



State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS
Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

AGENDA
April 19, 2017

- 11:30am** Informal Conference (Case #: 2017-I-009) – Don Cassano
1:30pm Informal Conference (Case #: 2017-I-009) – Don Cassano
2:30pm Informal Conference (Case #: 2016-I-025) – Beth Austin
- 4:00pm** **Call to Order**
Approve Agenda
Approve Minutes
- 4:10pm** **Executive Session**
Discuss sensitive information related to discipline and attorney client privileged information.
- 4:45pm** **Officer Reports**
Chairman’s Report
Secretary/Treasurer’s Report
Executive Director’s Report
- 5:30pm** **Legal Report**
Complaint Summary
- 5:35pm** **Committee Reports**
LTF Report
CEU Committee
- 6:35pm** **New Business**
Correspondences
- 6:40pm** **Old Business**
- 7:30pm** **Public Comment**
Adjourn

Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

MINUTES Regular Scheduled Board Meeting April 19, 2017

APPROVED

Proceedings for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board, taken in regular session on April 19, 2017 at 104 Fairlane Drive, Lafayette, LA 70507. A quorum of members were present. Board members present were: Chairman, Donald "Don" Cassano, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer, Kristina Lounsberry, and board members Elizabeth "Beth" Austin, Patrick Cook, Craig Prejean and Julie Harris. Charlotte Martin, Executive Director and Stephanie Boudreaux, Compliance Officer were present. Board attorneys, Courtney P. Newton and George Papale were also present.

Chairman Cassano called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

The board reviewed the agenda. Secretary/Treasurer Lounsberry moved to approve the agenda. Patrick Cook seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

The board members reviewed the minutes. Secretary/Treasurer Lounsberry moved to approve the minutes. Beth Austin seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

Chairman Cassano motioned to move into Executive Session pursuant to La R.S. 42:16 for the purposes of discussing investigating proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct. The Board voted and all were in favor to move into Executive Session.

The board exited Executive Session.

The board voted and all were in favor to approve the revised essay submitted by Daniel Henning.

OFFICER REPORTS

Chairman's Report

Chairman Cassano requested that all board members submit a completed 2016 annual performance evaluation for the Executive Director no later than Monday, April 24, 2017.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

As of February 28, 2017 cash in the bank totaled \$111,581.70 in the checking and savings accounts at Farmer's Merchant Bank. Total Income totaled \$158,969.00 and ordinary expenses totaled \$42,989.41. The Certificates of Deposit at Business First Bank total \$606,041.87. CD #910 earned \$295.29 in interest and totaled \$302,609.15. The CD matures on May 6, 2017. CD #534 earned interest of \$3,432.72 at maturity on February 12, 2017. The CD was reinvested for a 12 month period \$303,432.72.

Secretary/Treasurer Lounsberry informed the board that the Board income was approximately \$45,000 higher in the month of February as compared to 2016 and the Board expenditures were approximately \$60,000 less than February 2016.

Executive Director's Report

Mrs. Martin reported that 13 applications were approved since the last board meeting, as follows:

Physical Therapist Assistant – New Graduate

1. Stephanie Mercer
2. Heather Drummond

Physical Therapist – Reciprocity

1. Stephanna Alberty
2. Jason Copelin
3. Aarika Diggs
4. Forrest-Anne Oakley
5. Katelyn Taylor
6. Katy Hung
7. Stevie Fremin

Physical Therapist Assistant – Reciprocity

1. Karen Thomas
2. Tiffany Marty
3. Charles Boyd

Physical Therapy – Reinstatement

1. Gretchen Duplantis

Mrs. Martin presented on the license application from foreign-trained applicant Ricardo Franca. The board deferred to the legal opinion provided from Courtney Newton and George Papale regarding substantial equivalence from other states and determined that because Mr. Franca has safely practiced in the United States since 1995 without disciplinary action, and the board was able to access the credentials evaluation report directly from other state licensing boards, the board would accept his education as substantially equivalent to the standards of education required at the time of licensure.

Mrs. Martin provided the board with an update on renewals for 2017. In 2017, there were 2188 licensee eligible to renew. As of 4/18/2017, 2018 licensees have renewed. The Board has received a Notice of Non-Renewal from 54 licensees. As of 4/18/2017, there are 116 licensees who have not renewed in 2017, nor have they confirmed with the board that they will not renew. The board has sent three email notifications and one hard copy letter to the individuals who have not renewed, urging them to renew or to notify the board if they do not intend to renew.

Mrs. Martin updated the board members that Amanda Lafleur is acting as the Licensing Analyst while Danielle Linzer is out of the office for 8 weeks (began 3/27/2017) and complimented her efforts in this role.

Mrs. Martin notified the board members that the next traveling jurisprudence is scheduled on 5/4/2017 in Shreveport. Currently, 21 licensees are registered to attend. Mrs. Martin confirmed that she will be presenting. Beth Austin and Julie Harris will be attending and available for questions.

Mrs. Martin provided the Board with an update on the jurisprudence seminar held in Metairie on April 10, 2017. Seventy-eight licensees were in attendance and Patrick Cook presented to the audience.

LEGAL REPORT

Board Attorney, Courtney Newton provided an update on investigative activity since the last board meeting.

Complaint Summary

Current Investigations: 6 currently open

Complaints Received: 1 since the last board meeting

Informal Conferences: 5 since the last board meeting

Hearings Scheduled: 1

Consent Order/Voluntary Surrender: 0

Closed Cases: 0 (0 Consent Order, 0 Voluntary Surrender, 0 Dismissed)

Mrs. Newton requested that the board consider FARB Regulatory Law Seminar (RLS) 2017 for legal training. The board discussed the current status of the budget and approved sending Courtney to FARB RLS 2017.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LTF (Legislative Taskforce) Update

Mrs. Martin provided a summary to the Board on 2017 regular legislative session Bills. The Board authorizes the Legislative Taskforce to take a position on a Bill or take action legislation if necessary without formal board approval. Legislative Taskforce decisions made at the committee level must be made by no less than two-thirds vote of the committee.

CEU Committee

Beth Austin presented the monthly Continuing Education report to the board. Since the last board meeting 133 courses were approved and 0 courses were denied. Of the 133 approved courses, 29 courses were traditional, 104 were web-based and 0 were a hybrid (traditional/online). Of the 133 approved courses 131 were clinical, 1 was administrative and 1 was ethics. The average turnaround time for approval was 3 days.

Mrs. Martin provided an update on the 2017 CEU Audit. Audit letters have been mailed to the 10% randomly selected licensees who renewed in February or March 2017. A total of 199 individuals were audited, not including April renewals, and of those 44 renewed in February and 155 renewed in March.

Mrs. Martin requested that the Board consider requests from licensees who cannot produce completion certificates from CEUs in the audit as a result of the Flood. The board approved allowing the licensees to complete the process that was approved for CE exemption for flood victims, if they cannot access CE certificates due to the flood. Once the proper documentation is received by the Board office, the licensee will be granted an exception from having to submit CE certificates in response to the 2017 CEU Audit.

NEW BUSINESS

Correspondences

A licensee asked if a PTA can shadow a PT in a home health setting as training for a position prior to having one year of work experience. The Board referenced Rule §303.D. and determined that the intention of the Rule is to have adequate training and supervision prior to working unsupervised in the home health or school setting. The Board determined that shadowing a PT for training purposes would not increase the risk of patient safety. It is allowed for a PTA to shadow a PT in a home health setting prior to having one year of work experience.

A licensee asked if a PTA must have worked full-time for one year prior to working in a home health setting. The Board referenced Rule §303.D. and determined that the Rule only requires one year of work experience and does not specify how many hours per week the PTA must have worked during the year of work experience. The Board determined that the qualification for working in home health after one year can be made without working full-time.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Martin presented a Rules Revision plan to the Board, including responsibilities, a conservative timeline and a conservative budget for the project. Chairman Cassano, Secretary/Treasurer Lounsberry and Beth Austin agreed to serve as members of the Rules Revision Committee. The board voted and unanimously approved moving forward with the Rules Revision plan as written. The Board members are asked to review practice-related Rules and prepare justification for proposed changes to be discussed at the board meeting in June.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Chairman Cassano motioned to adjourn the meeting. Secretary/Treasurer Lounsberry seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved. The board meeting was adjourned at 6:14pm.