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State Board of Polysomnography
Public Session Minutes
September 10, 2013

A regular meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Polysomnography was held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, NJ on the seventh floor, on Tuesday, August 13, 2013. The meeting was convened in accordance with the schedule filed with the Secretary of State and was conducted in accordance with provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975 more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law. Adequate notice of the meeting was provided to the Office of the Secretary of State, the Newark Star Ledger, the Bergen Record, the Courier Post and the Trenton Times. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. A roll call was taken and the following attendance of Board members was recorded for these minutes:

Penni L. Smith, RPSGT, (Chair) Present
Sara Rose Gallagher, RPSGT, (Vice-Chair) Present
Mitchell L. Rubinstein, RPSGT, Present
Kathleen A. Feeney, RPSGT, Present
Don J. Fahy, RPSGT, Absent
John Penek, M.D. Absent
Gerald J. Ferencz, M.D. Present

Also in attendance were: Francine Widrich, Acting Executive Director of the State Board of Polysomnography, Deputy Attorney General Susan Carboni, Elizabeth Greenblatt, Regulatory Analyst, and administrative staff Tiesha Frederick and Lyann Hope.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM

I. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2013 and August 13, 2013

A motion was made by Mitchell Rubinstein and seconded by Sara Rose Gallagher to approve and ratify the decisions by the Board Chairperson, Penni Smith, in her use of decisional authority for the Public Session Minutes of May 14, 2013 with corrections. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Sara Rose Gallagher and seconded by Mitchell Rubinstein to approve the Public Session Minutes of August 13, 2013 with corrections. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. Gerald Ferencz and seconded by Kathleen A. Feeney to ratify the decisions of the Board Chairperson, Penni Smith, in her use of decisional authority and the sub-committee decisions at the August 13, 2013 Public Session Meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

II. ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. NEWLY LICENSED LIST POLYSOMNOGRAPHERS

Cesar Rodriquez	49FC00025300	Kristen Pollack	49FC00025400
Gino L. Ruffolo	49FC00025500	Kimberley N. Chan	49FE00004500
Kristin Debalski	49FE00004600	Kerby Zayas	49FE00004700
Abigail Ortiz	49FE00004800	Patrick H. Ryan	49FW00037500
Rebecca K. Watkins	49FW00037600	Jose L. Falconi	49FW00037700
Robert M. Gallagher	49FW00037800	Eric H. Walker	49FW00037900
Ellen Albertie	49FW00038000	Maria L Buzeta	49FW00038100
Alfredo B. Raya	49FW00036500	Leslie A. Hackett	49FW00038200

A motion was made by Sara Rose Gallagher and seconded by Kathleen A. Feeney to affirm the list of newly licensed polysomnographers. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. MONTHLY EXECUTIVE REPORT

The monthly executive report was submitted for informational purposes to the Board.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. The Board reviewed the current requirements for the following programs and examinations and found them acceptable:

- a. Thomas Edison College CAAHEP Program for Polysomnographers.
- b. A-Step Introductory Course Online Examination.
- c. The Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologist (BRPT) Examination.
- d. The ABSM Registered Sleep Technologist (RST) Examination.

2. Enforcing the Statute requiring licensure of practicing polysomnographers

The Board discussed measures to enforce its statute requiring those practicing polysomnography to be licensed.

3. Alternate educational pathways for polysomnographic technologist who do not hold a technician's license.

The Board will take under consideration the alternative educational pathways and will continue discussion at the next scheduled meeting.

4. The Board discussed whether an applicant for licensure through the pathway (trainee to technician to technologist) must have an active license at the time the application is received. The Board staff recently received technician applications for trainees whose licenses were expired:

- a. Terri Lansing
- b. Tiwari Vansh

The Board will accept Terri Lansing's and Tiwari Vansh's technician applications.

A motion was made by Sara Rose Gallagher and seconded by Mitchell Rubinstein that any trainee whose license has expired within the last year may still apply for a technician's license provided the applicant meets all other requirements for licensure. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Sara Rose Gallagher and seconded by Mitchell Rubinstein that any technician whose license has expired with the last year may still apply for a technologist license provided the applicant meets all other requirements for licensure. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. A discussion on obtaining a technician's license more than once.
(Technician to Trainee to Technician)**

The Board discussed the issue of a technician whose license expired and then qualified for and was issued a trainee license. Is this trainee eligible to obtain a technician's license a second time? With the advice of legal counsel, the Board determined that an expired technician who was granted a trainee license may apply to upgrade the trainee license to technician, however he or she may not have the original technician license number.

6. Review of the requirements for licensure in New York.

The Board reviewed the requirements for licensure for New York and at this time no determination has been made on the equivalence of licensure with New Jersey. The Board will review the requirements for licensure of New York when the grandparenting period is complete. Any applicant licensed by New York who submits an endorsement application will be reviewed by the Board on an individual basis.

7. A discussion on assessing costs to licensees subject to discipline by the Board.

The Board discussed the assessment of costs related to disciplinary actions taken by the Board on a subject and will review each matter individually for cost assessment.

8. Inactive Status Request to the Board

- a. Mohamed Hebela is requesting that his technician's license be put on inactive status.

A motion was made by Sara Rose Gallagher and seconded by Kathleen Feeney to put Mohamed Hebela technician's license on inactive status. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Tetyana V. Pasulo is requesting that his technician's license be put on inactive status.

A motion was made by Sara Rose Gallagher and seconded by Kathleen Feeney to put Tetyana V. Pasulo technician's license on inactive status. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. Regulatory Analyst, Elizabeth Greenblatt appeared before the Board to provide the following:

a. The proposed rule for alternate providers of Basic Life Support Certification is currently at the Governor's office.

b. The Division of Law is currently reviewing the Board's proposed regulations and may make suggested changes concerning the definition of "direction" as it relates to technologists working under the direction of a qualified medical director. The Board is also considering whether the proposal should be further amended to permit someone who is not currently licensed as a technician to be eligible for a technologist license if he or she has successfully completed either a CAAHEP course or the A-Step Introductory course and A-Step Self Study modules (in addition to other requirements for licensure). The current draft of the proposal would permit a candidate who has completed the A-Step Introductory Course and the A-Step Introductory course and the A-Step Self Study modules and CPSGT (in addition to other requirements for licensure) to apply for a technician's license only. The Board, at its next meeting, will consider whether to incorporate this amendment.

V. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Sara Rose Gallagher and seconded by Kathleen A. Feeney to adjourn public session at 1:10 p.m. and move into executive session to discuss confidential matters.

A motion was made by Kathleen A. Feeney and seconded by Mitchell Rubinstein to adjourn public session meeting at 3:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francine Widrich
Acting Executive Director