



AK PT/OT Board - Scope of Practices Committee Mtg - March 7, 2025 Minutes

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

3/7/2025 9:00 AM AKST

Virtual meeting - Zoom

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Committee Members: Tina McLean, Tori Daugherty and Jonathan Gates

The Alaska Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Scope of Practices Committee meeting was called to order on Friday, March 7, 2025 at 9:00 am by Tina McLean. Roll call taken. Committee members present were Tina McLean and Tori Daugherty. Jonathan Gates, absent.

Staff member present for the meeting: Sheri Ryan, Licensing Examiner.

Guest: Kristen Neville, Manager State Affairs, AOTA joined at 9:31 am

2. Review/Approve Agenda

Motion by Tina McLean to accept the meeting agenda as submitted. Seconded by Tori Daugherty. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.

3. Approve Minutes - 12/20/2024 + 02/07/2025

Motion by Tina McLean to approve the meeting minutes from February 7, 2025 as submitted. Seconded by Tori Daugherty. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.

4. Public Comment

No members of the public in attendance; no public comment given.

5. NEW Board Correspondence

A. PT/OT State Licensure Questions

Insurance guidelines determines many of these requirements. AK PT/OT regulation is silent on. Regulation committee is currently working on regulation project related to PTA/OTA supervision. No further action needed on this board correspondence past response sent by licensing examiner previously.

6. Draft Correspondence for Committee Review

A. APTA-AK - Referral for Diagnostic Imaging for Physical Therapists in AK - 02-26-2025

Committee discussed that conversation should not be limited to just Physical Therapists ordering imaging but also include Occupational Therapists ordering imaging. Any statutory or regulatory language would need to differentiate between ordering of imaging and taking of x-rays; no intent for PT or OT to actually take x-rays. Discussed X-ray, MRI, Ultrasound - diagnostic imaging. This is not related to e-stim or ultrasound used as therapy in practice treatment. Committee discussed briefly how reimbursement issues may still occur even if scope of practice is revised to include diagnostic imaging as board does not have jurisdiction over insurance payor policies.

Tina McLean motioned to send draft response regarding APTA-AK - Referral for Diagnostic Imaging for Physical Therapists in AK - 02-26-2025 with revision as discussed to the Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board for review and approval. Tori Daugherty seconded. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.

7. Legislative Initiatives

A. DPT/OTD Term Protection Statutory DRAFT Language - revise per discussion 2/7

DPT and OTD are academic credentials issued by an educational institution and not linked to licensing status. Board direction from February board meeting to allow FSBPT/APTA to continue to monitor/address with their lawsuit for national entity that is utilizing Dynamic Personal Trainer. AK Board to take action if it becomes an issue in the State of Alaska. Possible changes to statute included in 5-year strategic plan. Committee to continue to monitor. Topic tabled until such time as additional action needed.

B. PT Modernization Statutory Project

Update on workgroup invitations

- APTA-AK - Discussed 02/27 at Board meeting; email sent to President Alec Kay 03/03/2025
- FSBPT - email sent to Christine Sousa 03/06/2025 - forwarded to Rich Woolf, Chief Professional Office and Leslie Adrian, Director of Professional Standards 03/07
- PHY Listserv email sent 03-06-2025

Work on Townhall guidelines and qualifying workgroup members

C. OT Modernization Statutory Project

Update on workgroup invitations

- AKOTA - Discussed 02/28 at Board meeting; email sent to President Brianne Oswald 03/03/2025
- AOTA - email sent to Kristen Neville, 03/03/2025
- PHY Listserv email sent 03-06-2025

Work on Townhall guidelines and qualifying workgroup members

Jonathan Gates to head PT Scope Modernization Work Group. Tori Daugherty to head OT Scope Modernization Work Group. Discussed and finalized work group composition, methodology for screening, objective/goals and structure for ongoing series of work group meetings.

Tina McLean to draft meeting resources for PT for review and use by Jonathan Gates. Tori Daugherty to draft meeting resources for OT. Kristen to send model practice act for OT. Staff to create forms and implement.

D. EA Statutory Project - Approved statutory language

Tina McLean expressed that draft statutory language for creation of EA position should include language "serve exclusively to the Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board and shall not serve in any capacity to any other boards."

8. Next Steps

1. Reschedule Scope of Practices committee meeting on June 6, 2025 meeting from 9-11am to 8am - 10am.
2. Tina McLean to provide work group materials by March 10, 2025
3. Jonathan Gates and Tori Daugherty to provide finalized work group materials by March 14, 2025.

9. Adjourn

The Alaska Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Scope of Practices Committee meeting was adjourned at 11:18 am on Friday, March 7, 2025.

Next virtual meeting scheduled for Friday, June 6, 2025 at 8:00 am.

Approved by the Scope of Practices Committee June 6, 2025.