

**TEXAS PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT BOARD**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**February 22, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 11:25 a.m. by Acting Presiding Officer, Michael A. Mitchell, D.O. Board members present were Anna Arredondo Chapman; Ron Bryce, M.D.; Felix Koo, M.D.; Teralea Jones, PA-C; and Abelino Reyna, J.D. Staff members present were Donald W. Patrick, M.D., J.D.; Robert Simpson, General Counsel; Jaime Garanflo, Director of Customer Affairs; Mari Robinson, Director of Enforcement; and various other staff members.

**Agenda item #4, Executive Director Report.** The subject of physician assistants that have been out of the practice of medicine long enough to require retraining was discussed. Dr. Patrick discussed what remedies the medical board has used for applicants in this situation. Dr. Patrick indicated that any retraining of physician assistants has to be coordinated with the training programs. Dr. Koo mentioned that the University of Texas Pan American has recently discussed this matter. Dr. Koo offered to serve as a liaison between the board and the training programs as they work together to develop retraining options for physician assistants.

Jaime Garanflo provided an update concerning the Jurisprudence Examination. Ms. Garanflo indicated that the exam became a licensure requirement beginning January 1, 2008 and that six applicants have taken the exam to date.

Mari Robinson discussed the fast-track process staff will begin using in terms of minor administrative violations. Ms. Robinson said this new process will give licensees the option of resolving the issue once it is established there has been a violation, or they have the option of filing a written response for review by the board. Ms. Robinson said she believes this new process will significantly reduce the time staff spends working on cases involving minor administrative violations. Ms. Robinson said all Respondents can opt out of the fast-track process if they choose. This new process will begin in March 2008. Jane McFarland provided the January 2008 financial report to the board members.

**Agenda item #2, Board Member Report.** Postponed until next meeting due to Ms. Bentley's absence.

**Agenda item #3, Executive Session.** There were no items.

**Agenda item #5, Consideration and Approval of Non-Public Rehabilitation Orders and Modification Request/Termination Request of Non-Public Rehabilitation Orders.** After discussion, Mr. Reyna moved, Ms. Chapman seconded and the motion passed to approve Non-Public Rehabilitation Order # 25.

**Agenda item #6, Consideration and Approval of Agreed Board Orders.** After discussion, Mr. Reyna moved, Ms. Chapman seconded and the motion passed to approve the Agreed Orders for Edward Ruppenthal, P.A.

There were no items for agenda items #7-#12.

**Agenda item #13, Consideration and Approval of minutes of the November 9, 2007 Full Board Meeting.** Mr. Reyna moved, Dr. Bryce seconded, and the motion passed to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2007 Full Board Meeting.

**Agenda item #14, Committee Reports and the consideration and approval of minutes and action items of committees meeting during the board meeting.** Dr. Mitchell gave a report of the Licensure Committee Meeting. **After discussion, Dr. Mitchell moved, Mr. Reyna seconded and the motion passed to approve the Licensure Committee Minutes and action items.**

Ms. Chapman gave a report of the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee Meeting. **Ms. Chapman moved, Mr. Reyna seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee Minutes and action items.**

**There being no further agenda items, the meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.**