



**MARYLAND**  
**Department of Health**  
*Board Of Physical Therapy Examiners*

**BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES**

**January 15, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Board Chair, Kimberly Rotondo.

There was a motion and a second to close the open session at 4:33 p.m.

Call to Order

**Board Members Present:**

Stephen Baur, PT

Karen Gordes, PT

Rebecca Holsinger, PT

Meredith Levert, Consumer Member

Donna Richmond, Consumer Member

Kimberly Rotondo, PTA

Sumesh Thomas, PT

**Board Members Absent:**

Michelle Finnegan, PT

**Also Present:**

Carlton Curry, Executive Director

Ogu Isaac Okehie, Deputy Director

Brett Felter, AAG, Board Counsel

John Bull, Chief of Compliance and Data Analysis

Andrew Rosenfeld, Investigator

Deborah Jackson, Licensing Coordinator

Patricia Miller, Administrative Assistant

Michelle Cutkelvin, Project Manager

Eric Hebron, Administrative Specialist

## Guests:

Chidi Umez, Council of State Governments Justice Center

Sandra Waller, Co-Director for Educational Affairs, APTA of Maryland

Board Chair, Kimberly Rotondo welcomed Board Members and guests. Board Members and staff gave brief introductions for visiting guests. Chidi Umez, moderator for the Board Meeting also gave an introduction.

Introduction

The minutes of the meeting held on December 18, 2018 were approved.

Minutes

Carlton Curry, Executive Director apprised the Board of Maryland House Bill, (HB) 18. HB 18 proposes altering the definition of “certifying provider” to include certain physical therapists, psychologists, and physician assistants. Mr. Curry states he will monitor the bill. The licensure compact is also upcoming this legislative session. Mr. Curry states he is scheduled to meet with Senator(s) on January 22, 2019.

Legislative  
Updates

Board member, Karen Gordes motioned to keep Mr. Curry responsible for fiduciary responsibilities. Board member, Meredith Levert seconded the motion. The Board voted in favor of Mr. Curry continuing with fiduciary responsibilities.

Fiduciary  
Responsibilit

Mr. Curry gave an overview of the Boards successes and challenges in 2018. The Dry Needling amendments and registry, regulations review, continuing competency (continuing professional development) and personnel were among the successes of the Board. Mr. Bull was responsible for creating a database for CE courses. Mr. Curry noted that the Board of Acupuncture is exceptionally pleased with the outcome of the Dry Needling Registry. Mr. Curry thanked John Bull and Michelle Cutkelvin for their work. Mr. Curry notes that the Board completed a full review of the regulations, hired new staff members, Andrew Rosenfeld, Investigator, Eric Hebron, Administrative Specialists, and Isaac Okehie, Deputy Director, and completed revisions to continuous competence. Mr. Curry states that launching the electronic jurisprudence exam was a challenge. The person hired to complete the request for proposals was unable to begin the process. Mr. Curry announced that the Board is moving away from paper license verifications to electronic license verifications. He states he will defer to the FSBPT task force within the CBA (Council of Board Administrators) for information. Guest, Chidi Umez asked the Board what the priorities are moving forward?

2018 Review  
Successes &  
Challenges

The Board discussed Continuous Professional Development formally Continuing Competence. Ms. Rotondo noted that she has worked on this issue since joining the Board. She states that she and former Board Member, Krystal Lighty, traveled Maryland to survey PTs and PTAs. Board members discussed engaging licensees, stakeholders, and the introduction of the changes. Ms. Rotondo noted that a main concern raised is regarding parents with children who left the workforce. Ms. Rotondo also noted taking a variety of Continuing Education courses allows for a PT to be well rounded. Ms. Rotondo and Mr. Curry proposed that the Board visit the four quadrants of Maryland to discuss CE information. Board Members, Stephen Baur, Karen Gordes, and Rebecca

Continuing  
Competence  
Legislation  
Licensee  
Engagement  
Review



Holsinger offered to lead the endeavor. The Board has proposed beginning the Maryland tour in March or April of 2019.

The Board staff will be responsible for re-circulating regulations and finding a professional to write the RFP. Mr. Curry plans to develop a rubric on approved courses to provide clarification on criteria for approval.

The Board discussed wellness and burnout among clinicians. Board member, Sumesh Thomas discussed a reoccurring theme of documentation in disciplinary cases. Dr. Thomas discussed clinicians feeling pressure to bill and increase reimbursement. Dr. Gordes states that perhaps job stability could be directly related to the pressure to increase reimbursement. Dr. Baur suggests having resources available for licensees, updating renewal questions, and adding links and talking points to the Boards website. Mr. Curry noted in the past self-disclosure was handled with the investigative process. Board Counsel, Brett Felter mentioned that other states have a separate entity for rehab. Mr. Curry will put together a Board committee for wellness. The committee will collect resources on various topics related to wellness, including mindfulness to add to website. Mr. Bull and Ms. Cutkelvin will conduct a best practices survey that will incorporate questions from other state's MBI (Maslach Burnout Inventory). The Board wants to investigate professional resources before developing and changing a questionnaire for renewal.

Wellness &  
Burnout Among  
Clinicians

Dr. Thomas and Board member, Dr. Baur both noted the importance of data collection. Board member, Donna Richmond suggested the Board consider interns. Mr. Curry states that he plans to hire interns to assist the Board with data collection. Mr. Curry along with Board staff will develop ten data points for data collection.

Data-  
Workforce Data  
Collection &  
Min. Data Set

Mr. Curry spoke at the Unlocking Opportunities Conference conference for formally incarcerated. Mr. Felter apprised the Board that the regulations state the Board cannot deny an applicant solely on criminal record unless it is directly related to field of practice. Deborah Jackson, Licensing Coordinator, apprised the Board that she will review other state examples for foreign credentials for PTAs. Mr. Curry suggests the Board join INPTRA (International Network of Physiotherapy Regulatory Authorities) to have access to international data.

Reducing  
Barriers for  
Licensure

Dr. Thomas spoke on his concern with the safety and access of telehealth. Mr. Curry suggests the Board make a position statement that defines the Boards position on telehealth and technology.

Telehealth

The Board discussed the licensure compact. Mr. Curry apprised the Board that a licensee must be licensed in the state in which they live. Mr. Curry plans to monitor introduction of the licensure compact in the legislature. The Board is in favor of a compact.

FSBPT  
Compact

The Board discussed Vetting Board Experts. Mr. Bull will refine the new Board expert application and present the revised application to the Board on February 5, 2019.

Vetting Board  
Experts

Mr. Curry apprised the Board that he will continue conversation on model guidelines and monitor state activity on adoption of model.

Model Action  
Board  
Guidelines

There was a motion to close the open session at 4:33p.m.  
The board meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberly Rotondo, PTA, Chairperson

2/19/2019

Date Approved



for

Carlton Curry, Executive Director