

**NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
MAY 17, 2021
MINUTES**

REGULAR SESSION

Time and Place

The North Carolina Board of Occupational Therapy met in Regular Session via Webex conference call on May 17, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present

Laura Echols, Leonard Trujillo, Nicole Blackwell, Lynn Losada, Danielle Ward, Dr. Kevin Coates and Young Kim.

Others Present

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

Members Absent

None

Chairperson

Ms. Echols, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 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 March 15, 2021 minutes were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report for March 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021 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 March and April 2021 for fourteen (14) disciplinary proceedings. The total hours worked was 15.00 and the total fees are \$3,750. The Board closed six disciplinary files following the March 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 Virtual Symposium

Board members were advised the 2021 Virtual Symposium is meeting virtually on June 15, 2021.

b. 2021 Annual Meeting

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

c. 2022 International Congress

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

d. April 2021 Update

Board members reviewed an email dated April 27, 2021 with updates from CLEAR.

e. 2021-2022 Membership Renewal

Board members reviewed the 2021-2022 membership notification and agreed to renew their CLEAR membership.

AOTA

a. 2021 Conference

Ms. Blackwell, Ms. Losada, Mr. Trujillo and Mr. Kim attended and reported on the conference.

b. Spring 2021 State Affairs Newsletter

Board members reviewed an email dated April 12, 2021 regarding the Spring 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 discuss dry needling and the scope of practice for OT at the July 2021 Board meeting.

NCOTA 2021 Spring Conference

Board members were advised the NCOTA Spring Conference met virtually on March 20, 2021.

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 is meeting virtually on May 18, 2021. Ms. Echols, Mr. Trujillo, Ms. Kirk and Mr. Wilkins agreed to attend.

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.

Board members reviewed an email from Mr. Wilkins stating the OT Interstate

Compact (HB 224) passed unanimously on March 16, 2021. Board members also agreed to have a Strategic Planning Conference to discuss and set up the process for licensure through the compact at the appropriate time.

Response to Lindsay Voorhees regarding scope of practice questions

Board members reviewed an email dated March 16, 2021 from Mr. Wilkins to Lindsay Voorhees regarding scope of practice questions.

NEW BUSINESS

Request from Dionne Joseph to appear before the Board to discuss her license and disciplinary action

Ms. Joseph appeared before the Board to discuss her licensure status, disciplinary action in 2018 and inability to obtain employment due to requiring an OT supervisor.

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 10:35 a.m.

Return to Open Session

The Board returned to Open Session at 11:15 a.m.

Closed Session Report

Disciplinary Matters

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

Dionne Joseph

Ms. Echols reported the Board agreed to amend Ms. Joseph's Order to be placed on probation for one year and obtain a supervisor approved by the Board that shall make monthly written reports to the Board of Ms. Joseph's occupational therapy practice.

Adjournment

The Open Session adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Session meeting will be held at the office of the Board on July 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Laura Echols, Chair

Nicole Blackwell, Secretary/Treasurer