



**STATE OF ALABAMA
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**

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September 2, 2021



- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Ellen Strunk at 9:07 AM. Board Members present were Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Nathan McGriff, Margaret Hemm and Jonathan Zecher. Vince Molyneux joined the meeting at 9:13 AM. Also present, Matt Bledsoe, Assistant Attorney General, Kathy Miller, Executive Director, and Sheila Wright Dopson, Executive Assistant III. Robert Fleming was not present.

Chair Ellen Strunk established a quorum.

Sheila Wright Dopson provided the devotional.

Open Discussion: Ellen Strunk noted that Kathy Miller, Executive Director, had her six-month performance review on August 10, 2021. Subsequently, a letter was sent to State Personnel for additional approval.

Minutes: The minutes from July 1, 2021 and August 7, 2021 were reviewed. A motion to accept the July minutes, as amended, was made by Margaret Hemm and seconded by Jonathan Zecher. Ellen Strunk, Jonathan Zecher, Margaret Hemm, Nathan McGriff, and Vince Molyneux voted in favor. Alina Adams abstained from voting. A motion to accept the August 7, 2021 minutes was made by Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher seconded that motion. Ellen Strunk, Jonathan Zecher, Alina Adams and Vince Molyneux voted in favor. Margaret Hemm and Nathan McGriff abstained from voting.

II. Reports:

Licensee Report: Sheila Wright Dopson presented this report. Between June 25, 2021 and August 25, 2021, one hundred thirty new licenses were issued: 78 physical therapists, 52 physical therapist assistants. Twenty-four temporary licenses were issued: 15 physical therapists, 9 physical therapist assistants. There were two FCCPT reports substantially equivalent to CWT5.

Financial Report: Kathy Miller presented this report. August was not included in the report because the information does not get posted in STAARS until 2-3 days after the start of the month. Ellen Strunk asked for clarification on the rentals/lease payments.

Violations Committee Report: Assistant Attorney General, Matt Bledsoe, presented this report.

2021-014: The complaint was filed by the licensee's employer. The employer accused the licensee of false documentation; she is alleged to have documented physical therapy services that did not occur. The violations committee recommended a consent order with a \$500.00 fine. The licensee paid the fine and signed the consent order. Jonathan Zecher made a motion to accept the recommendation, Nathan McGriff seconded that motion. Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Nathan McGriff, and Vince Molyneux voted to approve. Ellen Strunk and Margaret Hemm abstained from voting.

2021-005 (pending receipt of consent): The complaint was filed by the licensee's employer. The employer accused the licensee of false documentation; he is alleged to have documented physical therapy services that did not occur. The violations committee recommended a consent order with a \$500.00 fine. Jonathan Zecher made a motion to accept the recommendation of the violations committee. Vince Molyneux seconded that motion. Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Nathan McGriff, and Vince Molyneux voted to approve the recommendation. Ellen Strunk and Margaret Hemm abstained from voting.

2021-006: The complaint was filed by a patient. The licensee is accused of refusing to provide the patient with a copy of his medical records. The violations committee made a recommendation to close the complaint due to no probable cause that a violation occurred. Jonathan Zecher made a motion to accept the violation committee's recommendation; Robert Fleming seconded that motion. Jonathan Zecher, Alina Adams, Nathan McGriff and Vince Molyneux voted to approve the recommendation. Ellen Strunk and Margaret Hemm abstained from voting.

2021-007: The complaint was filed by a patient. The licensee is accused of inappropriate behaviors to the patient. The violations committee recommended a finding of no probable cause. It is also recommended that the licensee appear before the violations committee due to having previous complaints, also determined to lack probable cause. Jonathan Zecher made a motion to approve the recommendation of the violations committee; Vince Molyneux seconded that motion. Jonathan Zecher, Alina Adams, Nathan McGriff, and Vince Molyneux voted to approve. Ellen Strunk and Margaret Hemm abstained from voting.

2021-008: The complaint was filed by the patient. The licensee is accused of inappropriate behaviors towards the patient. The violations committee recommended the complaint be closed due to no probable cause that a violation occurred. Jonathan Zecher made a motion to approve the recommendation of the violations committee; Vince Molyneux seconded that motion. Jonathan Zecher, Nathan McGriff, and Vince Molyneux voted to approve. Ellen Strunk and Margaret Hemm abstained from voting.

2021-09: This complaint pertains to the WaveTech issue previously discussed. The licensee signed and submitted the consent order. Jonathan Zecher made a motion to approve the recommendation of the violations committee and accept the consent order. Vince Molyneux seconded that motion. Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Nathan McGriff, and Vince Molyneux voted to approve the recommendation. Ellen Strunk and Margaret Hemm abstained from voting.

2021-010 (new): The details of the complaint require clarification. The violations committee recommended no further action until a response is received from the licensee.

Wellness Report: Nathan McGriff stated Dr. Garver indicated there are no issues with the Wellness program. Nathan McGriff asked Kathy Miller for an update on the new Wellness program participant; she indicated the participant completed the required treatment, submitted the consent order to ABPT, and is currently being monitored.

Executive Director Report: The Executive Director, Kathy Miller, reported that all staff members have received STAARS training. April Tucker and Kathy Miller will attend Alabama Buys training this month. Vince Molyneux and Kathy Miller attended the virtual FSBPT Leadership Issues Forum. Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Vince Molyneux, Sheila Wright Dopson and Kathy Miller attended the APTA business meeting. The ABPT had a booth at the conference. Sheila Wright Dopson and Kathy Miller conducted two school trainings. Kathy Miller indicated that the governor has signed the contracts for Karen Entekin and Dr. Mike Garver. Facebook activity on the ABPT site is up.

III. Unfinished Business:

Ellen Strunk provided an update regarding the Interstate Compact Agreement. On August 31, 2021, Matt Bledsoe, Ellen Strunk, and Kathy Miller met at the ABPT office and had a planning session for the PT compact agreement. The Compact IT person is in contact with Igov, the IT/database provider for the ABPT to ensure the necessary data gets transferred. The process for obtaining the ORI number through the FBI is in progress. The board will need to discuss items associated with participating in the Compact Agreement, including: a waiver or discount of the fee for military members/spouses, Practice Act changes, the impact on the Wellness program, and jurisprudence requirements for the Compact Agreement. Ellen Strunk will share the PT Compact language and rules prior to the next meeting, so the board can prepare for those discussions.

IV. New Business:

Alina Adams brought up the board nominations process and the need for possible change in order to get more nominations. Ellen Strunk noted we had a strong interest in the PTA position. She also noted starting the process sooner might be helpful. Alina Adams discussed having a board member job description and consent-to-serve form on the website. Sheila Wright Dopson mentioned the report generated by Igov showing those who indicated on their

renewal form their interest in serving on the board. Alina Adams talked about following up with those interested in serving on the board.

Kathy Miller reported she spoke to the governor's office and plans to have all the nominations to the governor by the end of next week (September 10, 2021).

Ellen Strunk spoke about the posthumous award the APTA gave in honor of Jeffery Vinzant. On 9/1/2021, the award was given to his wife. She also noted the upcoming retirement of Sheila Wright Dopson and how much her service is appreciated. Margaret Hemm asked about filling Sheila Wright Dopson's position. Ellen Strunk advised her that we have met and discussed placing someone in the position.

Adjourn: The next meeting will be November 2, 2021 @ 9:00 AM at the ABPT office.

V. Action Items:

1. Executive Director to review meeting minutes for the Alternate for the FSBPT Annual Meeting in October, in the event the Governor replaces Vince Molyneaux prior to the meeting on October 22-23, 2021.
2. Assistant Attorney General to review the PT Practice Act for recommended changes to present to the Board at November's meeting.
3. Executive Director to send to Board members the PT Compact Bylaws and policies/procedures.
4. Board members to review the PT Compact Bylaws and policies/procedures prior to November's meeting.
5. Executive Director to put together board member job description and consent to serve packet; present to Board next meeting.
6. Executive Director to implement process using the Igov report to follow up with those licensees expressing interest in Board service each November following renewals.
7. Executive Director will send an email with potential meeting dates for 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 10:27 AM.



Ellen Strunk

