

**THE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
Professional & Vocational Licensing Division  
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
State of Hawaii

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2013

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room  
King Kalakaua Building  
335 Merchant Street, 1st Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Present: Michael Turner, Physical Therapist ("PT"), Chair  
Rachelle Iopa, PT, Vice Chair  
Debra Kubota, PT  
Elizabeth McCreary, Public Member  
Neil Shimabukuro, PT  
Kenyatta Nichols, Executive Officer ("EO")  
Jennifer Fong, Secretary

Guests: None.

Agenda: The agenda for this meeting was filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, as required by section 92-7(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS").

1. Call to Order: There being a quorum present, Chair Turner called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

2. Additions/Revisions to Agenda: Chair Turner announced that the American Physical Therapy Association ("APTA") FAQs on Vestibular Rehabilitation was distributed to the Board members as additional distribution for item 7.a., Email from Janet Crosier regarding whether treatment of vestibular problems, including benign paroxysmal positional vertigo ("BPPV") is within the scope of practice for a physical therapist.

3. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of the July 9, 2013 Meeting: Upon a motion by Ms. Kubota, seconded by Vice Chair Iopa, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve both the board and executive session minutes of the July 9, 2013 Board meeting as circulated.

4. Executive Officer's Update: a. Regulated Industries Complaints Office ("RICO") Physical Therapy Advisory Committee

The Board reviewed a list provided by RICO of physical therapy advisory committee members effective January 1, 2014 and addendum language which will allow RICO to include any additional interim appointees that they deem necessary to aid in its investigations.

After some discussion, upon a motion by Vice Chair Iopa, seconded by Ms. Kubota, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the list provided by RICO for the Physical Therapy Advisory Committee effective January 1, 2014 and the addendum language.

5. Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy ("FSBPT"): a. Report on the FSBPT Leadership Issues Forum ("LIF") in Alexandria, Virginia, August 9 – 10, 2013

Ms. Kubota presented the following report:

- The Eligibility Task Force will be making the following recommendations regarding the National Physical Therapy Exam ("NPTE"):
  - Institute a lifetime maximum of six (6) attempts on taking the NPTE at each level.
  - Institute a lifetime ban for candidates that have two (2) very low scores (at or below 400).
  - A standardized "passing score" for the Test of English as a Foreign Language ("TOEFL") examination (Composite Score of 63 (Reading, Writing, Listening—30 total points each) and score of 26 for Speaking = Total of 89) and eliminating paper based exams.
  - Graduates from non-CAPTE accredited schools must meet the current standard of the FSBPT's Coursework Tool ("CWT") prior to sitting for NPTE.
- The Delegate Assembly supports the development of a Common Licensure Application Service ("CLAS") and encourages member boards of the Federation to participate in this service. Potential positive impacts on public protection by increasing licensure portability include: increased patient access to qualified providers, continuity of care for patient as they relocate, enhanced disciplinary data and improve notification and improved information sharing between jurisdictions. A candidate would potentially only need to fill out an application once and be able to use that updated application in any jurisdiction that participated in the CLAS.

- The Delegate Assembly supports the development of a Credential Verification Service (“CVS”) and encourages member boards of the Federation to participate in this service. The CVS is a repository for verified documents for candidates and licensees.
- The PT Minimum Data Set (“MDS”) Task Force is working on creating a database that contains workforce information (e.g. demographics; education, training, licensure; employment). This database will be accessible to the FSBPT and its members, the APTA and the HRSA (“Health Resources & Services Administration”). The database will only contain information without identifiers. The Task Force is suggesting that the information to be collected as part of the renewal process, if possible.
- The FSBPT has developed an exam licensure disciplinary database (“ELDD”) which contains information submitted by jurisdictions of disciplinary, licensure and examination score information. The purpose of the ELDD is to alert jurisdictions of sanctioned licenses. Participation by jurisdictions is voluntary. To date, Hawaii has not provided data for this database.
- The Delegate Assembly supports the exploration of a licensure compact as a state-based solution to portability as opposed to a potential federal resolution. It would be a contractual agreement between participating jurisdictions enacted in statutory language that allows a licensee in one jurisdiction who has met the requirements of the compact, to also practice in any other compact member jurisdiction.

Ms. Kubota noted that detailed information on the items discussed is available on the FSBPT website.

EO Nichols thanked Ms. Kubota for her report. He stated that regarding the ELDD, in addition to providing disciplinary information, the FSBPT requires that the jurisdiction provide an identifier for the licensee. Of the identifiers used by the FSBPT, the only identifier that is currently collected by the Board on applications is a social security number which we are prohibited from providing due to state regulations. He noted that all disciplinary actions are reported to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ National Practitioner Data Bank (“NPDB”) as required by federal law.

6. Applications:

a. Ratifications

Upon a motion by Mr. Shimabukuro, seconded by Ms. Kubota, it was voted on and unanimously carried to ratify the following:

Approved for Physical Therapist License

- BRANCHFLOWER, Andrew R
- CHAUDOIN, Melissa E
- COLE, Matthew D
- COOK, Amanda M
- COWAN, Lauren E
- DOSWELL, Deborah L H
- DOUGHERTY, Allison R
- FERNANDEZ , April A
- HOLTHAUS, Elizabeth A
- KIM, David E
- KURATA, Landon I
- LEE, Kehaulani C
- LEITE-AH YO, Healani K
- LEITE-AH YO, Kanani J
- LUKE, Jason F
- MARTIN, Alissa S
- OKETANI, Shannon Y
- PARK, Daniel Y
- PAUL, Jenna R
- RAMOCKI, David A
- RAMSEY, Seth A
- REYES, Michael B
- SCANLAN, Sandra G
- SHELTZ, Matthew J
- SLUIS, Chloe A
- SUSCO, Lauren M
- TABOR, Dustin J
- THORNTON, Thomas R
- TONG, GRANT S Y W
- TRAN, Irene T V
- WALKER, Keith R
- YOKOTA, Scott T
- YONASHIRO, Candace A

b. Applications

Executive  
Session:

At 9:37 a.m., it was moved by Chair Turner, seconded by Vice Chair Iopa, and unanimously carried to enter into executive session to consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for licensure in accordance with Section 92-5(a)(1), HRS.

At 9:45 a.m., it was moved by Chair Turner, seconded by Mr. Shimabukuro, and unanimously carried to move out of executive session.

- Wendy Huelsman

After discussion, it was moved by Chair Turner, seconded by Mr. Shimabukuro, and unanimously carried to approve Ms. Huelsman's application.

7. New Business:

- a. Email from Janet Crosier regarding whether treatment of vestibular problems, including benign paroxysmal positional vertigo ("BPPV") is within the scope of practice for a physical therapist

After some discussion, upon a motion by Chair Turner, seconded by Ms. McCreary, it was voted on and unanimously carried that based solely on the information provided in Ms. Crosier's email, it is the Board's informal interpretation that treatment of vertigo/vestibular problems does fall within the scope of practice of a physical therapist. The Board pointed to the definitions of HAR section 16-110-2, specifically definitions of "treatment" and "physical therapy examination". The Board stated that these tests and interventions are not exhaustive lists and states that the language provides "may include, but are not limited to".

This is an informal interpretation for informational and explanatory purposes only and is not an official opinion or decision and therefore is not to be viewed as binding on the Board.

8. Rule Revisions - Title 16, Chapter 110, Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR"):

Physical Therapist Assistant ("PTA") Licensure Language Working Committee – Proposed Language Draft #1

The PTA Licensure Language Working Committee presented their draft language to the Board.

After some discussion, the Board requested that EO Nichols incorporate into one section both the licensure requirements for PT with the proposed requirements for PTA licensure as well as amending the proposed language for examination waiver to require the applicant to have "five (5) years of experience within the last eight (8) years as a physical therapist assistant by December 31, 2014."

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9. Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 19, 2013  
9:00 a.m.  
Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room  
King Kalakaua Building  
335 Merchant Street, First Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

10. Adjournment: With no further business to discuss, Chair Turner adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Taken by:

/s/ Jennifer Fong

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Jennifer Fong  
Secretary

Reviewed by:

/s/ Kenyatta Nichols

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Mr. Kenyatta Nichols  
Executive Officer

9/19/13

[  ] Minutes approved as is.

[  ] Minutes approved with changes; see minutes of \_\_\_\_\_.