



STATE OF ALABAMA  
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY  
100 NORTH UNION STREET, SUITE 724  
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130-5040  
Phone: (888) 726-9743 Fax: (334) 242-3288  
January 14, 2021



Kathy Miller  
Executive Director

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**Meeting was held via WebEx digital platform in accordance with Governor's Emergency Orders.**

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Ellen Strunk at 8:24 AM. Board Members present were; Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Wiley Christian, Nathan McGriff, Vince Molyneux, Margaret Hemm. Also present, Matt Bledsoe, Assistant Attorney General, Kathy Miller, Executive Director, and Sheila Wright Dopson, Executive Assistant III.

Chair Ellen Strunk established a quorum.

Ms. Sheila Dopson provided a devotional.

- II. Open Discussion:** FSBPT challenges were discussed. Jonathan Zecher mentioned telehealth, the distinction between exercise and physical therapy. Alina Adams stated there might be a need for guidance documents concerning the matter. Jonathan Zecher stated there are no issues with therapists getting the COVID vaccination. The Executive Director will reply to the FSBPT email regarding these challenges. The Executive Director stated staff members are working on getting estimates on moving her into the larger office that is currently the file room.
- III. Minutes:** The minutes from December 12, 2020 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Margaret Hemm and seconded by Alina Adams. Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Wiley Christian, Nathan McGriff, Vince Molyneux, Margaret Hemm voted in approval of the minutes.
- IV. Reports:**

**Wellness Report:** Nathan McGriff stated Dr. Garver indicated all participants are compliant with the program. Those who complete the program are offered the option to serve as a mentor to others. Ellen Strunk discussed obtaining data pertaining to the program; success rates and drop-out rates. The Executive Director will provide that report by the next Board meeting.

**Financial Report:** Nathan McGriff indicated he had nothing further to add to the report. Margaret Hemm asked how much money we collected in fees and renewals starting July 1, 2020 to current. Ellen Strunk asked to be

provided a month-to-month report reflecting this information. The Executive Director will provide a report. Jonathan Zecher stated the Board offered a significant decrease in renewal fees for 2020 and noted the Board needs to keep track of the balance.

**Licensee Report:** Sheila Dopson presented this report and indicated that between October 9, 2020-December 31, 2020, there were 80 Physical Therapists, 64 Physical Therapist Assistants licensed. Dopson noted an error on the report which indicated 26 temporary licenses being issued, which there was a total of 17 temporary licenses issued. There were 15 temporary Physical Therapists, 2 temporary Physical Therapist Assistants. There were 2 FCCPT reports substantially equivalent to CWT5.

**Violations Committee Report:** Assistant Attorney General, Matt Bledsoe, presented this report. On case 2020-06 Ellen Strunk made a motion to approve the consent order. Jonathan Zecher seconded the motion. Ellen Strunk and Margaret Hemm abstained from the vote. Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Wiley Christian, Nathan McGriff, and Vince Molyneux were all in favor. Cases 2020-09-2020-12; all signed the consent order and paid the \$100.00 fine. Nathan McGriff made a motion to approve, Alina Adams seconded the motion. Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Nathan McGriff, Vince Molyneux, and Wiley Christian were in favor. Margaret Hemm and Ellen Strunk abstained from voting. Case 2020-13 was reviewed, and no probable cause found. No further action required. The Interim Executive Director mailed out a letter regarding the recommendation. Case 2020-14 remains under investigation.

**Executive Director Report:** The new Executive Director, Kathy Miller, reported that she has been very busy since she started on January 4, 2021. Kathy Miller discussed cleaning up the back area of the office in preparation for her move to that office. Three computer hard drives were sanitized by OIT so they can be transferred to State Surplus. Ellen Strunk suggested Kathy Miller become more familiar with FSBPT and the resources they offer.

## **V. Unfinished Business:**

**New Executive Director:** The position was filled by Kathy Miller on January 1, 2021.

**Administrative Code Changes:** Alina Adams wants to table for next meeting. She plans to review clarity of code. Ellen Strunk mentioned other states have instructions and/or FAQ information on their website. Matt Bledsoe suggested the committee have a meeting and make the necessary changes.

**Administrative Code (Code of Alabama 1975, Section 31-12A-2):** Licensure for Discharged Military. Matt Bledsoe will take care of this matter and asked that it be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

## **VI. New Business:**

Interim Director Bonus (Sheila Wright Dopson): Ellen Strunk made a motion to approve the bonus, Jonathan Zecher seconded the motion. Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Wiley Christian, Nathan McGriff, Vince Molyneux, Margaret Hemm were in favor.

Promotion from Administrative Support Assistant I to Administrative Support Assistant II (April Tucker): Vince made a motion to accept the recommendation for the promotion, Margaret Hemm seconded the motion. Ellen Strunk, Alina Adams, Jonathan Zecher, Wiley Christian, Nathan McGriff, Vince Molyneux, Margaret Hemm.

Identification to Represent ABPT at the State House: Executive Director, Kathy Miller, advised the Board they have been put on a list with the Ethics Commission allowing them to represent the Board at the State House. Typically, an ID is required to represent the Board at the State House. The list is updated each January. If a Board member's term expires, a member resigns, or a member is added, the list will be updated prior to January. However, due to COVID- 19, they are only allowing representation by appointment. If a Board member inquires about making an appointment, they will notify Kathy Miller, Executive Director, and she will inquire about what type of ID is required.

Significant Issues Update: A letter was sent to the Examiners Office with updates. Another letter with updates will be sent prior to the second Friday after the next quarter ends. Matt Bledsoe stated the main responsibility is for us to respond with the requested update, as required by the Examiners office.

VA Interim Final Rule: Ellen Strunk questioned how this impacts the State's ability to regulate or sanction VA professionals from another state. Ellen Strunk will forward to Matt Bledsoe and Vince Molyneux.

Letter to FSBPT about IEPT's: Ellen Strunk said this refers to a letter sent to the FSBPT by a group of chapter presidents asking for a meeting to discuss standards for Internationally Educated Physical Therapists.

Department of Examiners of Public Accounts: The exit conference will be held, via WebEx, on January 19, 2021 at 1:00 PM.

## **VII. Announcements:**

Next Regularly Scheduled Meetings:

March 4, 2021 @ 9:00AM

May 6, 2021 @ 9:00AM

July 1, 2021 @ 9:00AM

September 2, 2021 @ 9:00AM

November 4, 2021 @ 9:00AM



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Ellen Strunk  
Board Chair