



STATE OF ALABAMA
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

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Kathy Miller
Executive Director

January 12, 2023

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order in the Alabama Board of Physical Therapy's conference room by Board Chair Jonathan Zecher at 9:07 AM. Board Members present were Robin Irwin, Robert Fleming, Dana Daniel Blake, and T-Michael Dougherty. Also present were J. Matt Bledsoe, Assistant Attorney General, Kathy Miller, Executive Director, Angela Warr, Executive Assistant III, and Kristi Mullins, Accounting Specialist. Not in attendance was Margaret Hemm.

A quorum was established. Dana Daniel Blake provided a devotional.

Open Discussion: Chair Jonathan Zecher opened the floor for open discussion. No open discussion was had.

- II. Minutes:** The minutes from November 10, 2022, were reviewed. A motion to accept the September 8, 2022, minutes was made by Nathan McGriff and seconded by Jonathan Zecher. Nathan McGriff, Jonathan Zecher, Robin Irwin, Robert Fleming, T-Michael Dougherty, and Dana Daniel Blake voted in favor. The Minutes for November 10, 2022, were approved.

III. Reports:

A. Licensee Report: Angela Warr presented this report. As of January 5, 2023, there are 6263 active licensees - 2958 PTAs 3305 PTs. Between November 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022, we had 47 regular licenses issued. 5 PTAs and 42 PTs. 17 temps were issued – 13 PT and 4 PTAs. 5 expired licenses were reinstated – 3 PTs and 2 PTAs. There was 1 FCCPT report substantially equivalent to CWT5 submitted and license issued

B. Financial Report: Kristi Mullins presented this report. The amounts that looked odd last meeting righted themselves with the beginning of the new state fiscal year, as expected. Operating expenses were a little higher because payment to Risk Management comes out at the beginning of the fiscal year. Nothing else to report.

C. Violations Committee Report: Assistant Attorney General J. Matt Bledsoe presented this report, and the recommendations were as follows:

2022-13: Out of state licensee filed complaint against Alabama licensee regarding fees he charged for CE course. The out of state licensee was upset that she was not receiving the full amount paid (\$650 minus the processing fee of approximately \$18) charged by PayPal.

Licensee refunded entire amount including the processing fee. The VC recommends that a finding of no probable cause is warranted, and no violation of the Practice Act was determined. This is a contractual issue, not a licensure issue.

2022-14: Employer filed a complaint against licensee after he reported to work on 12/2/2022 to begin his workday and witnesses suspected he was under the influence. When he was confronted, he admitted to drinking late the night before and/or the morning before work. He subsequently failed a breathalyzer test. He was terminated by the hospital on that same day. In response to the complaint filed by the employer, the licensee admitted he had a problem and was seeking help on his own. He has further spoken to Dr. Garver and has agreed to participate in the Wellness Program. The VC recommends that the licensee be found Guilty of Conduct Unbecoming and fined \$500.00.

Nathan McGriff made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Violations Committee and T-Michael Dougherty seconded the motion. Nathan McGriff, Robin Irwin, Robert Fleming, T-Michael Dougherty, and Dana Daniel Blake voted in favor. Jonathan Zecher abstained. The recommendations of the VC were approved.

D. Executive Director Report: See attached Executive Director Update.

E. Wellness Report: Dr. Garver's "end-of-the-year" report was reviewed favorably by all. He noted that that our Impaired Practitioner Wellness Program was remarkably successful in no small part to our many mentors and the support of Executive Director Kathy Miller. The regular participant report showed one new participant who was being evaluated while all others were in compliance.

IV. Unfinished Business: Assistant Attorney General Matt Bledsoe gave an update on the revised PT Compact legislation. AAG Bledsoe has been in contact with the attorney for the Legislative Services Agency to ensure our language is uniform and stylistically acceptable. The PT Compact Committee has made some headway in securing sponsors in the House and the Senate. Representative Parker Moore has agreed to introduce the revised legislation and the Committee will meet with Senator Greg Albritton on Tuesday (1/17/2023) to discuss his potential sponsorship of the senate bill. The Committee is optimistic that the bills will be filed early, if not pre-filed.

V. New Business:

- A. AG Report:** Nothing new to report. PT Compact already discussed.
- B. Newsletter** will go out this week.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.

The next meeting will be March 9, 2023 @ 9:00 AM at the Board offices.


Jonathan Zecher, Chair