



**STATE OF ALABAMA  
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**

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May 12, 2022

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order in the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy's conference room by Board Chair Jonathan Zecher at 8:59 AM. Board Members present were Robert Fleming, Alina Adams, Nathan McGriff, Margaret Hemm, Dana Daniel Blake, and T-Michael Dougherty. Also present were J. Matt Bledsoe, Assistant Attorney General, Kathy Miller, Executive Director, Angela Warr, Executive Assistant III, and Kristi Mullins, Accounting Specialist.

A quorum was established.

Alina Adams provided a devotional.

**Open Discussion:** Jonathan Zecher opened the floor for open discussion. Margaret Hemm noted the increase of traffic on the Board's social media platforms and how the Board could relay pertinent information in a timely and easily accessible manner.

- II. Minutes:** The minutes from March 10, 2022, were reviewed. Minor corrections and edits were made. A motion to accept the March 10, 2022, minutes, as amended, was made by Margaret Hemm, and seconded by Alina Adams. Jonathan Zecher, Margaret Hemm, Nathan McGriff, Alina Adams, Dana Daniel Blake, Robert Fleming, and T-Michael Dougherty voted in favor. Minutes, as amended, were approved.

**III. Reports:**

**A. Licensee Report:** Angela Warr presented this report. As of April 30, 2022, the Board has 6247 active licensees. 2940 are PTAs and 3293 are PTs. Between March 1, 2022, and April 30, 2022, 50 regular licenses were issued: 23 PTs and 22 PTAs. Five temporary licenses were issued: 4 were PTs and 1 was PTA. Eight expired licenses were reinstated: 4 PTs and 3 PTAs. There was 1 FCCPT report substantially equivalent to CWT5 submitted and license issued.

**B. Financial Report:** Kristi Mullins presented this report. Nothing unusual to report. Professional services amount appears higher because legal services bill was received (AG bills quarterly). Purchased shredder and scanner (for compliance with

PT Compact and Archives). Discussion was held about licensure fees and if we are comparable with neighboring states. May need to reevaluate when PT Compact is fully implemented.

- C. Violations Committee Report:** Assistant Attorney General J. Matt Bledsoe presented this report.

**2022-04:** Licensee practiced almost 4 weeks without being properly licensed. Licensee was licensed almost 20 years ago and retook the NPTE in 2012 and failed. Licensee retook NPTE exam again in January 2022 and passed. Due to confusion on behalf of the Licensee and the unusual nature of this situation, the Violations Committee recommended issuing a Letter of Concern which contains a statement that warns the Licensee that this matter will be considered if any further infractions are found.

Nathan McGriff made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Violations Committee regarding 2022-04. Dana Daniel Blake seconded that motion. Alina Adams, Nathan McGriff, Dana Daniel Blake, Robert Fleming, and T-Michael Dougherty voted to approve. Jonathan Zecher and Margaret Hemm abstained from voting. The motion passed and a Letter of Concern will be issued.

- D. Executive Director Report:** See attached Appendix. Nominations for upcoming Board position discussed and what might be the best way to solicit nominations. A motion was made by Alina Adams to move the July 14, 2022, to August 6, 2022, during the APTA Business Meeting at Jefferson State Community College in Birmingham. Nathan McGriff seconded the motion. Jonathan Zecher, Margaret Hemm, Dana Daniel Blake, Robert Fleming, and T-Michael Dougherty voted in favor and motion passed.

- E. Wellness Report:** Nathan McGriff stated Dr. Garver indicated there are no issues with the Wellness program and all participants are in compliance.

- IV. Unfinished Business:** PT Compact technology update was covered by Executive Director Kathy Miller in her report. Additionally, Assistant Attorney General Matt Bledsoe gave an update on the revised PT Compact legislation. The updated proposed legislation was not introduced in the last Legislative Session. Discussion was had about how to best ensure the revised legislation makes it through the next session. The Board is also still waiting on FBI clearance regarding background checks.

- V. New Business:**

- A. AG Report**

A question from Attorney Wesley K. Winborn of Wallace, Jordan, Ratliff, Brandt, LLC, was received regarding a durable medical equipment manufacturer that is interested in expanding into Alabama. The equipment in question is advertised as being like treatment received from a physical therapist. Discussion was held as to

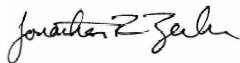
whether the equipment itself and/or the demonstration or adjustment by an employee/salesperson of the manufacturer could be considered physical therapy. After review, there was some concern this could be considered performing physical therapy. AAG Bledsoe will follow up with Attorney Winborn to ascertain the company's decision to expand its business into Alabama. This situation will be monitored.

**VI. Action Items:**

Board staff has goal of issuing a Spring/Summer Newsletter prior to beginning of renewal season (July 1). New Board member (T-Michael Dougherty and Dana Daniel Blake) will provide bios for new member introductory articles. Jonathan Zecher will provide a PT Compact update. Nathan McGriff will provide a Wellness article. Kathy Miller will provide an Executive Director Update and Angela Warr will draft an article regarding renewal deadlines, tips, and suggestions. Deadline for submission to ABPT staff for newsletter compilation is June 1, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 AM.

The next meeting will be August 6, 2022 @ 10:00 AM at the 2022 APTA Alabama Annual Conference which will be held at Jefferson State Community College in Birmingham.



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Jonathan Zecher  
Chair

## Appendix Executive Director Update

- 3/16/2022: Conducted an in-person training with the students at South University.
- 3/21/2022: FSBPT approved our technology upgrade grant request in the amount of \$6800.00.
- 3/25/2022: Angela and I had a Zoom meeting with the IT staff from FSBPT to discuss the technology upgrade.
- 4/1/2022: Archives came to the office and reviewed our records storage and provided training on records destruction. They will do a review/revision of our records policy in 2023.
- 4/5/2022-4/6/2022: Kristi attended Alabama Buys training.
- 5/3/2022: Conducted a training via Zoom with the PT USA students.
- 5/3/2022: Received an update from iGov indicating they are actively working on the technology upgrade. Gokul with iGov also indicated that they plan to have the use of iPads and iPhones in place prior to the 2022 renewal period. Angela had the suggestion that licensees be able to do expired renewals online, as well as purchase a replacement license. Currently, those items require a form be mailed to the office along with a money order or cashier's check. iGov is also working to put that in place.
- 5/4/2022: Conducted a training via Zoom with the Jeff State PTA students.
- 5/5/2022: Conducted an in-person training with the PTA students at LB Wallace.

Since the last meeting, I have drafted policies and procedures for accounting and licensing. Angela is assisting in the licensure process manual by adding screenshots and further instructions.