

**NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
MARCH 21, 2022
MINUTES**

REGULAR SESSION

Time and Place

The North Carolina Board of Occupational Therapy met in Regular Session via Webex conference call on March 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present

Laura Echols, Nicole Blackwell, Erica Dolan, Danielle Ward and Young Kim.

Others Present

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

Members Absent

Leonard Trujillo and Dr. Kevin Coates.

Chairperson

Ms. Echols, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:10 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 January 10, 2022 minutes were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report for January 31, 2022 through February 28, 2022 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 January and February 2022 for eighteen (18) disciplinary proceedings. The total hours worked was 24.20 and the total fees are \$6,050. The Board closed four disciplinary files following the January 2022 Board meeting and currently has 15 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. 2022 Virtual Symposium

Board members were advised the 2022 Virtual Symposium is meeting in June 2022. Ms. Ward agreed to attend.

b. 2022 Annual Meeting

Board members were advised the 2022 Annual Meeting is meeting in Louisville, Kentucky on September 14-17, 2022. Ms. Blackwell agreed to attend.

c. 2023 International Congress

Board members were advised the 2023 International Congress is meeting in Dublin, Ireland in the summer of 2023.

AOTA

a. 2022 Conference

Board members were advised the 2022 annual conference is meeting virtually and in-person in San Antonio, Texas, March 31, 2022 through April 3, 2022. Mr. Kim and Mr. Trujillo agreed to attend.

b. Update on Dry Needling

Board members reviewed an email dated January 26, 2022 regarding an update on dry needling.

c. OT Practice Pulse

Board members reviewed an email dated February 10, 2022 regarding news and updates from AOTA.

d. OT News for You

Board members reviewed an email dated February 24, 2022 regarding news from AOTA.

e. ACOTE Educational Standards Review

Board members reviewed an email dated February 28, 2022 regarding revisions to the accreditation standards.

f. Winter 2021-2022 AOTA State Affairs Newsletter

Board members reviewed an email dated March 4, 2022 regarding the AOTA State Affairs newsletter.

g. State Regulatory Forum Webinar

Board members were advised the State Regulatory Forum is meeting virtually on May 25, 2022. Ms. Echols and Mr. Kim agreed to attend.

NCOTA 2022 Spring Conference

Board members were advised the NCOTA 2022 Spring Conference is meeting virtually and in-person in Winston-Salem, North Carolina on April 9, 2022.

FARB 2022-2024 Forums

Board members were advised of the various FARB forums from 2022 through 2024.

NBCOT

a. Regulatory E-Newsletter February 2022

Board members reviewed an email dated February 22, 2022 regarding the Regulatory E-Newsletter.

b. Ambassador Update

Board members reviewed an email dated February 24, 2022 regarding communications from NBCOT staff and ambassadors.

Update on review of OT Compact

Board members reviewed an email dated February 8, 2022 regarding the 10th state to join the OT compact and agreed to pick a delegate at the May 2022 meeting. Ms. Kirk also informed the Board that this item will remain on the agenda for future discussion.

Response to Matt Meyer regarding splinting

Board members reviewed an email dated January 10, 2022 from Mr. Wilkins to Matt Meyer regarding splinting.

NEW BUSINESS

Email from Mary Kerstein regarding prism adaptation therapy

The Board reviewed an email dated January 11, 2022 regarding prism adaptation therapy and agreed prism adaptation therapy is within the scope of practice of occupational therapy so long as the OT practitioner is trained and competent to provide such intervention and such training and competence is demonstrated and documented.

Email from Morgan McCall regarding fingersticks

The Board reviewed whether “completing PT/INR and Glucometer readings” is within the scope of practice of Occupational Therapy in North Carolina. The Board also considered whether “finger sticks” to draw blood or the Vena puncture procedure are within the scope of practice of Occupational Therapy in North Carolina. The Board agreed neither “finger sticks” to draw blood nor a Vena puncture procedure is within the scope of practice of Occupational Therapy in North Carolina.

The Board was unclear what was meant by “complete” PT/INR and Glucometer readings and asked for clarification.

The Board agreed an OT practitioner may collect information and report information that may be derived from PT/INR and Glucometer testing but the OT practitioner cannot administer the test or interpret the test readings. The OT practitioner may, through OT interventions, train the patient to perform the tests themselves.

Email from Joshua Smith regarding EMGs/NCS

The Board reviewed an email dated February 23, 2022 regarding EMGs/NCS and agreed neither EMG nor NCS is within the scope of practice of occupational therapy.

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 10:40 a.m.

Return to Open Session

The Board returned to Open Session at 11:05 a.m.

Closed Session Report

Disciplinary Matters

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

Adjournment

The Open Session adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Session meeting will be held at the office of the Board on May 16, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Laura Echols, Chair

Nicole Blackwell, Secretary/Treasurer