

# Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

## MINUTES

### Regular Scheduled Board Meeting January 27, 2021

#### APPROVED

Proceedings for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board, taken in regular session on January 27, 2021 held virtually. A quorum of members were present including Interim Chairman, Judith Halverson, Interim Secretary/Treasurer, Kathryn “Katie” Brittain, Meredith Warner, John Marius, Tyra Mitchell, and Oday Lavergne. Board member Philip Page was present for New Business. Charlotte Martin, Executive Director, Celia Cangelosi, Prosecuting Attorney, and Jim Raines, General Counsel were present. Members of the Advisory Committee were present including Marie Vazquez Morgan and Ben McRae. Members of the public were present, including Rudy Gomez, and licensees Monique Serpas, David Qualls, Cristina Faucheux, Brandon Brackeen and Amanda Brewer. Present for a portion of the meeting were licensee Gretchen Duplantis and her attorney Heather Duplantis, Robert “Bobby” Odinet, Hearing Officer, Court Reporter Kim Taylor, and Assistant Executive Director of the Board, Jessica Alwell.

Interim Chairman Judith Halverson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

The board members reviewed the agenda. Oday Lavergne moved to amend the agenda Legal Report to add that Celia Cangelosi will report on a request to release documents from seal related to the Kevin Bias decision. John Marius seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved the amendment to the agenda.

The board members reviewed a request for consideration by licensee Gretchen Duplantis for her board order 2014-I-004, 2019-I-002, and 2020-I-006.

Tyra Mitchell moved that the board enter executive session for discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of licensee Gretchen Duplantis. Oday Lavergne seconded the motion. The board members voted and unanimously approved to go into executive session.

Oday Lavergne moved to exit executive session. Tyra Mitchell seconded the motion. The board members voted and unanimously approved to exit executive session.

Oday Lavergne moved to deny the request of Gretchen Duplantis to lift the requirement in the findings of fact and conclusion of law dated April 26, 2016 in Case Number 2014-I-004 that she have continuous supervision as defined by Board Rule #123. Katie Brittain seconded the motion. Brandon Brackeen with Bone and Joint Physical Therapy made a public comment about Gretchen Duplantis and his disagreement with the motion. The board members voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Oday Lavergne moved to grant the request of Gretchen Duplantis for reconsideration and modify the findings of fact and conclusions of law of Board Order dated November 20, 2020 in Case Number 2019-I-002 and 2020-I-006 stating that one year suspension shall be effective as of September 24, 2020. Katie Brittain seconded the motion. The board members voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Oday Lavergne moved to approve the minutes from the December 3, 2020 board meeting. Tyra Mitchell seconded the motion. The board members voted and unanimously approved the minutes as drafted.

## Officer Reports

Interim Secretary/Treasurer presented the Treasurer's Report to the Board.

Executive Director, Charlotte Martin provided a report to the board consisting of the following updates.

- Next live Jurisprudence virtual offerings will be February 25, 2021 and at the LPTA Spring Symposium.

## Licenses Issued from August 21, 2020 through November 30, 2020

Total: 16

PTs: 12

- New Grads: 1
- Provisionals: 1
- Reinstatement 2
- Reciprocity: 8

PTAs: 4

- New Grads: 3
- Provisionals: 0
- Reinstatement: 1
- Reciprocity: 0

## Complaints Summary

As of January 27, 2021, last reported numbers were from 11/27/2020

Currently open on licensees: 17

- Boundaries: 10
- Fraud/Billing/Documentation: 3
- Substance Abuse: 1
- Malpractice: 2
- Currently open on non-licensees: 1

Complaints Received: 3

Informal Conferences: 1

Hearings scheduled/notices sent: 0

Proposed Consent Order/Voluntary Surrender: 2

Closed Cases: 0

Monitoring Report of those who are currently disciplined was provided to the board.

## 2021 – 2022 annual budget proposal

Oday Lavergne moved to approve the 2021-2022 annual budget as presented and discussed at the board meeting. Tyra Mitchell seconded the motion. Public comment was request. There was no public comment. The board members voted and unanimously approved the motion.

## Committee Reports

Interim Secretary/Treasurer Katie Brittain provided the following report on behalf of the CEU committee:

Total Courses Reviewed            479

Total Courses Approved	478		
Traditional	63	Clinical	459
Web-based	415	Administrative	10
Hybrid	0	Ethics	9

Denial: 1 course denied by committee due to course submission documentation not meeting a minimum of 1 hour requirement.

Average Turnaround Time for Approval: 3.4 Days

Oday Lavergne provided a report on behalf of the Rules committee.

Tyra Mitchell provided a report on behalf of the Legislative Task Force.

Katie Brittain provided a report on behalf of the Education & Outreach committee. Katie requested that the board change the name of the committee to the Operations & Outreach committee. The board members agreed and asked that the staff update the handbook with the name and duties of this committee.

### **Legal Report**

Celia Cangelosi updated the board on a request by the Attorney General that was received by the Board office to remove the seal from the Kevin Bias court documents. The board members unanimously agreed with Celia's suggestion that the board would not oppose the unsealing of the documents, as long as Kevin Bias was not opposed to removing the seal.

Jim Raines reported to the board that he would be working with the Executive Director, Charlotte Martin, on a series of recorded trainings that will be available on-demand to board members, advisory committee members and board staff.

### **Unfinished Business**

Oday Lavergne moved to keep the PT MDS question, "What is your entry-level degree in physical therapy degree?" and to add the question, "Do you hold other degrees that are not directly related to physical therapy?" and to include a dropdown menu, as well as an "other" text field. Tyra Mitchell seconded the motion. Amanda Brewer offered public comment in agreement with the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

The board took a 5 minute recess at 4:42pm.

### **New Business**

Katie Brittain moved to appoint Michael Laudadio and Lindsey Robinson to the Advisory Committee to begin service January 28, 2021. Oday Lavergne seconded the motion. Amanda Brewer offered public comment and asked if the board could consider consultative role versus an advisory role for the members. Oday Lavergne called the question. John Marius seconded. The board members voted and unanimously approved to stop discussion and vote on the pending motion. Judith Halverson, Katie Brittain, Oday Lavergne, Tyra Mitchell, John Marius, and Dr. Warner were in favor of the motion. Phil Page abstained because he joined the meeting mid-discussion. No board members were opposed to the motion. The motion carries.

Oday Lavergne moved to amend the agenda to allow discussion about a letter that licensee Jaime Caillet, PT, DPT, OCS, Assistant Professor, Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University

submitted to the board regarding the instruction of dry needling to Doctor of Physical Therapy students in Louisiana. Katie Brittain seconded the motion. The board members voted and unanimously approved amending the agenda.

Interim Chairman, Judith Halverson directed the Rules Committee to take Ms. Caillet's letter under consideration.

Dr. Warner moved to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract not to exceed \$49,000 with an IT company to provide remote support for remote meetings and other IT support needs. General Counsel is authorized to review and approve the contract. Oday Lavergne seconded the motion. The board members voted and unanimously approved the motion.

Phil Page moved to nominate Judith Halverson as Chairman of the Board for the calendar year 2021. Oday Lavergne close nominations. Dr. Warner seconded the motion. The board members voted and unanimously approved. With no other nominations, Judith Halverson was elected by the board to serve as Chairman of the Board in 2021.

Oday Lavergne moved to nominate Katie Brittain as Secretary/Treasurer of the Board for the calendar year 2021. Oday Lavergne close nominations. Phil Page seconded the motion. The board members voted and unanimously approved. With no other nominations, Katie Brittain was elected by the board to serve as Secretary/Treasurer in 2021.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

Phil Page moved to adjourn the meeting. Tyra Mitchell seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved. The board meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm.