

ALABAMA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
100 North Union Street, Suite 724
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-5040
Regular Board Meeting
September 10, 2020

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 Wiley Christian, III at 8:10AM. Board Members present were; Alina Adams, Wiley Christian, Margaret Hemm, Nathan McGriff, Ellen Strunk, Jonathan Zecher, Vince Molyneux, Shelia Wright Dopson, Interim Executive Director, and April Tucker, ASAI.

The Interim Executive Director verified the meeting had a quorum.

Open Discussion – Chair Wiley Christian opened discussion. The board discussed setting up a drop box to allow board members to collaborate, manage and edit documents. The interim director will contact OIT for more information on getting this task completed. The board discussed linking directly to our Administrative Code on the Legislative Review Services website, the Interim Director will follow up with OIT. The board discussed updating the agency's iPads.

Matt Bledsoe, Assistant Attorney General joined the meeting at 8:25AM

- II. Minutes** – The board reviewed the meeting minutes from February 21, 2020, May 7, 2020, June 16, 2020 and August 6, 2020. Ellen Strunk asked that we change the wording in the minutes to reflect pending code change instead of pending rule change. The interim director will make the changes. Ellen Strunk made the motion to approve all minutes as amended. Jonathan Zecher 2nd the motion. Wiley Christian, Alina Adams, Vince Molyneux, Ellen Strunk, Margaret Hemm, Nathan McGriff, and Jonathan Zecher all were in favor.

III. Reports

New Licensee Report – Presented by the Interim Director. New licensee activity from February 7, 2020 to September 1, 2020. There were 139 Physical Therapist, 74 by Exam and 65 by Endorsement. There were 73 Physical Therapists Assistants, 60 by Exam and 13 by Endorsement. Following the change of the new application process, there were 36 Physical Therapist, and 6 Physical Therapists Assistants. There were 3 FCCPT reports, (2) were Substantially Equivalent and (1) was not Substantially Equivalent. The board discussed the database issues, the Interim Director will work with iGov Solutions to resolve these matters.

2020 Renewals – The renewal process is running smooth. There have been 1,519 Renewals processed from July 1, 2020 – September 1, 2020.

Violations Committee Report – Matt Bledsoe presented the report. Case #2020-04 was directed toward a facility and not an individual therapist. The Violations Committee recommended closing the case. Case #2020-05 The licensee admitted taking Oxycodone from a patient during two Home Health visits. Licensee was recommended to the Wellness Program for evaluation and is in compliance. The Violations Committee recommends signing a Consent Order, pay a 500.00 fine and any restrictions the Wellness Program Director deems appropriate. Case #2020-06 is an ongoing investigation. Case #2020-07 This is a wellness dropout. The licensee has stated they will surrender their license. The Violations Committee recommends documentation in the board's database application that if the licensee should try to re-enter the profession of Physical Therapy, they will be directed to the Wellness Program for evaluation. The Interim Director will report disciplinary action to National Practitioner Database. Nathan McGriff made the motion to accept all recommendations from Violations Committee and Vince Molyneux 2nd the motion. Vince Molyneux, Alina Adams, Ellen Strunk, Jonathan Zecher, Nathan McGriff all were in favor with the recommendations of the Violation Committee. Wiley Christian and Margaret Hemm abstained.

Report from the Interim Executive Director - The staff has been back in the office as of July 29, 2020. The office operations are running smooth.

Communication's Committee Report – Presented by the Interim Director. The Interim Director sent a blast email to all licensees on August 25, 2020, concerning a Fraud Phishing Warning. The Interim Director posted the Executive Director position to the website on August 21, 2020. Alina Adams inquired as to whether the Board has a Policy and Procedures manual. The Interim Director stated that the board uses the State Personal Policy and Procedures manual. Alina Adams suggested that there be a password storage created and placed in the board office.

Wellness Report – Presented by Nathan McGriff. Member McGriff reviewed the Wellness Report from Dr. Garver and stated that all participants are complying with the exception of one, whom will surrender their license.

Application Process for New Executive Director – The Executive Director Search Committee met with the Alabama Personnel Department on August 14, 2020 to discuss the search. The job was posted on August 18, 2020, for 3 weeks. As of September 8, 2020, we had received ten applications. Seven met the qualifications and were accepted. After discussion with Board members, the Search Committee decided to extend the application deadline for two weeks. It is estimated this would push the interview timeline to the week of October 26, 2020, and candidate interviews the week of November 9, 2020.

IV. Unfinished Business –

Administrative Code Change 700-X-02 - The board discussed the code changes. Attorney Matt Bledsoe, suggested there be a committee formed to work together on the

Administrative Code changes. Wiley Christian and Alina Adams will work together on this project. Matt Bledsoe, Assistant Attorney General, will oversee the changes.


Investigator (RFP) – A motion was made by Ellen Strunk for the Interim Director to move forward with an RFP for Investigative Services. Alina Adams 2nd the motion. Wiley Christian, Margaret Hemm, Vince Molyneux, Alina Adams, Ellen Strunk, Nathan McGriff, Jonathan Zecher were all in favor. The Interim Executive Director will start the RFP process as soon as possible.

V. New Business – A question was presented to the board regarding the Alabama Practice Act definition of a Physical Therapist Assistant. The board discussed the question and agreed that the Practice Act definition is adequate.

VI. Announcements –

Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting – Member, Ellen Strunk, will send out a doodle to schedule a board meeting for October.

VII. Adjourn – Wiley Christian adjourned the meeting at 10:07



Wiley Christian, III
Board Chair