

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2006**

A regular meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners was held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey, in the Somerset Room, 6th Floor, on Tuesday, February 28, 2006. The meeting was convened in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Nancy Kirsch, Chairperson of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:40a.m. and a roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded:

CAROLANNE AARON, P.T. Present
BARBARA BEHRENS, P.T.A Present
JEAN BICKAL, ESQ Present
MARY B. BROWNE, P.T. Present
JEFFERY A. ERICKSON, P.T. Present
BARRY INGLETT, P.T. Present
NANCY KIRSCH, P.T. Present
SUSAN M. QUICK Present
KAREN WILK, P.T. Present

Also present were: Susan H. Gartland, Executive Director; Carmen A Rodriguez, Deputy Attorney General; Tracey Casimire, Assistant to the Executive Director
Members of the public: Patty Brick, P.T., Director of Practice APTA-NJ; Ken Mailley, P.T.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Board would like to thank former Board member Ivette P. Martinez for her excellent service and contributions to the Board.

I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 24, 2006 BOARD MEETING

Upon a motion made by Karen Wilk and seconded by Jean Bickal, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the January 24, 2006 Board Meeting as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request from Michael Chunko, PT for a waiver of the renewal late fee

Mr. Chunko wrote the Board on behalf of his wife, Eileen Chunko, PT. Mr. Chunko advised the Board that it appeared as though the payment for his wife's renewal was accepted on the renewal website. As he was unaware that a Macintosh computer was not compatible with the payment system. Subsequently Mrs. Chunko was required to pay the renewal late fee. Mr. Chunko is requesting a refund of that late fee as his wife would have been renewed by January 31, 2006, the deadline for the renewal of licensure, if the payment was indeed accepted.

Upon a motion made by Barbara Behrens and seconded by Mary Browne, the Board voted to refund Mr. Chunko the renewal late fee as the website did not indicate that his payment was not accepted. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

B. Use of the letters "cPT" to designate American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) certified personal trainers

The Board reviewed information concerning the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) utilizing the designation "cPT" to identify personal trainers who are certified by ACSM.

Upon a motion made by Mary Browne and seconded by Karen Wilk the Board voted to advise Carl Foster,

President of the American College of Sports Medicine, that the use of the designation "cPT" to identify personal trainers certified by ACSM is confusing to the public who will not understand that the person using this designation is not a physical therapist and requests that they correct the designation. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

C. Request from Mary Allen Pullen for a Temporary Visiting License

Mary Allen Pullen applied for a Temporary Visiting License in order to complete her education. Ms. Pullen advised the Board that she would need a TVL for 9 weeks in order to complete the requirements of the McKenzie Institute Diplomate Program.. Ms. Pullen further advised that she is currently licensed in the State of West Virginia and has maintained an active license since 1984.

Upon a motion made by Barbara Behrens and seconded by Mary Browne, the Board voted to grant Mary Allen Pullen a TVL for one year beginning March 1, 2006 and ending February 28, 2007. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

D. Kathy Kimm- Meridian Home Care

The Board reviewed an inquiry from Kathy Kimm, Manager of Meridian Home Care, regarding wound care and whether a Physical Therapist can do staple and suture removal.

Upon a motion made by Babara Behrens and seconded by Mary Browne the Board voted to advise Ms. Kimm that a physical therapist can remove staples and sutures if they are properly trained and have the appropriate equipment. If the Physical Therapist in their professional judgement is not qualified to perform this task they may refer the patient back to the appropriate health care provider. A vote was taken on the motion and Board Member Carolanne Aaron abstained while all others voted in favor. The motion carried by a majority vote.

E. Mary Jean K. Terlizzi, PT- License Renewal

The Board reviewed the request for a refund of the license renewal late fee. Ms. Terlizzi informed the Board that she was unable to renew her license by January 31, 2006 as she had to provide care to her mother who became ill on January 20, 2006

Upon a motion made by Mary Browne and seconded by Jean Bickal, the Board voted not to waive the renewal late fee. The Board opined that she had sufficient time to renew before January 31, 2006. A vote was taken and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

F. Assembly No. 1276

(Synopsis- Revises Procedures for suspension or revocation of licenses for overdue child support.)

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Jeffery Erickson, the Board voted to advise its legislative liaison that the Board does not support A-1276 as it would be difficult for the Physical Therapist to pay the overdue child support if they can not practice their profession and maintain an income. A vote was taken and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

G. Request from Donna Galotta for a Temporary Visiting License

Donna Galotta applied for a Temporary Visiting License (TVL) for educational purposes. Ms. Galotta advised the Board that she would only need the TVL for 9 weeks in order to fulfill the requirement of the McKenzie Institute Diplomate Program. Ms. Galotta further advised that she is currently licensed in two other states: Massachusetts and New Hampshire. She has maintained a license in Massachusetts since 1978.

Upon a motion made by Karen Wilk and seconded by Jean Bickal, the Board voted to grant Donna Galotta a TVL for one year beginning March 1, 2006 to February 28, 2007. A vote was taken and a motion carried by a

unanimous vote.

H. Request from Ramona Kunzer for a Temporary Visiting License

Ramona Kunzer applied for a Temporary Visiting license (TVL) in order to work as a physical therapist at St. Joseph's Hospital (Wayne) to develop a new program. Ms. Kunzer advised the Board that she would need a TVL for 6 months. Ms. Kunzer further advised that she is currently licensed in the following states: Washington, Massachusetts and Arizona.

Upon a motion made by Barbara Behrens and seconded by Jean Bickal, the Board voted to grant Ramona Kunzer a TVL for one year beginning March 1, 2006 to February 28, 2007. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Corporate Practice

Once the Board completes the Sunset Review then they will focus on writing regulations for Corporate Practice.

B. Rules and Regulations - Sunset Review

The Board has completed the Sunset Review of their regulations with Chuck Manning, Regulatory Analyst. The Board agreed to propose their regulations with amendments for Sunsetting.

Upon a motion made by Mary Browne and seconded by Barbara Behrens, the Board voted to accept the proposed regulations with amendments. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

C. Reuben R. Balaquiot, PT License Reactivation

The Board reviewed Reuben Balaquiot's request for information on how to activate his license. Mr. Balaquiot, PT will have to supply the Board with an affidavit of what he has been doing since he surrendered his license in June of 1999.

Upon a motion made by Barbara Behrens and seconded by Jean Bickal, the Board voted to advise Reuben Balaquiot, PT that he must supply the Board with an affidavit of what he has been doing since he surrendered his license in 1999. The Board will schedule Mr. Balaquiot for an Investigative Inquiry to gather more information. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

D. APTANJ Request to be a Provider of CE courses

APTANJ will receive the automatic approval of courses that they sponsor for the renewal period 2006 to 2008. They will also need to supply to the Board a sign in/sign out sheet, a course evaluation form and a proof of attendance certificate.

Upon a motion made by Mary Browne and seconded by Barbara Behrens, the Board voted to grant the approval of APTANJ sponsored courses without the requirement for prior approval for the biennial renewal period 2006 to 2008. A vote was taken and Carolanne Aaron abstained while all others voted in favor. The motion carried by a majority vote.

E. Discussion of Dates for Board Sponsored Continuing Education (CE) Course

The Board is trying to determine dates in April, May and June, 2006 to conduct 6 CE courses for 2 credits to inform licensees of the new regulations and CE requirements. Once the dates are confirmed the licensees will be notified.

F. Continuing Education (CE) Packet

The Board reviewed and modified the CE forms to be sent to course sponsors as well as the CE tracking form for use by licensees upon audit. The Board further discussed delegation to the Education Committee of the review and approval of CE courses.

Upon a motion made by Jeffery Erickson and seconded by Jean Bickal, the Board voted to approve the CE forms and to grant the Education Committee the authority to review and approve CE courses. A vote was taken and the motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

IV. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A. Article, "Issue: Patient Discharge" from the American Physical Therapy Associate of New Jersey's Winter 2005 issue of the Jersey Jargon

The Board reviewed an article, "Issue: Patient Discharge" from the American Physical Therapy Associate of New Jersey's Winter 2005 issue of the Jersey Jargon and considered it informational.

B. Maryland State Board of Physical Therapy Winter 2005 Newsletter

The Board reviewed the newsletter "Maryland State Board of Physical Therapy Winter 2005 Newsletter" and considered it informational.

C. New Jersey State Board of Chiropractic Examiners' November 17, 2005 Public Session Minutes and Public Session Agenda

The Board reviewed the New Jersey State Board of Chiropractic Examiners' November 17, 2005 Public Session Minutes and Public Session Agenda and considered it informational.

D. New Jersey State Board of Chiropractic Examiners' January 19, 2006 Public Session Minutes and Public Session Agenda

The Board reviewed the New Jersey State Board of Chiropractic Examiners' January 19, 2006 Public Session Minutes and Public Session Agenda and considered it informational.

E. FSBPT Newsletter Winter 2005

The Board considered the FSBPT Newsletter of Winter 2005 informational.

F. FSBPT News Briefs January 2006

The Board considered the information in the FSBPT News Briefs to be informational. .

V. APPEARANCES:

T.O.E.L. WAIVERS:

1. JEFFERY LUNA

Jeffery Luna appeared before the Board to request a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for foreign-educated individuals applying for licensure. Mr. Luna is applying for licensure as a physical therapist by examination in the State of New Jersey. He was educated in the Phillippines and received his professional as well as undergraduate education in the English language. He advised the Board that he took the new TOEFL examination on December 17, 2005 and failed one section.

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Mary Browne, the Board voted to deny Mr. Luna a waiver of the TOEFL requirement based upon the fact that he did not pass all sections of the new TOEFL examination.

The vote was taken and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

2. ANNA SAMSON

Anna Samson appeared before the Board to request a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for foreign-educated individuals applying for licensure. Ms. Samson is applying for licensure as a physical therapist by examination in the State of New Jersey. She is currently licensed in the State of New York. She was educated in the Philippines and received her professional as well as undergraduate education in the English language. She advised the Board that she took the new TOEFL examination on November 4, 2005 and failed numerous sections of the exam.

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Mary Browne, the Board voted to deny Ms. Samson a waiver of the TOEFL requirement based upon the fact that she did not pass all sections of the new TOEFL examination. The vote was taken and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. AGNES EBBAH

Agnes Ebbah appeared before the Board to request a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for foreign-educated individuals applying for licensure. Ms. Ebbah is applying for licensure as a physical therapist by examination in the State of New Jersey. She was educated in the Philippines and received her professional and undergraduate education in the English language. She advised the Board that she took the new TOEFL examination on November 4, 2005 and failed one section.

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Mary Browne, the Board voted to deny Ms. Ebbah a waiver of the TOEFL requirement based upon the fact that she did not pass all sections of the new TOEFL examination. The vote was taken and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. PRATHEESH THOMAS

Pratheesh Thomas appeared before the board to request a waiver of the TOEFL requirement for foreign-education individuals applying for licensure. Mr. Thomas is applying for licensure as a physical therapist by examination in the State of New Jersey. He was educated in India and received his professional and undergraduate education in the English language. He advised the Board that he took the new TOEFL examination on December 16, 2005 and failed two sections.

Upon a motion made by Jean Bickal and seconded by Mary Browne, the Board voted to deny Mr. Thomas a waiver of the TOEFL requirement based upon the fact that she did not pass all sections of the new TOEFL examination. The vote was taken and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

1. Jacqueline Go
2. Maria Sy
3. Juan Salvador
S Astudillo
4. Maria G. Cheng
5. Jenny Lind B Bioco
6. Fernando G. Dimacali II
7. Gladys T Cacayan
8. Agnieszka K Baraniecki
9. Mary C. Briones Alcantara
10. Lawrence Umali
11. Imelda Baccay

APPLICATIONS NOT APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

1. Pratheesh Thomas
2. Julie Anne Villarin
3. Nareshbhai Gandhi Toral
4. Jeffery Thomas Luna
5. Karl Hristoff Kafozoff
6. Anna Samson
7. Luzviminda Paddit
8. Sonny Olalia
9. Catherine Rubin-Campos
10. Mark Ranin
11. Mildred Razon
12. Agnes Ebbah
13. Chhavi Bansal
14. Benjamin A Acosta
15. Katherine V Espino
16. Joseph Marie A Chavez
17. Rex F Dela Cruz

Upon a motion made by Mary Browne and seconded by Susan Quick, the Board voted to adjourn Public Session and to go into Executive Session to discuss the following matters involving investigations or violations of the Board's enabling act, the Uniform Enforcement Act and/or Board regulations.

1. Two complaints or matters filed with the Board, which require review and additional recommendations with regard to investigations and/or actions.
2. Ten matters where additional information has been submitted to the Board concerning pending investigations.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board returned to Public Session and a motion was made by Jeffery Erickson and seconded by Karen Wilk to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 PM. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Gartland, Executive Director