

**NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023
MINUTES**

REGULAR SESSION

Time and Place

The North Carolina Board of Occupational Therapy met in Regular Session virtually and in the offices of the Board on September 18, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present

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

Others Present

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

Members Absent

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 July 17, 2023 minutes were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report for July 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023 was discussed and approved as submitted.

Administrator's Report

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

Legal Services Committee

Ms. Dolan reported the Committee reviewed a bill from Broughton Wilkins Sugg & Thompson, PLLC for the months of July and August 2023 for thirteen (13) disciplinary proceedings. The total hours worked was 19.80 and the total fees are \$4,950. The Board closed six disciplinary files following the July 2023 Board meeting and currently has thirteen 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. 2023 Annual Meeting

Board members were advised the 2023 Annual Meeting is meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah on September 27-30, 2023. Ms. Dolan, Ms. Rahman and Ms. Ward agreed to attend.

b. CLEAR Update August 2023

Board members reviewed an email dated August 29, 2023 regarding the August 2023 CLEAR updates.

AOTA

a. 2024 Annual Conference & Expo

Board members were advised the 2024 Annual Conference & Expo is meeting in Orlando, Florida on March 21-23, 2024.

b. Policy E-18/Dry needling discussion

Board members reviewed Policy E18 adopted by the AOTA

Representative Assembly, the history on this topic, the Board's previous position and parameters surrounding the use of dry needling and additional information provided by Ms. Dolan and Ms. Rahman. Upon motion made, seconded and passed, the Board agreed occupational therapy practitioners may use physical agent modalities, such as dry needling, provided the occupational therapy practitioner demonstrates and documents competency in the modality.

NCOTA

a. Fall Conference

Board members were advised the NCOTA 2023 Spring Conference is meeting in Salisbury, North Carolina on November 3-5, 2023. Ms. Echols, Ms. Blackwell, Ms. Dolan and Ms. Rahman agreed to meet virtually to update the previous presentation in preparation for the conference.

b. Practice Act/Rules Discussion

The Board reviewed an email dated July 17, 2023 from Ms. Dorfman and the NCOTA's Practice Act Ad Hoc Committee's with suggested changes to the NCBOT Practice Act and Rules.

NCBOT

a. 2023 OT State Regulatory Forum

Board members reviewed an email dated August 10, 2023 regarding the 2023 OT State Regulatory Leadership Forum on September 19-20, 2023.

b. Important News from NBCOT

The Board reviewed an email dated August 16, 2023 regarding new members for NBCOT's board of directors.

FARB 2023-2024 Forums

Board members were advised of the various FARB forums from 2023 through 2024.

OT Compact Updates

Ms. Ward provided an update to the Board on the progress of the OT compact.

Memorandum to OT/OTA schools

a. Response to Nancy Bagatell regarding teaching

Board members reviewed an email dated July 19, 2023 from Mr. Wilkins to Ms. Bagatell regarding teaching.

b. Email to NBCOT regarding designation for OT/OTA; teaching v. practicing

Board members reviewed an email dated July 18, 2023 from Mr. Wilkins to Ms. Foster regarding the designation for OT/OTA and teaching v. practicing.

Response to Reagan Crummey regarding scope of practice/training

Board members reviewed an email dated July 17, 2023 from Mr. Wilkins to Ms. Crummey regarding scope of practice and training for the Safe and Sound Protocol.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on changing May 20, 2024 meeting to May 13, 2024

The Board agreed to change the May 20, 2024 meeting to May 13, 2024.

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 11:10 a.m.

Return to Open Session

The Board returned to Open Session at 11:25 a.m.

Closed Session Report

Disciplinary Matters

Mr. Wilkins reported the Board was advised in Closed Session that one disciplinary investigation resulted in a dismissal of the complaint, one resulted in a Consent Order, three resulted in a Letter of Reprimand and seven cases are currently being investigated.

Adjournment

The Open Session adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Session meeting will be held at the office of the Board on

November 13, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Laura Echols, Chair

Nicole Blackwell, Secretary/Treasurer