



# Texas Physician Assistant Board

BOARD MEETING

July 15, 2022

The meeting was called to order on Friday, July 15, 2022, at 9:11 a.m. by Karrie L Crosby, PA-C, Presiding Officer. Other board members present were: Melinda Gottschalk, PA-C; Steven S. Ahmed, M.D.; Victor Shen-Pou Ho, M.D.; Lawrence G. Hughes, Ed.D; Cameron J. McElhany; Janeth K. Mills, PA-C.; Gregory S. Rowin, D.O.; Andrew W. Sauer, PA-C; and Laura “Lali” Shipley. Clayton “Clay” P. Bulls, PA-C; Jennifer L. Clarner, PA-C; and Sandra Longoria, PA-C were not present. Staff members present were Christopher Palazola, Director of Operations; Robert Brecht, M.D., Medical Director; and various other staff.

**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 #2, Board Member Report.** Nothing to report.

**Agenda item #3, Executive Director’s Report.**

**Budget Report.** Mr. Joey Estrada, CFO, gave a report on the agency’s budget through June 30<sup>th</sup>. No action was taken on this agenda item.

**Personnel Update.** Nothing to report.

**Building Update** Mr. Palazola gave an update on the agency’s move to the new building.

**Agenda item #4, Medical Director Report.** Dr. Brecht reported that there are plenty of Physician Assistant panelists but recommendation for Physicians regardless of specialty are welcome.

**Agenda item #5, Physician Assistant Liaison Report.** Ms. Shipley attended the Texas Medical Board meeting on June 10, 2022. There was nothing to report. No action was taken on this agenda item.

**Agenda item #6, Public Information Update.** Mr. Jarrett Schneider, Government Affairs and Communication, provided a Public Information Update.

**Agenda item #7, Consideration and possible action regarding pending litigation.** Ms. Yvette Yarbrough, Assistant General Counsel, provided an update on pending litigation.

**Agenda Item #8, Texas Physician Health Program (TXPHP):**

**A. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding referrals**

Case #1 – 21-0906 PA After consideration, **Dr. Rowin moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to accept the TXPHP recommendation and refer the participant back to TXPHP.**

Case #2 – 21-1208 PA After consideration, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to accept the TXPHP recommendation and refer the participant back to TXPHP.**

**B. Report on Emergent Referrals (none)**

**C. Other discussion items – Reports** Dr. Katherine McQueen, TXPHP Medical Director, presented the Participation Report and Physician Assistant Referrals.

**Agenda item #9, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding licensee requests.** There were none.

**Agenda item #10, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding applicants appearing concerning eligibility.** There were none.

**Agenda item #11, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding proposed orders offered by the Executive Director.** There were none.

**Agenda item #12, Report on physician assistant licenses issued by Board staff.** Ms. Grace Unterborn, Licensure Manager, provided a report on the physician assistant licenses issued by staff. No action was taken on this agenda item.

**Agenda item #13, Report on physician assistant licensure process statistics.** Ms. Unterborn reported that 281 physician assistant licenses were issued in the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2021 in an average of 9 days. In comparison, in the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2022, 330 physician assistant licenses were issued in an average of 7 days.

**Agenda item #14, Report on cancelled/not renewed data/retired licenses.** Ms. Unterborn reported on cancelled/not renewed data/retired licenses.

**Agenda item #15, Reports and discussion regarding the Investigation, Litigation and Compliance Departments.**

**A. Enforcement Activity Report** Mr. Chris Palazola, Director of Operations, gave the Enforcement Activity Report.

**B. Warning Letters Report** There was nothing to report.

**C. Criminal Case Review Report** Mr. Palazola gave a report on Criminal Case Reviews.

**D. Reports Regarding Cases Over One Year Old** Mr. Palazola gave a report on Cases Over One Year Old.

**Agenda item #16, Consideration and approval of membership of the Expert Physician Panel.** There were none.

**Agenda item #17, Review, discussion and possible action regarding cases recommended for dismissal.**

**A. Investigative Files Recommended for Dismissal**

After discussion, **Mr. McElhaney moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to approve selected files and cases for dismissal of all non-standard of care cases as recommended.**

After discussion, **Ms. Mills moved, Dr. Rowin seconded, and the motion passed to approve selected files and cases for dismissal of all standard of care cases as recommended.**

**B. SOAH Cases** There were none.

**Agenda item #18, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding routine follow-up investigative files previously referred from Discipline and Ethics Committee for follow-up action.** There are none.

**Agenda item #19, Review, discussion and possible action regarding appeals of dismissed complaints.**

**A. Jurisdictional** There were none.

**B. JNF**

After discussion, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to deny the appeals for 22-3941, 22-4634, and 22-4953.**

**C. NJ** There were none.

**Agenda item #20, Consideration and approval of Non-Public Rehabilitation Orders and Modification Requests/Termination Request of Non-Public Rehabilitation Orders.** There were none.

**Agenda item #21, Consideration and Approval of Modification/Termination Request Orders.** There were none.

**Agenda item #22, Consideration and Approval of Agreed Board Orders.** After consideration, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Agreed Order for Leonardo Q. Gruppo, Jr., PA.**

There were no items for Agenda item #23-26.

**Agenda item #27, Consideration and Approval of Remedial Plans.** After consideration, **Dr. Rowin moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Remedial Plan for Miguel Eugenio Macias, PA.**

There were no items for Agenda items #28-#35.

**Agenda item #36, Open Forum for Public Comments.** Theresa Golde made comments.

**Agenda item #37, Consideration and Approval of March 25, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes.** After consideration, **Dr. Ho moved, Ms. Mills seconded, and the motion passed to approve the March 25, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes with correction to Dr. Sauer's name.**

**Agenda item #38, Adjourn.** There being no further items, **the meeting adjourned at 10:27 am.**