



AK PT/OT Board - Regulations Committee Mtg - July 17, 2025 Minutes

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
7/17/2025 10:00 AM AKDT
Videoconference

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Committee Members: Valerie Phelps, Rebecca Dean; Alternate - Tori Daugherty

The Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board Regulations Committee meeting was called to order on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 10:01 am by Valerie Phelps.

Roll call taken:

Committee members present: Valerie Phelps, Rebecca Dean and Tori Daugherty.

Staff present: Sheri Ryan, Licensing Examiner.

Guest: Kristen Neville, State Affairs Manager, AOTA and Megan Moody.

2. Review/Approve Agenda

Rebecca Dean motioned to accept the agenda for the July 17, 2025 PHY Regulations Committee meeting as submitted. Motioned seconded by Tori Daugherty. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.

3. Approve Minutes - 06/20/2025

Rebecca Dean motioned to accept the minutes for the June 20, 2025 PHY Regulations Committee meeting as submitted. Motioned seconded by Tori Daugherty. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.

4. Public Comment

No public comment given.

5. Board correspondence

Board correspondence Use of PT Aide/Tech – 07-17-2025 reviewed and discussed at length. Correspondence relevant to ongoing supervision topic being discussed in committee.

- Centralized statute for Telehealth 08.02.130
- Needs active license in both Wyoming and Alaska to perform telehealth
- Additionally, check with Wyoming regarding requirements for telehealth services

- Tie in definition of non-licensed personnel
 - 12 AAC 54.520 Supervision of non-licensed personnel
 - 12 AAC 54.500(e)
 - 12 AAC 54.590 Definitions
 - 12 AAC 54.590(1)(A) interpreted to mean synchronously and virtually present - virtual is permitted as "on-site supervision"
- Principles of Practice 1: emergency planning - use of the phrase "clinical judgement" for patient care to address these issues in advance; staff to be qualified/trained for emergency situations.
- Include language that presence of aide is based on patient safety to have someone available during telehealth visit; not creating risk.
- Suggested that disclaimer from Scopes of Practices letters be used within this correspondence. Discussed modifications of boiler template for this correspondence.

Action Items:

- Tori Daugherty to draft response for board correspondence Use of PT aide/tech - 07-17-2025 as discussed and forward to staff to load into OnBoard for full board review and vote.

Break at 10:57 am Recording paused. Recording started at 11:06 am.

Roll call taken:

Committee members present: Valerie Phelps, Rebecca Dean and Tori Daugherty.

Staff present: Sheri Ryan, Licensing Examiner.

Guest: Kristen Neville, State Affairs Manager, AOTA and Megan Moody.

6. Regulations Projects

A. OTA/PTA supervision discussion

Review:

- FSBPT webinar on supervision - Effective PT/PTA Teams Enhance Public Protection: <https://youtu.be/zOjWpq7aN0c?si=K0bKKU92IOpzzUz6>
- Wyoming 083-3-3 Supervision of OTA - levels of supervision
- AOTA Guidelines for Supervision document
- AZ PTA supervision matrix documents (3)

Homework:

- Redraft regulation language for AK PTA/OTA supervision based off discussion from 06/20/2025 committee mtg.
 - Consider no ratio or limits/caps or language that allows PT/OTs to supervise to their skill/comfort level.

- Consider language that limits ability for aides to bill for rehabilitation services

Committee strategized how best to proceed with PTA/OTA supervision regulations with AO358 in place and pending PT + OT Scope Modernization statutory changes. Cannot write regulations based on "future" statutory changes. Committee would like to explore requirements for waiver request of regulations package completed on dry needling as feel it is necessary to protect the safety of the public. Staff to discuss with appropriate department individual(s) in preparation of next full board meeting (August).

Discussed writing regulations to clarify supervision of non-licensed personnel, writing progress notes, and performing evaluations.

Rebecca Dean expressed that after careful consideration, she was reluctant to not put a cap/limit on supervision due to domino effect and resulting number for physical therapist with layers of supervision.

Action Items:

Staff to explore requirements for waiver request of regulations package completed on dry needling with appropriate department individual(s) in preparation of next full board meeting (August).

B. Definition of Employment and Professional Reference Requirements for licensure by credentials - PT and OT

Would also need to update Verification of Experience forms 08-4918b (PTA); 08-4920b (OT); 08-4922b (OTA).

Would also need to update Professional Reference forms 08-4918a (PTA); 08-4920a (OT); 08-4922a (OTA).

Agenda item tabled for first discussion item at next meeting.

7. Next Steps

1. Tori Daugherty to draft response for board correspondence Use of PT aide/tech - 07-17-2025 as discussed and forward to staff to load into OnBoard for full board review and vote.
2. Staff to explore requirements for waiver request of regulations package completed on dry needling with appropriate department individual(s) in preparation of next full board meeting (August).

8. Adjourn

The Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board Regulations Committee meeting was adjourned at 11:47 am on Thursday, July 17, 2025.

Next meeting scheduled for Friday, August 15, 2025 at 10:00 am.

Approved by the Regulations Committee August 15, 2025 by unanimous vote.