

**NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
JULY 12, 2021  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**Time and Place**

The North Carolina Board of Occupational Therapy met in Regular Session via Webex conference call on July 12, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

**Members Present**

Laura Echols, Leonard Trujillo, Nicole Blackwell, Lynn Losada and Danielle Ward.

**Others Present**

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

**Members Absent**

Dr. Kevin Coates and Young Kim.

**Chairperson**

Ms. Echols, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

**Conflict of Interest**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

The May 17, 2021 minutes were approved.

**Approval of Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 was discussed and approved as submitted.

**2021-2022 Budget**

The 2021-2022 budget was discussed and approved as submitted.

### **Administrator's Report**

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

### **Legal Services Committee**

Ms. Blackwell reported the Committee reviewed a bill from Broughton Wilkins Sugg & Thompson, PLLC for the months of May and June 2021 for eleven (11) disciplinary proceedings. The total hours worked was 21.30 and the total fees are \$5,325. The Board closed four disciplinary files following the May 2021 Board meeting and currently has ten 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 bills pending in the North Carolina General Assembly.

### **CLEAR**

#### **a. 2021 Annual Meeting**

Board members were advised the 2021 Annual Meeting is meeting virtually in September 2021.

#### **b. 2022 International Congress**

Board members were advised the 2022 International Congress is meeting in Dublin, Ireland in June 2022.

#### **c. June 2021 Update**

Board members reviewed an email dated June 24, 2021 with updates from CLEAR.

## **AOTA**

### **a. 2022 Conference**

Board members were advised the 2022 annual conference is meeting in San Antonio, Texas, March 31, 2022 through April 3, 2022.

### **b. Summer 2021 State Affairs Newsletter**

Board members reviewed an email dated June 8, 2021 regarding the Summer 2021 State Affairs Newsletter.

### **c. Dry Needling Task Force Report**

Board members reviewed the dry needling task force report dated February 16, 2021 and agreed to table this discussion until there is more information and a decision made by AOTA.

### **d. May 2021 ACOTE Actions**

Board members reviewed an email dated June 21, 2021 regarding the May 2021 ACOTE Actions.

### **e. Feedback request on 2021 CCA Standards**

Board members reviewed an email dated June 24, 2021 regarding feedback requested on the 2021 Standards for Continuing Competence. The Board agreed to request Dr. Kim complete the survey.

## **FARB 2021-2024 Forums**

Board members were advised of the various FARB forums from 2021 through 2024.

## **2021 Annual Occupational Licensing Agencies Best Practices Virtual Seminar**

Board members were advised the 2021 Annual OLA Best Practices Seminar met virtually on May 18, 2021. Ms. Echols, Mr. Trujillo and Ms. Kirk reported on the seminar.

## **Update on review of OT Compact**

Ms. Blackwell, Ms. Kirk and Mr. Wilkins provided an update from its subcommittee meeting as well as its meeting with the NC PT Board to discuss how the PT Compact impacted their administrative duties. The subcommittee also plans to meet with Dan Logsdon, Director of the National Center for Interstate Compacts, in the future.

### **Update on changes to the jurisprudence exam**

Ms. Losada informed the Board that she and Ms. Kirk worked on changes to the jurisprudence exam to comply with changes to the Board's Rules and AOTA's Code of Ethics.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Email from Hillary Morris regarding ultrasound**

Board members reviewed an email dated June 11, 2021 regarding ultrasound and agreed ultrasound is not an appropriate occupation-centered tool to be used in occupational therapy interventions and is not a viable means for enhancing the delivery of efficient and effective OT care.

#### **Email from Lenore Champion regarding DPI's documentation changes**

Board members reviewed an email dated June 25, 2021 regarding DPI's documentation changes and agreed to inform her that the Board is aware of the changes and have been meeting with the PT and SLP Board as well as DPI regarding their concerns.

#### **2022 Board meeting dates**

The Board discussed and approved the 2022 Board meeting dates: January 10, 2022, March 21, 2022, May 16, 2022, July 18, 2022, September 19, 2022 and November 14, 2022.

#### **Election of Board officers**

Board members were nominated and officers were elected as follows: Laura Echols was elected Chair, Leonard Trujillo was elected Vice Chair and Nicole Blackwell was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

#### **Email from Sientje Engler regarding OT referrals**

Board members reviewed an email dated July 9, 2021 regarding OT referrals and agreed the employer is responsible to the patient if they accept them for treatment but cannot provide the treatment. The Board also agreed she should notify her employer in writing if patients are being put on her schedule and she is unable to treat them.

#### **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 11:25 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 ten 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 September 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

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Laura Echols, Chair

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Nicole Blackwell, Secretary/Treasurer