



Texas Physician Assistant Board

BOARD MEETING

November 6, 2020

The meeting was called to order on Friday, November 06, 2020 at 9:09 a.m. by Karrie L Crosby, PA-C, Presiding Officer. Other board members present were: Melinda Gottschalk, PA-C, Secretary; Steven S. Ahmed, M.D.; Clayton "Clay" P. Bulls, PA-C; Jennifer L. Clarner, PA-C; Victor Shen-Pou Ho, M.D.; Sandra Longoria, PA-C; Cameron J. McElhany; Janeth K. Mills, PA-C.; and Andrew W. Sauer, PA-C. Lawrence G. Hughes, Ed.D was not present. Staff members present were Stephen "Brint" Carlton, Executive Director; Scott Freshour, J.D., General Counsel; Robert Bredt, M.D., Medical Director; and various other staff. *Dr. Ho, Ms. Longoria, and Dr. Ahmed joined the meeting after roll call was taken.*

Agenda item #1, Mission Statement. Ms. Crosby 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 #3, Executive Director's Report.

Budget Report. Mr. Carlton gave a report on the agency's budget. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Internal Audit Report. Mr. Carlton gave a report on the agency's internal audit. No action was taken on this agenda item.

COVID-19. Mr. Carlton gave a report on the agency's COVID-19 response. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Recognition. Mr. Carlton gave recognition to former ES Manager, Sonja Aurelius for over 30 years of service. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Rule update CME, Human Trafficking. Mr. Carlton gave an update on the CME rule. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Agenda item #2, Board Member Report. Ms. Crosby welcomed new board members, Steve S. Ahmed, M.D.; Sandra Longoria, PA-C; and Andrew W. Sauer, PA-C.

Presentation. Ms. Crosby gave a brief presentation honoring former PA Board members, Teralea Jones, PA-C; Michael Reis, M.D.; and John Scott, D.O.

Agenda item #4, Medical Director Report. Dr. Bredt introduced himself to the new board members. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Agenda item #5, Physician Assistant Liaison Report. Ms. Mills provided information regarding her attendance at the Texas Medical Board meeting on October 16, 2020. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Agenda item #6, Public Information Update. Mr. Schneider reported to board members to direct any communication from media to Mr. Schneider and Ms. Randermann. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Agenda item #7, Consideration and possible action regarding pending litigation. Mr. Freshour gave an update on pending litigation. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Agenda item #8, Discussion, recommendation and possible action regarding applicants appearing concerning eligibility.

- a. Ms. Unterborn gave a review of Applicant #2436. The applicant presented a brief statement and members asked questions.

Executive Session. Deliberations concerning licensure applications or disciplinary action under the authority of Occupations Code Section 204.0585. **Ms. Clarner moved, Ms. Gottschalk seconded, and the motion passed to move the meeting into Executive Session and the meeting closed to the public at 10:22 a.m.**

Executive Session adjourned and the board meeting reopened to the public at 11:00 a.m.

After discussion, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Mr. Martinez seconded, and the motion passed to grant the appeal, reinstating Applicant's license.**

Agenda item #9, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding Withdraw and Reapply (WAR) offered by the Licensure Manager. Ms. Tuthill and Ms. Unterborn gave a summary of the WAR policy. After discussion, **Ms. Clarner moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to accept the Withdraw and Reapply (WAR) offered by the Licensure Manager policy as presented.**

Agenda item #10, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding proposed orders offered by the Executive Director. Ms. Unterborn gave a summary of the proposed order by Executive Director. After discussion, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Ms. Clarner seconded, and the motion passed to accept the proposed order by the Executive Director as submitted.**

Agenda item #11, Report on physician assistant licenses issued by Board staff. Ms. Unterborn provided a report on the physician assistant licenses issued by staff. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Agenda item #12, Report on physician assistant licensure process statistics. Ms. Unterborn gave a report on the physician assistant licensure process statistics. 898 licenses issued in FY 2020. No action was taken on this agenda item.

Agenda item #13. Texas Physician Health Program (TXPHP). Dr. McQueen introduced herself to the new board members and gave a report on program participants. No action was taken on this agenda item.

There were no items for Agenda items# 14-17.

Agenda item #18, Review, discussion, and possible action regarding selected files and cases. After discussion, **Mr. Bulls moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to accept selected files and cases under Investigations with Warning Letters as submitted.**

Mr. Bulls moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to accept selected files and cases under Investigation Cases as submitted.

Mr. Bulls moved, Ms. Gottschalk seconded, and the motion passed to accept selected files and cases under JNF Files, NJ File, and Litigation Department – ISC Dismissals as submitted.

There were no items for Agenda item# 19.

Agenda item #20, Consideration and approval of Modification/Termination Request Orders. After consideration, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Dr. Ho seconded, and the motion passed to enter modification or termination of the Orders for Tarah Bertzyk, PA and Cal Wade Graves, PA as recommended.**

Agenda item #21, Consideration and Approval of Agreed Board Orders. After consideration, **Mr. Bulls moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Agreed Board Orders for Nicolas Aguilar, PA; Jason D. Hinojosa, PA; Eugene Thomas Trotta, Jr.; and Kimberly Diane Shipper, PA as recommended.**

There were no items for Agenda item #22-25.

Agenda item #26, Consideration and Approval of Remedial Plans. After consideration, **Ms. Clarner moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Remedial Plans for Leonard M. Acevedo, PA; Tiffany Lynn Mauldin, PA; and Steven C. Whitney, PA.**

There were no items for Agenda items #27

Agenda item #28, Report on Temporary Suspension/Automatic Orders/Automatic Actions. A report was provided. No action was taken on this agenda item.

There were no items for Agenda items #29-34.

Agenda item #35, Open Forum for Public Comments. No one was present for Public Comments.

Agenda item #36, Consideration and Approval of July 10, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes. After consideration, **Mr. Martinez moved, Ms. Gottschalk seconded, and the motion passed to approve the July 10, 2020 Board Meeting minutes.**

There were no items for Agenda Item #37.

Agenda item #38, Adjourn. There being no further items, **Mr. Martinez moved, Mr. Sauer seconded, and the motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 12:34 p.m.**