



*Kathy Miller*  
*Executive Director*

**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
100 NORTH UNION STREET, SUITE 724  
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130-5040

Phone: (888) 726-9743 Fax: (334) 242-3288

Contact:

[info@pt.alabama.gov](mailto:info@pt.alabama.gov) (334)242-4064



March 4, 2021

**Meeting was held via WebEx digital platform in accordance with Governor's Emergency Orders.**

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Ellen Strunk at 9:04 AM. Board Members present were Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Wiley Christian, Nathan McGriff, Vince Molyneux, Margaret Hemm. Jonathan Zecher joined the meeting at 9:07 AM. Also present, Matt Bledsoe, Assistant Attorney General, Kathy Miller, Executive Director, and Sheila Wright Dopson, Executive Assistant III. Two guests joined the meeting: Dakin Hill, and Heather Davis. Both guests are employed by the Alabama Physical Therapy Association.

Chair Ellen Strunk established a quorum.

- II. Open Discussion:** Ellen Strunk indicated she has received calls from licensees who are interested in administering the COVID vaccination. Those who administer the vaccination take a course, and then demonstrate competency. This would fall within the scope of practice. If there are areas of the State where a shortage in assistance arises, further steps will be taken to research the process for getting set-up to administer the vaccination. Heather Davis provided an update on the status of the Athletic Trainer bill.

- III. Minutes:** The minutes from January 14, 2021 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Alina Adams and seconded by Nathan McGriff. Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Wiley Christian, Nathan McGriff, Vince Molyneux, Margaret Hemm voted in approval of the minutes.

- IV. Reports:**

**Wellness Report:** Nathan McGriff stated Dr. Garver highlighted the continued success of the program. He (Nathan McGriff) stated there was an issue with one licensee/participant, but that has been resolved and the licensee/participant is now in compliance. Kathy Miller went over the report provided by Dr. Garver regarding the overall success of the Wellness program. The report noted the high success rate of the program. Kathy Miller will request from Dr Garver an annual report regarding the progress of the Wellness program. Ellen Strunk mentioned the upcoming ten-year anniversary of the Wellness program.

**Financial Report:** Nathan McGriff inquired about locating financial reports that would be more easily understood. Ms. Miller stated a report has been requested from STAARS. Our goal is to replicate the report created by the previous Executive Director.

**Licensee Report:** Sheila Dopson presented this report and indicated that between January 1, 2021-February 28, 2021, there were 73 Physical Therapists, 27 Physical Therapist Assistants licensed. There was a total of 8 temporary licenses issued; they were all Physical Therapists. Mrs. Dopson reported there was 1 FCCPT report substantially equivalent to CWT5.

**Violations Committee Report:** Assistant Attorney General, Matt Bledsoe, presented this report. He indicated no actions are needed today. On case 2020-06, Mr. Bledsoe noted the consent order has been approved. The licensee needs to complete the boundaries course. Case 2020-14 remains under investigation. Case 2021-01, there was no probable cause determined, due to the complaint being filed against a facility. Case 2021-02 was also filed against a facility and there was no issue found with the advertisement; therefore, no probable cause was found. Cases 2021-03 and 2021-04 are both pending, awaiting additional information.

**Executive Director Report:** The Executive Director, Kathy Miller, reported that she moved into her new office. She also stated that they (she and Sheila Wright) conducted two virtual trainings with students. Ms. Miller provided an update on April Tucker's promotion to an ASA II and advised that Sheila Dopson's bonus was approved by State Personnel. She provided an update on the ABPT Facebook page activity. She gave an update on her presentation to Hope Inspired Ministries and indicated it went well. She also advised Ellen Strunk she has accessed and familiarized herself with the FSBPT website.

#### **V. Unfinished Business:**

Ellen Strunk began a discussion regarding the Interstate Compact agreement. She stated the lieutenant governor's office reached out to Kathy Miller on February 19, 2021 and asked if the Board had input regarding the bill. Ellen Strunk reached out to the bill sponsor, Senator Whatley. Ellen Strunk wrote a letter to Jess Skaggs (Lieutenant Governor's Office) outlining issues with the bill. Jess Skaggs forwarded the letter to TJ Cantwell, the Board's liaison with the Physical Therapy Compact Commission. Mr. Skaggs agreed to put the bill off for a week so that ABPT concerns could be addressed. Mr. Skaggs indicated he would make sure the necessary language would be added to the bill, via additional legislation, so the ABPT would have the appropriate language to modify rules. Matt Bledsoe stated that additional steps must be taken before compact agreements can be issued by the ABPT. Jonathan Zecher asked if we (ABPT) had spoken to other states regarding issues they encountered regarding the compact agreement. Wiley Christian stated the Louisiana Board of Physical Therapy had similar issues and indicated the Executive Director has agreed to help walk the ABPT through the process. Alina Adams spoke to Kathy Miller about the Alabama Association of Regulatory Boards (AARB). Ms. Miller advised that she has



been in contact with AARB. Ellen Strunk stated after the bill passes, a letter of concern will be sent to FSBPT regarding how the bill was pushed through without consulting with the ABPT. Ellen Strunk stated she will speak to Jess Skaggs about getting a sponsor to get the additional legislation through the process so that the appropriate language will be in place. Mrs. Strunk talked about the possible need for additional staff at the ABPT to get the necessary data entered into the system to begin issuing compact licenses.

Administrative Code (Code of Alabama 1975, Chapter 700-x-2): Licensure Alina Adams spoke about the language changes. Matt Bledsoe addressed education credits for military members. Alina Adams moved to accept the language changes; Vince Molyneux seconded the motion. Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Wiley Christian, Nathan McGriff, Vince Molyneux, Margaret Hemm voted in favor of the changes. Alina Adams stated that a strike-through version of all changes in the administrative code is the best practice. Ellen Strunk moved to approve a strike-through version of all changes. Alina Adams seconded the motion. Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Wiley Christian, Nathan McGriff, Vince Molyneux, Margaret Hemm voted in favor of the motion. Alina Adams discussed a “share space” in order to have one working document for all board members to access. Alina Adams stated the Board should have a file naming protocol to include the date in the name of the file. Jonathan Zecher stated he will research a “share space” option.

#### **VI. New Business:**

The following items will be moved to the May 6, 2021 agenda:

FSBPT Delegates  
Referrals in the School System  
CE Broker  
Newsletter articles will be discussed via email

#### **VII. Announcements:**

Next Regularly Scheduled Meetings:  
May 6, 2021 @ 9:00AM  
July 1, 2021 @ 9:00AM  
September 2, 2021 @ 9:00AM  
November 4, 2021 @ 9:00AM

The meeting adjourned at 11:06 A.M.



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Ellen Strunk  
Board Chair