



Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera, Secretary

BOARD OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES May 16, 2023

Call to Order

The Maryland Department of Health Board of Physical Therapy Examiners Open Session meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM by Board Vice Chair Holsinger, who established that a quorum was present and reviewed the agenda which was adopted.

Board Members Present

Rebecca Holsinger, PT, DPT, NCS, CVTP, Vice Chair
Samuel Esterson, PT, DPT, MBA, OCS
Michelle Finnegan, PT, DPT, OCS, MTC, CCTT, CMTPT, FAAOMPT
Enjeen Woolford, PTA
Meredith Levert, Public Member

Board Member Absent

Karen Gordes, PT, Ph.D., DScPT, Chair
James Connors, Public Member
Vincent Conroy, PT, DScPT

Staff Present

Laurie Kendall-Ellis, Executive Director
Issac Okechie, Deputy Director
Brett Felter, Board Counsel
Lisa Scott, Licensing Manager
Khadija Ali, Continuing Education Manager
Susan Erdman, Lead Investigator
Morgan Powell, Licensing Coordinator
Leia Cathell, Investigator
Lillian Reese, Legislative and Regulations Coordinator
Kimberly Link, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Health Board Matters

Approve Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion: That the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners approves April 18, 2023, Open Session Meeting Minutes. (Motion introduced by Board Vice Chair Holsinger; motion seconded by Board Member Esterson).
The motion passed.

Board Vice-Chair Welcome and Update

Board Vice-Chair Holsinger welcomed Board Members, staff, and the public to the open session meeting. The ground rules for the meeting were shared. Board members and staff were introduced and acknowledged.

Executive Director Update

Executive Director Kendall-Ellis reported that interviews have concluded for Compliance Administrator. The Compliance Specialist position has been reposted.

The Board's annual election in accordance with §13-203 has concluded. Board Election Outcome:

- Karen Gordes as officer and chair.
- Rebecca Holisnger as officer and vice chair.

Legislative and Regulations Update

Legislative and Regulations Coordinator Reese reported that

- Concept papers are due to the Maryland Department of Health for the 2024 Legislative Session by June 1, 2023. The Board is not submitting any concept papers or proposing any bills.
- Proposed Telehealth Regulation COMAR 10.38.13 continues to be on hold by the AELR Committee.
- Secretary Herrera Scott will hold the regulatory review monthly meeting on Friday, May 19, 2023. On the agenda is amended COMAR 10.38.08 Continuing Education Requirement.

Monthly Applicant and Licensee Report

Licensing Manager Scott reported the following as of May 1, 2023:

- 35 new licenses were issued (22 Physical Therapists; 13 Physical Therapist Assistants)
- The total number of active licensees is 9,694 (7,297 Physical Therapists and 2,397 Physical Therapist Assistants)

Deputy Director Update

Deputy Director Okehie reported that license renewals continue. The license renewal portal will close on May 31, 2023, at midnight. Those not meeting the license renewal regulatory requirements have been directed to the Board's website which contains instructions on how to reinstate their license once it expires.

Continuing Education

Board Member Finnegan presented the Continuing Education Board committee's report. Continuing Education applicants will be notified of the Board's decisions and provided with the relevant regulatory reference (COMAR 10.38.08). Continuing Education applications that received the committee's unanimous approval have been notified.

The following continuing education sponsor applications were presented to the Board for discussion and a decision.

Discussion: The treatment of animals does not fall under the physical therapy scope of practice.

Motion: That the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners accepts the denial of *Myofascial Techniques for the Rehabilitation Therapist* (motion introduced by Board Member Finnegan, motion seconded by Board Member

Conroy). The motion passed.

Open Session Meeting Adjournment:

Motion: That the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners moves to adjourn the Open Session Meeting at 1:22 PM in order to engage in deliberations regarding confidential information in applications for licensure, in accordance with General Provisions Article, Section 3-305 (b) (13) – To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed a requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter. (motion introduced by Board Vice Chair Holsinger; motion seconded by Board Member Esterson). The motion passed.

The Board of Physical Therapy Examiners adjourned at 2:26 PM. Rebecca Holsinger, PT, DPT, NCS, CVTP, Vice Chair

Minutes approved by the Board on June 20, 2023