Brooks appeared before the Board to discuss the American Board of Sleep Medicine Sleep Technologists Registry Examination and the Registered Sleep Technologist (RST) credential.

### **Details of Presentation:**

The American Board of Sleep Medicine (ABSM), according to the material it presented, is an independent, nonprofit organization whose certificates are recognized throughout the world for sleep medicine physicians, PhDs, behavioral sleep medicine specialists and sleep technologists.

Mr. Thurn and Ms. Brooks asked the Board to consider using the Sleep Technologists Registry Examination as an alternate licensing examination for polysomnographic technologists.

According to the information presented the exam was developed by its Sleep Technologist Examination Committee comprised of senior members of the sleep technology profession and sleep physicians. It was developed to reflect the day-to-day responsibilities of the sleep technologist in a clinical setting and is based on the education and training pathways available for the sleep technology profession. It was

reviewed by an Advisory Committee that included trainees, active sleep technologists, sleep technologists educators, employers of sleep technologists, sleep medicine specialists and patient representation. It was approved by the American Board of Sleep Medicine's Executive Board, which

include  
s  
technol  
ogist  
represe  
ntation.  
The  
examin  
ation  
process  
is  
constan  
tly  
under  
review  
in order  
to  
insure a  
fair and  
balance  
d  
outcom  
e.

Again, according to the information presented, in order to be eligible to sit for the examination, candidates must:

A. Be a graduate of CAAHEP or COARC PSG programs, RPSGT; or

B. Complete an A-Step Introductory Program (or CPSGT) and A-Step Modules with on-the-job training. A minimum experience (minimum of 6 months and a maximum of 3 years) in an AASM-accredited sleep center with independent performance of 50 overnight sleep studies, minimum of 20 with CPAP titration; one MSLT and a score of 85% or higher on the ABSM Sleep Scoring Proficiency Examination or reach the minimum standard for 2 months of the inter-scorer reliability program of an AASM accredited sleep disorders center; or

C. Be a Healthcare Professional with a designated healthcare credential and minimum experience (minimum of 6 months and a maximum of 3 years) in an AASM-accredited sleep center with independent performance of 25 overnight sleep studies, minimum of 10 with CPAP titration; one MSLT and a score of 85% or higher on the ABSM Sleep Scoring Proficiency Examination or reach the minimum standard for 2 months of the inter-scorer reliability program of an AASM-accredited sleep disorders center.

Mr. Thurn and Ms. Brooks informed the Board that 11 states currently license polysomnographers and will recognize the RST Examination credential.

A motion was made by Penni L. Smith and seconded by Sara Rose Gallagher to recognize the RST Examination as an equivalent examination to the RPSGT. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kathleen Feeney and seconded by Mitchell Rubinstein for Regulatory Analyst Elizabeth Greenblatt to draft regulatory changes to include the RST Examination credential. Motion carried unanimously.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Penni L. Smith and seconded by Dr. Penek to close Public Session and go into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing confidential matters. Motion carried unanimously. The Public Session ended at 1:10 p.m.