

**NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
MARCH 9, 2020  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**Time and Place**

The North Carolina Board of Occupational Therapy met in Regular Session in the offices of the Board March 9, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

**Members Present**

Denise Donica, Dr. Stephen Lang, Nicole Blackwell, Laura Echols, Lynn Losada, Leonard Trujillo and Danielle Ward.

**Others Present**

Charles P. Wilkins, Legal Counsel to the Board and Elizabeth Kirk, Board Administrator.

**Members Absent**

None

**Chairperson**

Ms. Losada, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**Conflict of Interest**

Ms. Losada called for any conflicts of interest with the meeting agenda. There were no conflicts or potential conflicts.

**Approval of Minutes**

The January 13, 2020 minutes were approved.

**To-Do List**

The January 13, 2020 to do-list was approved as submitted and reviewed.

**Approval of Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report for January 1, 2020 through February 29, 2020 was

discussed and approved as submitted.

### **Administrator's Report**

The administrator's report was reviewed and approved as submitted.

### **Legal Services Committee**

Ms. Donica reported the Committee reviewed a bill from Broughton Wilkins Sugg & Thompson, PLLC for the months of January and February 2020 for eight (8) disciplinary proceedings. The total hours worked was 22.60 and the total fees are \$5,650. The Board closed 4 disciplinary files following the January 2020 Board meeting and currently has 5 disciplinary files pending. Upon motion made and seconded, the bill was approved for payment.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Board reviewed correspondence and general information received following the last Board meeting.

### **Strategic Planning Retreat**

The Board held a retreat on June 14-16, 2019 at the Rizzo Conference Center in Chapel Hill, NC. The Board reviewed the retreat to-do list developed by Board staff and agreed to continue working on the to-do list.

### **NC Legislature**

Mr. Wilkins reported on proposed bills pending in the North Carolina General Assembly.

### **CLEAR 2020 Annual Meeting**

Board members were advised the 2020 Annual Meeting is meeting in Seattle, Washington on September 23-26, 2020. Ms. Blackwell and Ms. Ward agreed to attend.

### **AOTA 2020 Annual Conference**

Board members were advised the AOTA Annual Conference is meeting in Boston, Massachusetts on March 26-29, 2020. Ms. Ward, Ms. Donica and Ms. Losada agreed to attend.

### **NCOTA Spring/Fall Conference**

Board members were advised the NCOTA spring conference met in Concord, North Carolina on February 29, 2020. Ms. Blackwell attended and reported on the conference. Board members were also advised the 2020 NCOTA fall conference is meeting in New Bern, North Carolina on October 2-4, 2020.

## **NBCOT**

### **a. Orientation for New OT Regulators**

Board members were advised the Orientation for New OT Regulators is meeting in Chicago, Illinois on April 3, 2020. Ms. Blackwell agreed to attend.

### **b. State Regulatory Leadership Forum**

Board members were advised the State Regulatory Leadership Forum is meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on May 12-13, 2020. Ms. Ward and Ms. Kirk agreed to attend.

### **c. Update on AOTA/NBCOT OT Licensure Compact Initiative**

Board members reviewed an email dated January 30, 2020 regarding progress made on the joint AOTA/NBCOT Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact Initiative.

### **d. Request to attend future Board meeting**

Board members reviewed an email dated February 17, 2020 from Barbara Williams, Associate Director of External & Regulatory Affairs for NBCOT regarding making a visit to a future Board meeting. The Board agreed to respond and allow them to visit during the May 2020 Board meeting.

### **e. Regulatory E-Newsletter February 2020**

Board members reviewed an email dated February 25, 2020 regarding the December 2019 Regulatory E-Newsletter.

### **f. Announcement from President/CEO**

Board members reviewed an email dated February 26, 2020 regarding an announcement from Paul Grace, president/CEO of NBCOT, informing the board of directors of his retirement.

## **FARB**

### **a. 2020 and 2021 Annual Forums**

Board members were advised the FARB Regulatory Law Seminar is meeting in Reston, Virginia on October 2-4, 2020 and the FARB Forum is meeting in Fort Worth, Texas on January 29-31, 2021.

**b. 2020 Membership**

Board members reviewed an email dated March 5, 2020 regarding 2020 membership. Upon motion made, seconded and agreed to renew the FARB membership for the year 2020.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Ethics PowerPoint by Sue Coppola**

Board members reviewed an ethics PowerPoint presented by Sue Coppola and discussed the Board's current ethics requirement.

**Email from Rebecca Hurst regarding bathing score**

Board members reviewed several emails from Rebecca Hurst regarding a different interpretation of a bathing score between OTs and their employer.

The misinterpretation involved:

- 88 – score says 'she didn't attempt to do it' according to manual
- Saying she didn't do it because she didn't do it standing??

The Board was of the opinion the OT may be in violation of the Practice Act, Rules and AOTA Code of Ethics should the OT not bring the matter to the attention of her employer and, if necessary, the Board. The Board considered sections of the Practice Act, Rules and Code of Ethics that may be involved.

**AOTA's review of dry needling**

Board members reviewed a Motion Submission Form for the use of dry needling in occupational therapy practice that may be offered at the 2020 AOTA RA.

**Email from Rebekah Martin regarding maintenance benefit**

Board members reviewed several emails from Rebekah Martin regarding a skilled maintenance benefit and agreed occupational therapy assistants are able to assist with provision of therapy services for patients utilizing the therapy maintenance benefit.

**Closed Session**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and passed, and pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(1) and (6) as well as NCGS 143-318.18(6), the Board went into Closed Session at 11:05 a.m.

### **Return to Open Session**

The Board returned to Open Session at 12:00 p.m.

### **Closed Session Report**

#### **Disciplinary Matters**

Mr. Wilkins reported the Board was advised in Closed Session that five cases are currently being investigated.

#### **Adjournment**

The Open Session adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next Regular Session meeting will be held at the office of the Board on May 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

---

Lynn Losada, Chair

---

Danielle Ward, Secretary/Treasurer