



Texas Medical Board

BOARD MEETING

August 20, 2021

Video Conference

The meeting was called to order on Friday August 20, 2021 at 8:03 a.m. by Board President Sherif Zaafran, M.D. Board members present were: Kandace Farmer, D.O., Vice President; Michael E. Cokinos, Secretary/Treasurer; Arun Agarwal; Sharon Barnes; Devinder S. Bhatia, M.D.; James Distefano, D.O.; Tomeka Herod; LuAnn R. Morgan; Satish Nayak, M.D.; Manuel Quinones, Jr., M.D.; Jason Tibbels, M.D.; and David Vanderweide, M.D. Board members not present were: George L. DeLoach, D.O.; Robert Gracia; Jeffrey L. Luna, M.D.; Robert Martinez, M.D.; and Jayaram B. Naidu, M.D. Staff members present were Scott Freshour, J.D., General Counsel; Robert Bredt, M.D., Medical Director; and various other staff.

Agenda Item # 1, Mission Statement. Dr. Zaafran read the board's mission statement into the minutes. *Our Mission is to protect and enhance the public's health, safety and welfare by establishing and maintaining standards of excellence used in regulating the practice of medicine and ensuring quality health care for the citizens of Texas through licensure, discipline, and education.*

Agenda Item #2, Board Member Report.

Complex Pain Management. Dr. Zaafran gave an update on the process of making permanent rule changes regarding pain management. Board directed staff to put together a stakeholders meeting to come up with recommendation to bring back to the board.

Covid 19 Update. Dr. Zaafran gave an update on the surge of the Covid-19 Delta variant. A third dose of the vaccine has been authorized for some individuals.

Agenda Item #3, Consideration and possible action for dispositions below minimum guidelines. After consideration, Mr. Cokinos moved, Dr. Distefano seconded and the motion passed to accept the dispositions below minimum guidelines as presented.

Agenda Item #4, Consideration and possible action for Mediated Settlement Agreed Orders. After consideration, Dr. Bhatia moved, Ms. Morgan seconded and the motion passed to accept the Mediated Settlement Agreed Order for Federico Roman Ng, M.D.

Agenda Item #5, Consideration and possible action for Remedial Plans. After consideration, Dr. Quinones moved, Mr. Agarwal seconded and the motions passed to accept the Remedial Plans for Leah W. Antoniewicz, M.D.; D. Michael Blankenship, M.D.; Guy Timothy Burrows, M.D.; Khavar Jamil Dar, M.D.; Stacey Faude Good, M.D.; Ahmed Karkoutly, M.D.; Jagdish D. Patel, M.D.; Jignesh D. Patel, M.D.; Gregorio R. Riera, M.D.; John Anthony Sazy, M.D.; Shanker S. Sundrani, M.D.; Michelle Torres, M.D.; John Schiller Turner, II, D.O.; Brian Arnell Wiley, M.D.; Anna Marie Allred, M.D.; Julio Jose Andino-Velez, M.D.; Frank Anthony Betanksi, M.D.; Gregory Lawrence Colon, M.D.;

Marla Rae Conger, M.D.; Shailesh D. Dhaduk, M.D.; Randall F. Dryer, M.D.; Muhammad Emran, M.D.; Joe Michael Etter, D.O.; Deborah Fung, M.D.; Deena Gandhi, M.D.; Timberly N. Gilford, M.D.; Mumeet Hafiz Habeeb, M.D.; John Cooper Hall, M.D.; Raymond Julian Luna, M.D.; Mary Milam, M.D.; Lisa Lynette Sachdev, M.D.; David James Sloan, M.D.; Mohammad Ali Ursani, M.D.; Mark Sean Wilson, M.D.; John Joseph Zavaleta, M.D.; William L. Holcomb, Jr., M.D.; Anil Kumar Kesani, M.D.; Josephine K. Porter, M.D.; John Charles Turner, Jr, M.D.; Gita Dayal Meshri, D.O; David A. Garcia, M.D.; and Pedro Salvador Argoti, M.D.

Agenda Item #6, Consideration and possible action for Agreed Orders. After consideration, **Dr. Quinones moved, Dr. Naidu seconded and the motion passed to approve the Agreed Orders for Gregory B. Carlson, M.D.; Geoffrey Allen Groff, M.D.; Hussamaddin Al-Khadour, M.D.; Bernadette Uche Iguh, M.D.; Robert Q. Lewis, M.D.; Joel Alan Aronowitz, M.D.; David Scott Burkett, M.D.; William Clayton Doebler, M.D.; Stanley Michael Higgins, M.D.; Owen Robert Kieren, M.D.; Khanh Quoc Nguyen, M.D.; Kurt James Reyes, M.D.; Sean Takeuchi, M.D.; Nancy A. Burt, M.D.; Derrick Dione Cox, M.D.; Eric B. Koch, M.D.; Francisco I. Pena, M.D.; Lauren Michelle Rosin, M.D.; Yassir Ahmed Sonbol, M.D.; Maaz Ahmad Abbasin, M.D., Vacate; Maaz Ahmad Abassi, M.D.; Carlos Alberto Barba, M.D.; George Givens Miller, M.D.; Saager Raju, M.D.; and Ariel De Llanos, M.D.**

Agenda Item #7, Consideration and approval for Modification Request/Termination Request Orders. After consideration, **Ms. Barnes moved, Dr. Bhatia seconded and the motion passed to approve the Modification Request/Termination Requests for Eric Ping Chiang, M.D.; Joseph Howe Crumbliss, M.D.; Donald Ferguson, II, M.D.; Mary Gwen Gorman, M.D.; Nadeem Khan, M.D.; Daniel Leonce Koppersmith, M.D.; Carlos David Kugler, M.D.; and Sanjoy Sundaesan, M.D.**

There were no items for Agenda Item # 8.

Agenda Item #9, Consideration and approval of Cease and Desist Orders. After consideration, **Ms. Morgan moved, Dr. Vanderweide seconded and the motion passed to accept the Cease and Desist Orders for Fabiola Castillo, NCR; Christopher Chappell, MGR; Elie Hannah Hajjar; Linda Jasmine Hernandez; Kelly Nguyen.**

There were no items for Agenda Item #10-14.

Agenda Item #15, Executive Director Report.

Budget Update. Mr. Zac Chandonnet gave an update on the budget report. The biennium reduction has played a part in the tightness of funds at the end of this FY.

Internal Audit Update. Ms. Taurie Sloan introduced the agency's contracted internal auditor, Mr. David Graves. Mr. Graves gave a presentation on the plans to audit TXPHP. After discussion, **Dr. Distefano moved, Ms. Barnes seconded and the motion passed to accept the FY22 plans to audit TXPHP.**

Enforcement Report. Nothing to report.

Complaints Against the Agency. A report on Complaints against the Agency was provided.

COVID-19 Update. Mr. Freshour gave an update on how the agency is responding to COVID-19.

Legislative Update. Mr. Freshour gave an update on the Legislative Session.

Interstate Licensure Compact. Mr. Freshour gave an update the Interstate Licensure Compact.

Agenda Item #16, Medical Director Report. Dr. Bredt reported that there are 787 approved experts, and DPRC approved 14 experts. There is some need for endocrinologists, orthopedic surgeons/hand surgeons, and pediatric surgeons.

Agenda Item #17, Public Information Update. Ms. Sloan gave a report to the Board. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #18, Report Physician Assistant Liaison. Melinda Gottschalk, PA, was present. She reported that PAs would like to be a part of the stakeholders' meetings for pain management.

Agenda Item #19 Consideration and possible action regarding pending litigation. Mr. Freshour gave a report on pending litigation. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #20, Report on Temporary Suspension Hearings. A report on Temporary Suspension Hearings was provided. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #21, Report on Suspensions by Operation of Law. There are none,

Agenda Item #22, Report on Motions for Rehearing Requests. There are none.

Agenda Item #23, Report on Cease and Desist Orders approved by Executive Director. A report on Cease and Desist Orders approved by the Executive Director was provided. No action was taken.

Agenda Item #24, Report on Automatic Revocation Letters by Executive Director. A report on Automatic Revocation Letters by the Executive Director was provided. No action was taken.

There were no items for Agenda Items #25-29.

Agenda Item #36 at 9:15 a.m., Open Forum for Public Comments. No one was present to give public comments. Ms. Sheila Hemphill provided written comments.

Agenda Item #30, Discussion, recommendation and possible action regarding adoption of proposed rule amendments to 22 T.A.C.

- Chapter 187 Procedural Rules, Subchapter A - General Provisions
§187.2 Definitions
§187.6 Appearances Personally or by Representative
- Chapter 187 Procedural Rules, Subchapter B - Informal Board Proceedings
§187.16 Informal Show Compliance (ISC) Information and Notices

Mr. Freshour gave a general overview of the amendments and comments received. After discussion, **Ms. Barnes moved, Dr. Distefano seconded and the motion passed to adopt as**

written, effective August 22, 2021, the proposed rule amendments to 22 T.A.C. Chapter 187, Procedural Rules, Subchapter A - General Provisions, §187.2 Definitions; §187.6 Appearances Personally or by Representative; and Chapter 187, Procedural Rules, Subchapter B - Informal Board Proceedings, §187.16 Informal Show Compliance (ISC) Information and Notices.

There were no items for Agenda Items #31-35 and 37.

CONSENT AGENDA

Discussion/Action Items – to be considered at any time the full board is in session:

After consideration, **Dr. Bhatia moved, Dr. Farmer seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Consent Agenda items:**

- 1. Consideration and approval of the June 11, 2021 Medical Board Meeting Minutes and action items.**
- 2. Consideration and approval of the June 30, 2021, July 9, 2021 and July 30, 2021 Executive Committee Emergency meeting minutes and action items.**
- 3. Committee reports and the consideration and approval of minutes and action items of committees meeting during the board meeting.**

Agenda Item #38, Adjourn. There being no further items, **Dr. Nayak moved, Ms. Morgan seconded and the meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.**