



Texas Physician Assistant Board  
BOARD MEETING  
March 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order on Friday, March 8, 2024, at 9:12 a.m. by Melinda Gottschalk, PA-C. Other board members present were: Rao K. Ali, M.D.; Clayton "Clay" P. Bulls, PA-C; Stephanie Corbett, PA-C; Victor Shen-Pou Ho, M.D. Sandra Longoria, PA-C.; Gregory S. Rowin, D.O.; Andrew W. Sauer, PA-C; Laura "Lali" Shipley; Richard M. Todd, PA-C. Board members not present were: Karrie L Crosby, PA-C, Presiding Officer; Cameron J. McElhany and Lawrence G. Hughes, Ed.D. Staff members present were Christopher Palazola, J.D., Director of Operations; Robert Bredt, M.D., Medical Director; Scott Freshour, J.D., General Counsel, and various other staff.

**Agenda item #1, Mission Statement.** Ms. Gottschalk 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, provided the budget report.

**Internal Audit.** Mr. Carlton reported that the new Internal Audit agency has started their contract and will be looking at the Licensure Department.

**Legislative Update** Mr. Carlton updated the board on the agency's preparation for the next legislative session.

**Agenda item #4, Medical Director Report.** Dr. Bredt gave a report on the need for Physician Expert Panelists.

**Agenda item #5, Physician Assistant Liaison Report.** Nothing to report.

**Agenda item #6, Public Information Update.** Ms. Sloan gave an update on the Biennial TMB Customer Service Survey.

**Agenda item #7, Consideration and possible action regarding pending litigation.** Mr. Freshour provided an update on pending litigation.

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

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

After consideration, **Mr. Todd moved, Dr. Ali seconded, and the motion passed to accept the TXPHP recommendation and accept the referral for case 23-0809 PA.**  
After consideration, **Dr. Rowin moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to accept the TXPHP recommendation and refer case 24-0105 PA back to TXPHP.**

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

**C. Other discussion items.** Rui Bernardo, TXPHP Program Director, presented the Drug Screening Quarterly Report and Program Activity Report.

**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. Applicant 2600** – appeared before the Board to appeal the Executive Director determination related to active practice. The applicant presented a brief summary, and the Board members asked questions.

PA Corbitt joined the meeting at 9:34 am.

*At 9:46 am, Ms. Gottschalk moved, Mr. Todd seconded to go into Executive Session for the purpose of deliberations concerning licensure applications or disciplinary action under the authority of Occupations Code Section 204.0585. Open session resumed at 10:11 am.*

After discussion, **Dr. Rowin moved to deny the appeal. Mr. Sauer seconded and the motion passed.**

**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 physician assistant licenses issued by Board staff since the last board meeting.

**Agenda item #13, Report on physician assistant licensure process statistics.** Ms. Unterborn reported that in Quarter 2 of FY23, 332 physician assistant licenses were issued in an average processing time of 6 days. In Quarter 2 of FY24, 287 physician assistant licenses were issued in an average processing time of 3 days.

**Agenda item #14, Report on cancelled/not renewed data/retired licenses.** Ms. Rhea Hines, Registrations Manager, presented a report with registration statistics for Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 for FY 2023 and 2024.

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

**A. Enforcement Activity Report** Mr. Palazola gave the Enforcement Activity Report.

**B. Warning Letters Report** 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.
- E. Report Temporary Suspensions/Automatic Orders/Automatic Actions.** Nothing to report.
- F. Report Rehearing Request** Nothing to report.

**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. Non-Standard of Care Cases**

There were none.

**B. Standard of Care Cases.**

After discussion, Mr. Bulls moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of all standard of care cases assigned to Mr. Bulls under Filed Investigations/LOE files as recommended.

After discussion, Mr. Bulls moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of all standard of care cases assigned to Mr. Bulls under ISC Panel Dismissals as recommended.

After discussion, Ms. Gottschalk moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of standard of care cases assigned to Ms. Gottschalk under “Filed Investigations” as recommended.

After discussion, Ms. Gottschalk moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of standard of care cases assigned to Ms. Gottschalk under “ISC Panel” as recommended.

After discussion, Dr. Ho moved, Dr. Rowin seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of standard of care cases assigned to Dr. Ho under “Filed Investigations” as recommended.

After discussion, Dr. Rowin moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of standard of care cases assigned to Dr. Rowin under “Filed Investigations” as recommended.

**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.

*At 10:32 am, Ms. Gottschalk moved, Dr. Rowin seconded to go into Executive Session for the purpose of private consultation and advice of counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, and/or legal matters subject to the attorney-client privilege under the authority of the Open Meetings Act Section 551.071, Government Code. Open session resumed at 11:46 am.*

**Agenda Item #19, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding appeals of dismissed complaints.**

**A. Jurisdictional**

After discussion, **Mr. Bulls moved, Dr. Ali seconded, and the motion passed to deny the appeal for 23-0065.**

After discussion, **Mr. Bulls moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to deny the appeal for 23-2971 (Legal 23-0606).**

**B. JNF**

After discussion, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to deny the appeal for 24-0948 and 24-1349 (Dr. Ho recused).**

After discussion, **Dr. Ho moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to deny the appeal for 24-1500. (PA Gottschalk recused)**

After discussion, **Dr. Ho moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to deny the appeal for 24-1722.**

After discussion, **Dr. Rowin moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to deny the appeal for 24-2205 and 24-2536.**

**C. NJ (none)**

There were no items for Agenda items #20.

**Agenda Item #21, Consideration and approval of Modification/Termination Request Orders.** After consideration, **Dr. Ho moved, Mr. Bulls seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Modification Request/Termination Request Order for Leslie Morris, PA.**

**Agenda item #22, Consideration and Approval of Agreed Board Orders.** After consideration, **Dr. Rowin moved, Mr. Bulls seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Agreed Order for Seth Rubin, PA.**

**Agenda item #23, Consideration and approval of Remedial Plans.** After consideration, **Mr. Bulls moved, Dr. Ho seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Remedial Plans for Kimberly Collins, PA; Glenn Pabody, PA and Tyler Roper, PA.**

There were no items for Agenda item #24-33.

**Agenda item #34, Open Forum for Public Comments.** No one made public comments.

**Agenda item #35, Consideration and Approval of November 3, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes.** After consideration, **Mr. Bulls moved, Dr. Rowin seconded, and the motion passed to approve the November 3, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes.**

**Agenda item #36, Adjourn.** There being no further items, **Dr. Ho moved, Ms. Shipley seconded, and the motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 am.**