

1 STATE OF ALASKA
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY
3 AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
4

5 ALASKA STATE PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY BOARD
6

7 OCTOBER 7, 2021

8 By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provision of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled
9 meeting of the State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board was held via Videoconference

10 333 Willoughby Ave, 9th Floor, Conference Room A, Juneau, AK
11

12 Agenda Item 1 – Roll Call

13 Keith Poorbaugh calls the meeting to order at 9:00 am, Thursday, October 7, 2021.

14 Voice Roll Call:

15 Lisa Radley
16 Jodi Pfeiffer
17 Rebecca Dean
18 Enlow Walker
19 Robert Calhoon
20

21 Staff Present:

22 Lacey Derr, Records and Licensing Supervisor
23 Evangelyn Pajarillo, Occupational Licensing Examiner
24 Joshua Hardy, Investigator II
25 Sara Chambers, Administrative Director
26

27 Agenda Item 2 – Review/Approve Agenda

28 ***In a motion by Jodi Pfeiffer, Seconded by Lisa Radley it was Move to approve 2021 Alaska State***
29 ***Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board meeting minutes.***

30 ***Voice roll call vote: Jodi Pfeiffer, Rebecca Dean, Enlow Walker, Lisa Radley, and Keith Poorbaugh.***

31 ***Motion passed.***
32

33 Agenda Item 3 – Ethics Reporting

34 Keith Poorbaugh asked the board if they had any ethics to disclose during the meeting. Jodi Pfeiffer stated
35 she abstains from voting on any former students as she is the PTA Program Director at the University of
36 Alaska Anchorage. There were no other ethics to report.
37
38

39 Agenda Item 4 – Old Business/ Tasks

40 Records and Licensing Supervisor, Lacey Derr, explained that the board is approaching the sunset audit and
41 to keep that on the board's radar. Keith Poorbaugh added that the Legislature will likely extend the board's
42 termination date, eight years to June 30, 2030, as they have done in the past. Staff agreed and suggested the
43 board be prepared to testify briefly during the upcoming 2022 Legislative Session when the Sunset is brought
44 before the committee.

45

46 Agenda Item 5 – Schedule Future Meetings

47 The board expressed they would like the next meeting to be in person, in Juneau if possible. The next two
48 meetings for 2022 were scheduled for February 10, 2022 in Juneau and October 13, 2022, location TBD.

49

50 Agenda Item 6 – Investigative Report

51 Investigator Josh Hardy joined to present the most recent Investigative Board Report. From the time period
52 of January 27, 2021 thru September 23, 2021. There were no opened cases and 9 closed cases. The board
53 thanked Investigator Hardy for his time and there was no further discussion.

54

55 Agenda Item 7 – Board Transition Manual

56 The board discussed the 'Transition Manual' the previous examiner had left but it was decided it was more of
57 an administrative function and not a board task. The board did discuss drafting a vision/mission statement
58 to be read at each meeting. Enlow Walker volunteered to compose the Vision/Mission statement for the
59 Alaska State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board.

60

61

62 Agenda Item 11 – Correspondence

63 To make the best use of their time since they were running ahead of schedule, the board continued through
64 the agenda. Correspondence questions were answered which led the board to discuss more frequently asked
65 questions for the Board's webpage.

66 The board updated FAQs from the previous February board meeting to post on the webpage. OLE Pajarillo
67 and RLS Derr will review the website and ensure the most current board statements are available.

68 Rebecca Dean suggested that a reminder must go out for all licensees stating the requirements for licensure
69 renewal. Staff agreed to organize electronic means to reach out to applicants for licensure renewal through
70 the ListServ process if available.

71

72 **Break off record: 9:56 a.m.**

73 **Back on record: 10:52 a.m.**

74

75

76 Agenda Item 12 – Physical and Occupational Therapy Compacts

77 The board discussed that the FSBPT and NBCOT are still in the process of including the Alaska Chapter in
78 the compacts and are currently working on implementation. Compacts are still in their early infancy so when
79 there is more information available, the board will reach back out to the local Alaska Chapter and discuss
80 movement forward. At this time, there is not a lot of push from the board or the Alaska Chapter in joining
81 the early compact.

82 **Break off the record: 10:49 a.m.**

83 **Back on the record: 11:00 a.m.**

84

85 Agenda Item 15 – Council for Affordable Quality Health Care

86 Jodi Pfeiffer presented research on the CAQH Proview Administrative Credentialing Program. This
87 credentialing system would allow administrative staff to retrieve information on all past applicants. The
88 program also would offer an option for applicants to enter their licensing information from other
89 jurisdictions. Other jurisdictions may also upload disciplinary action and continuing education requirements
90 for licensed physical therapists and licensed occupational therapists.

91 Affiliated organizations would issue authorization for applicants to disclose any information for their licenses
92 obtained in other jurisdictions. They would review supplemental documentation and post all received
93 documents for all applicants to follow along in their application status.

94 The purpose of implementing this credentialing program is to speed up the process of applications and
95 reduce the procedure for processing a variety of files. The board discussed the implementation of the Council
96 for Affordable Quality Health Care credentialing program and agreed it was not in their best interest to move
97 forward with. The system is a great product but the intended function of the system does not meet the needs
98 of the board. The cost would also be high for a product that didn't fulfill the board's needs.

99

100 **Break off the Record: 11:30 a.m.**

101 **Back on the Record: 1:00 p.m.**

102

103 Agenda Item 7 - Board Transition Manual Mission Statement

104 During the lunch break, Enlow Walker was able to draft a Vision/Mission statement for the board to review.
105 The statement read:

106

107 **The mission of the Alaska Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board is to promote healthy,
108 independent, productive Alaskans. The Board strives to do this by:**

- 109
- 110 1. **Adopting regulations necessary for the safe and efficient practice of Physical Therapy and**
 - 111 **Occupational Therapy in the state of Alaska.**
 - 112 2. **Reviewing and approving the qualifications of applicants to ensure a competent and**
 - 113 **effective work force of therapists and assistants.**
 - 114 3. **Issuing temporary permits and licenses to qualified persons.**
 - 115 4. **Monitoring compliance with continuing education requirements.**
 - 116 5. **Reviewing and acting on any report or documentation of any unsafe, unethical or unlawful**
actions of a licensee.

117 *In a motion by Enlow Walker, seconded by Jodi Pfeiffer, it was moved to approve the mission and*
118 *vision statement as presented.*

119 *Voice Roll Call Vote: Rebecca Dean, Enlow Walker, Jodi Pfeiffer, Lisa Radley, and Robert Calhoon,*
120 *and Keith Poorbaugh.*

121 *Motion passed.*

122

123

124 Agenda Item 9 – Alec Kay, APTA

125 Alec Kay greeted all members and introduced himself to the board. Kay explained to the board that the
126 Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Compact is moving along nicely. Kay stated the APTA will be
127 supporting the process of Alaska chapter becoming part of the compact as the project moves along. But
128 again as the board discussed earlier, the compacts are in their early stages. Once more information become
129 available and more momentum picks up, he will reach back out to the board. Mr. Kay thanked the board for
130 their time and all the hard work they do for the licensed professionals in Alaska.

131

132 Agenda Item 16 – Military Spouse Licensing

133 Director Chambers joined to discuss SB 21 and Military licensing.

134 Director Chambers explained: There has been a memorandum that has been proposed this spring and has
135 been signed by the Governor this summer that will go into effect on January 1.

136 The intent of this memorandum is to provide ensure board members are aware of the change in regulation
137 and implementation process to comply.

138 The department of defense has said over the years that they would like to address the national need to make
139 the state to state process easier for military spouses and military families. A reasonable accommodation
140 presented by the department of defense is to implement a reciprocity system for applicants applying by
141 credentials. Military spouses and active duty military personnel will be required to apply and receive and
142 temporary license to practice in the professions the State of Alaska regulates if they already hold a
143 substantially equivalent unencumbered license in another jurisdiction.

144 The board and division will be required to issue temporary licenses to military applicants within 30 days of
145 receiving the application.

146 Per AS 08.01.064., Jodi Pfeiffer asks if education requirements for military applicants must be accepted
147 regardless of the required education to obtain full licensure for PTAs.

148 The military spouse licensing for physical therapy and occupational therapy must satisfy the requirements for
149 licensure and the board must examine applications and determine all requirements as substantially equivalent
150 to issue temporary licenses.

151 Keith Poorbaugh requested to have a resource for a “substantially equivalent” example as many states have
152 different requirements and standards for obtaining licensure, especially for foreign trained applicants.

153 Rebecca Dean requested a licensing process for military spouse licensing to be implemented specifically for
154 the Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Licensing Program for the board to determine equivalency in
155 accordance with the current standards and regulations within the 30-day window of issuing a temporary
156 license.

157 Before ending the meeting, Chair Poorbaugh presented an Ivermectin statement that was circulating among
158 the boards. The statement, drafted by the Board of Pharmacy, was to address the non FDA approved
159 treatment of COVID-19 with the use of Ivermectin. Other boards have signed to approve and support the
160 statement.

161 Ms. Pfeiffer suggested remaining neutral on this statement.

162 The board agreed it was probably in their best interest to remain neutral regarding this statement and refer
163 patients back to their primary healthcare provider for discussion on the best treatments for them.

164

165 The board restated the mission/vision statement.

166 Jodi Pfeiffer volunteered to become the next Chair for the State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
167 Board. Ms. Pfeiffer plans to have some board training for the February 2022 meeting and will be officially
168 voted in then.

169

170 Adjourn

171 **In a motion by Robert Calhoon with unanimous consent, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at**
172 **2:15 p.m.**

173

174 Respectfully Submitted:

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183

Eva Pajarillo

Keith Poorbaugh, Chair

Date