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NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

February 26, 2013

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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 Conference Room, 6th Floor, on Tuesday February 26, 2013. The meeting was convened in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. **Barbara J. Behrens, Vice Chairperson of the Board**, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. and a roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded:

BARBARA J. BEHRENS, P.T.A.	Present
DAVID BERTONE, PT	Present
JEAN BICKAL, ESQ	Present
MARY B. BROWNE, P.T.	Present
NANCY KIRSCH, P.T.	Present
CINDY MOORE, P.T.	Present
SUSAN M. QUICK	Excused
BETH SARFATY, PT	Present
KAREN WILK, P.T.	Excused

Also present were: **John Hugelmeyer, Deputy Attorney General; Lisa Tadeo, Executive Director; Gerard Tobia, Administrative Staff**

Members of the public: Brian Mason, PT, representative of the APTA-NJ; Cathy Chin, representative of Select Medical; Earl M. Baker, PhD, representative of Genesis HealthCare; Jessica Fulmer, PT and Diane Philipbar, representative from the Association of New Jersey Chiropractors

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2013 BOARD MEETING

Upon a motion made by Nancy Kirsch and seconded by Jean Bickal, the Board voted to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2013 Board meeting as amended. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Presentation by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
RE: FSBPT Continuing Competence Model
ProCert
aPTitude
Practice Review Tool
Jurisprudence Assessment Tool

Heidi Herbst-Paakkonen, a representative from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy, met with the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners on February 26, 2013 and presented resources developed by the Federation in areas of continuing education and continuing competency that the Board can consider utilizing.

- B. Continuing Education Course Reviewers' Recommendations

Nancy Kirsch recused herself and did not participate in the discussion.

The Board reviewed the recommendations of the course reviewers at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) for continuing education courses submitted by sponsors for the Board's approval. A motion was made by Barbara J. Behrens and seconded by Cindy Moore to accept the course reviewers' recommendations as presented. The 75 approved courses will be posted on the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners' website. The 5 courses that were denied as they did not meet all the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:39A-9 et seq. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- C. Letter from Elmer T. Bagay, PT
RE: Test of English as a Foreign Language

Mr. Bagay informed the Board that he is applying for a license in Texas and asked if the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners would provide a copy of the TOEFL scores that they have on file to Texas State Board of Physical Therapy.

A motion was made by Nancy Kirsch and seconded by Jean Bickal to provide the Texas State Board of Physical Therapy with Mr. Bagay's TOEFL scores that the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners has on file. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- D. Inquiry from Stella Phillips, PT
RE: Scope of Practice

Ms. Phillips informed the Board that she is interested in becoming a certified diabetes educator and inquired whether she would be allowed to educate diabetic patients or clients as a diabetes educator.

A motion was made by Nancy Kirsch and seconded by David Bertone to advise Ms. Phillips that she can inform her patients or clients that she is a physical therapist and also identify that she is performing in a role as a diabetes educator. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- E. Inquiry from Lawrence Flisser, PT
RE: Documentation

Mr. Flisser inquired whether a physical therapist assistant can fill out progress notes, re-certifications and discharges. Mr. Flisser also inquired whether pre-recorded webinar courses are considered distance learning.

A motion was made by Mary Browne and seconded by Beth Sarfaty to advise Mr. Flisser that a physical therapist assistant can complete a progress note. The Board will also advise Mr. Flisser that a physical therapist assistant can provide input concerning the re-certification but they cannot write the re-certification. The physical therapist assistant can write the final treatment note and give input concerning the discharge but the physical therapist must write the discharge note/summary with the assessment data in the patient record. The Board will also advise Mr. Flisser that a live webinar course is an in person course and a pre-recorded webinar course is a distance learning course, therefore, a licensee would only be permitted to complete a maximum of 10 credits within a biennial renewal period from pre-recorded webinar courses. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- F. Inquiry from Antonio Ludovice
RE: Licensure Requirements

Mr. Ludovice informed the Board that he is interested in becoming licensed in New Jersey but he is not licensed in the country that he received his physical therapy education. Mr. Ludovice inquired whether the Board could waive that requirement.

A motion was made by Nancy Kirsch and seconded by Jean Bickal to advise Mr. Ludovice that there is no requirement that you must hold a license in the country that you received your physical therapy education. You must have proof of eligibility of licensure in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:39A-5.9(c). A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- G. Election of Delegate and Alternate Delegate to attend the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Annual Meeting

A motion was made by Nancy Kirsch and seconded by Jean Bickal to elect Mary Browne as Delegate, David Bertone as Alternate Delegate to attend the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Annual meeting held on October 10-12, 2013. Beth Sarfaty and Barbara J. Behrens are additional Alternate Delegates. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- H. Inquiry from Matthew Mesibov, PT
RE: Scope of Practice

Mr. Mesibov inquired whether physical therapists and physical therapist assistants could remove postoperative staples or sutures.

A motion was made by Nancy Kirsch and seconded by Cindy Moore to advise Mr. Mesibov that if a physical therapist or a physical therapist assistant is trained and competent to do so, then they can remove postoperative staples and sutures. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Board Discussion with Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst
RE: Continuing Competence
Regulations Sunset

The Board met with Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst to discuss including continuing competence as another avenue for licensees to obtain continuing education credit.

The Board also discussed with Mr. Manning the sunset of its regulations. A motion was made by Nancy Kirsch and seconded by Mary Browne to remove the New Jersey Society of Independent Physical Therapists (NJSIPT) from its continuing education regulations as NJSIPT no longer exists. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- B. Letter from Professional Therapy Seminars
RE: Course, "Wound Management for Rehabilitation Professionals"

Renietta Dias of Professional Therapy Seminars wrote the Board concerning the amount of credit approved for the course, "Wound Management for Rehabilitation Professionals". The Board approved this course for 7.5 credits. Ms. Dias provided the Board with additional information concerning the hourly breakdown on the course topics and asked the Board to change the number of approved credits from 7.5 to 8.

A motion was made by Beth Sarfaty and seconded by Jean Bickal to approve the course, "Wound Management for Rehabilitation Professionals" for 8 credits based on the additional information provided. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

V. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- A. Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy
January 2013 News Brief

The Board reviewed the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy January 2013 News Brief and considered it informational.

- B. National Physical Therapy Examination
Comment Summary and Candidate Satisfaction Survey Report

The Board reviewed the National Physical Therapy Examination Comment Summary and Candidate Satisfaction Survey Report and considered it informational.

Upon a motion made by Cindy Moore and seconded by Jean Bickal, the Board voted to go into Executive Session to discuss the following matters involving investigations of violations of the Board's enabling act, the Uniform Enforcement Act and/or Board regulations.

1. Seven matters filed with the Board, which require review and additional recommendations with regard to investigations and/or actions.

2. Thirteen matters where additional information has been submitted to the Board concerning pending investigations.

APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

1. Priyanka Pandya
2. Pradeep Bansal
3. Solai Alagappan
4. Dawn Manluctao
5. Stephanie Fangonilo
6. Alex Mendoza

APPLICATIONS NOT APPROVED BY THE BOARD

1. Danielle Sharret
2. Jenny Abarquez
3. Gaurav Kekatpure

ADJOURNMENT

The Board returned to Public Session and a motion was made by Cindy Moore and seconded by Jean Bickal to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 P.M. A vote was taken and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Tadeo
Executive Director