

Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

MINUTES Regular Scheduled Board Meeting June 18, 2020

APPROVED

Proceedings for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board, taken in regular session on June 18, 2020 by Zoom video conferencing. A quorum of members were present. Board members present were: Chairman Karl Kleinpeter, Secretary/Treasurer Judith Halverson, and board members Dr. Meredith Warner, Phil Page, and Kathryn “Katie” Brittain. Advisory Committee Members present were Tyra Mitchell, Charlotte Martin, Executive Director; Jessica Alwell, Assistant Executive Director; Danielle Linzer, Licensing Analyst; and Stephanie Boudreaux, Compliance Officer were present. Board attorney James “Jim” Raines was present. Members of the public present were Odie Hughes and Cristina Fauchaux.

Chairman Karl Kleinpeter called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm.

The board members reviewed the agenda. Phil Page moved to accept the agenda as written. Dr. Warner seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved the agenda.

The board members reviewed the minutes from the May board meeting. Phil Page moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Warner seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved the minutes.

OFFICER REPORTS

Chairman’s Report

No chairman’s report.

Secretary/Treasurer’s Report

As of April 30, 2020, cash in the bank totaled **\$742,497.01** in the checking and savings accounts at Farmer’s Merchant Bank. Total Income totaled **\$69,292.78** and ordinary expenses totaled **\$70,677.07**.

As of April 30, 2020, the Certificates of Deposit at Business First Bank totaled \$998,401.20. In April, CD #054 earned \$546.49 interest and the ending balance was \$495,485.58. CD #054 is on a 12-month certificate term at a 1.3% interest rate. The CD will mature on 05/25/2020.

In April, CD #025 earned \$746.41 interest and the ending balance was \$502,915.62. CD #025 is on a 12-month certificate term at a 1.75% interest rate. The CD will mature on 12/18/2020.

Executive Director’s Report

Mrs. Martin presented the licensing report. Between May 13, 2020 and June 10, 2020, 65 licenses were approved.

Mrs. Martin reported the current complaint summary of activity that occurred since the last meeting:

Currently Open (Licensees)	21
Currently Open (Non-Licensees)	1
Complaints Received	3
Informal Conferences	3

Hearings Scheduled	0
Appeals	0
Proposed Consent Order	0
<u>Closed Cases</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Open Investigations:	21

Mrs. Martin presented the monitoring report of licensees who are currently being monitored by the board.

Mrs. Martin presented an amended background check policy to the board. The policy was amended in order to be in compliance with FBI guidelines. Secretary/Treasurer Halverson moved to approve the policy as amended. Katie Brittain seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved the amended policy.

EXIT INTERVIEW

The board conducted an exit interview for monitored licensee Odie Hughes. Mr. Hughes presented his statement to the board regarding his time being monitored under his board order.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LTF

The committee informed the board that regular session has ended and that the legislature has entered a special session.

CEU Committee

The CEU committee reported that 67 courses were reviewed since the last board meeting. Of these reviewed courses 65 were approved. Thirteen of the courses were traditional (live) and 49 were web-based (online), and 3 were hybrid-based (live and online). Of the 65 courses that were approved, 63 were clinical, 1 were administrative and 1 were Ethics. Two courses were denied for not meeting the one-hour requirement. The average time for approval was 4 days.

The board discussed an inquiry from a course sponsor regarding the fee waiver for approving a distance learning course that had been approved for 2020 as a live course offering, but the live course offering attendance is negatively impacted due to COVID-19. Secretary/Treasurer Halverson moved that the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board waives application fees for course sponsor needing to convert an already approved live course to a distance learning course for the year 2020 due to the impact that COVID-19 has had on expected attendance and registration. Phil Page seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

The CEU committee introduced discussion regarding the requirement in Rule 194.C., which requires a minimum of 15 hours of live CEU hours for license renewal in the year 2021 due to the continued impact of COVID-19. The board moved to discuss this in "Unfinished Business" at the July board meeting and requested that Attorney Jim Raines research the board's authority to waive the live CEU renewal requirement in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rules Revision

No update.

Education & Outreach

The Education & Outreach Committee will have a meeting to discuss the Legislative Auditor's performance audit recommendations to the Board and determine if there are priorities that the committee should focus on for the second half of 2020 in response to the report.

NEW BUSINESS

The board discussed the request to extend provisional licenses for PTA's who were unable to complete their clinical rotations prior to the deadline to be made eligible for the July test dates for the NPTE. These graduates will not be able to take the NPTE until October 6, 2020. Because board rule allows for a 90 day provisional license and the test must fall within the 90 days, the earliest issuance of a provisional license for those testing in October is July 8, 2020. The program is requesting that the board issue a provisional license prior to July 8, 2020 to allow graduates to go to work sooner.

Under the authority granted on Executive order JBE 75 2020, Secretary/Treasurer Halverson moved that any request for a provisional license for individuals who intend to register for the October 2020 exam be granted to physical therapist assistant graduates who meet all requirements for licensure. The provisional licenses issued prior to July 8, 2020 shall expire on October 6, 2020. Any provisional license granted on or after July 8th shall be for 90 days. Katie Brittain seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

The board reviewed a letter from Mr. Daniel Henning, a former licensee who surrendered his license prior to completing his board order. Mr. Henning requested that the board consider him for inclusion in the Recovering Physical Therapy Program (RPTP) in order to show his commitment to his recovery prior to the 2023 date when he will be eligible to apply for reinstatement of his license per his surrender agreement. The board discussed and no action was taken at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The board reviewed the Legislative Auditor's Performance Evaluation report recommendations. The board moved to review a proposed action plan at the July board meeting in Unfinished Business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Phil Page moved to adjourn the meeting. Secretary/Treasurer Halverson seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved. The board meeting was adjourned at 4:35pm.