

**NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
JANUARY 8, 2024
MINUTES**

REGULAR SESSION

Time and Place

The North Carolina Board of Occupational Therapy met in Regular Session in the offices of the Board on January 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present

Laura Echols, Erica Dolan, Young Kim, Nicole Blackwell, Sarah Rahman and Dr. Kevin Coates.

Others Present

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

Members Absent

Danielle Ward.

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 November 13, 2023 minutes were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

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

2022-2023 Financial Audit

The 2022-2023 Financial Audit was discussed and approved as submitted.

Administrator's Report

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

Legal Services Committee

Mr. Kim reported the Committee reviewed a bill from Broughton Wilkins Sugg & Thompson, PLLC for the months of November and December 2023 for sixteen (16) disciplinary proceedings. The total hours worked was 26.20 and the total fees are \$6,550. The Board closed four disciplinary files following the November 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 2024 Annual Meeting

Board members were advised the 2024 Annual Meeting is meeting in Baltimore, Maryland on September 16-19, 2024.

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. Ms. Blackwell, Ms. Echols, Mr. Kim and Ms. Rahman agreed to attend.

b. Winter 2023 State Affairs Newsletter

Board members reviewed an email dated December 19, 2023

regarding the Fall 2023 State Affairs Newsletter.

c. December 2023 ACOTE Actions

Board members reviewed an email dated January 2, 2024 regarding the December 2023 ACOTE Actions.

NCOTA Fall Conference

Board members were advised the NCOTA plans to meet in January to discuss the 2024 conferences.

NBCOT News

Board members reviewed an email dated December 5, 2023 regarding news from NBCOT.

FARB

a. 2024 Forum/Conference

Board members were advised of the various FARB forums in 2024.

b. Email regarding membership

Board members reviewed an email dated December 5, 2023 membership dues.

OT Compact Updates

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

NEW BUSINESS

Email from NC PT Board regarding vision therapy

Board members reviewed an email dated November 27, 2023 from the NC Physical Therapy Board regarding vision therapy and agreed it is within the scope of practice for OT practitioners to address vision issues. The Board asked Board staff to contact the PT Board to seek more information on the questions asked by PT practitioners of the PT Board so the Board could respond more fully and appropriately.

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 10:30 a.m.

Return to Open Session

The Board returned to Open Session at 11:10 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 Letter of Reprimand, three resulted in a Consent Order and ten cases are currently being investigated.

Adjournment

The Open Session adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Session meeting will be held at the office of the Board or virtually on March 18, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Laura Echols, Chair

Nicole Blackwell, Secretary/Treasurer