

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

STATE OF NEVADA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

April 20, 2019

Members Present: Elizabeth Straughan, Allison Stone, Sol Magpantay, Melissa Genovese, Mel Minarik
Members Absent: None
Staff Present: Loretta L. Ponton, Executive Director
Stacey Whittaker, Executive Assistant/Licensing Specialist
Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General
Paula Berkley, Board Lobbyist
Public Present: None

Elizabeth Straughan, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comments – No comments.

Approval of Minutes - Liz Straughan asked if there were any comments or revisions to the minutes of the meeting of February 9, 2019 or the meeting of March 29-30, 2019. Hearing none, called for a motion.

Allison Stone made the motion, seconded by Melissa Genovese to approve the minutes of February 9, 2019 as presented. The motion passed with Mel Minarik recused.

Allison Stone made the motion, seconded by Mel Minarik to approve the minutes of the March 29 and 30, 2019 meeting and board retreat. The motion passed.

Disciplinary Matters - Recommendation for Dismissal - Liz Straughan called on Loretta Ponton. Ms. Ponton stated that after review of all documentation received, it has been determined that there is insufficient evidence to file a formal complaint for hearing before the Board and the facts set forth in the accusations are insufficient to establish a violation of Chapter 640A of the Nevada Revised Statutes or the Nevada Administrative Code.

Case No. C19-10 alleged alterations of treatment and billing records; Case C19-08 alleged falsification of evaluation record.

Liz Straughan called for a motion. Allison Stone made the motion, seconded by Melissa Genovese to dismiss Complaint Case No. C19-10 and Case C19-08. The motion passed.

Application for License - Liz Straughan directed the members to the application and documentation provided to support the Application for License of Mary Lou Jovich, OTR. Loretta Ponton summarized the legal issue stating Ms. Jovich reported disciplinary action in the State of Washington within the previous 10 years. Pursuant to Board Policy 13, the application is before the Board for consideration of approval, denial or other action.

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Liz Straughan asked if there were any questions or comments. There was no concerns expressed by Board members. Liz Straughan call for a motion.

Mel Minarik made the motion, seconded by Allison Stone, to approve Mary Lou Jovich's Application for Licensure as an Occupational Therapist in Nevada. The motion passed.

Strategic Plan - Liz Straughan stated the Strategic Plan document is presented for review and approval, including the revised Mission Statement located on page 7. Members commented that the Strategic Plan delineates the activities of the Board during the planning session and accurately described the Strategic Direction agreed to by the Board.

Liz Straughan called for a motion to approve the Board Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 20-22.

Sol Magpantay made the motion, seconded by Allison Stone to approve the 3-Year Strategic Plan, including the revised Mission Statement. The motion passed.

Comment was made regarding posting the Strategic Plan on the Board's website. The Board members agreed the Strategic Direction section, pages 7 through 10, would be appropriate for posting.

Loretta Ponton suggested to Liz Straughan that the Legislative Report be considered out of order as it may have information useful to the members when considering the Scope of Practice Initiative.

Legislative Report - Liz Straughan called upon Paula Berkley.

Paula Berkley reported that 227 bills died because they did not meet the deadline for passage out of committee. Paula reported the bill on hearing officers has been amended to eliminate all but one paragraph that requires a detail of fees to be provided prior to payment of any fees assessed because of disciplinary hearing. The bill increasing personal liability relating to information requests was killed, the bill addressing rural area health care, dental hygienists and reduced supervision requirements, has been amended with the dental hygienists and dental therapists remaining under the purview of the Dental Board. The three bills requiring more data collection have been combined and are limited to the medical professions; the other professional boards were removed. The dry needling controversy with the Oriental Medicine and Physical Therapy Boards is continuing with amendments to define in scope of practice for both oriental medicine and physical therapy. The controversy is not over, and it is expected there will be more discussions on the Assembly side when it comes to hearing in Commerce and Labor.

Scope of Practice Initiative - Survey and Data Collection - Liz Straughan asked if members had reviewed the questionnaire compiled by Melissa. Loretta Ponton stated the information is extensive and thanked Melissa for her leadership in compiling the responses by members into the questionnaire for discussion.

Members discussed intent of capturing "specialty practice areas" and "certifications" as well as "areas of interest" with a consensus that the information in questions 7 and 8 should be further broken out into (1) National Certifications, (2) Practice Areas and (3) Areas of Interest. Discussion was held on levels of certification, AOTA specialties and NBCOT Practice Area of Emphasis in addition to individual certifications such as hand therapy and vision.

Melissa Genovese volunteered to reorganize the questionnaire for further discussion at the next Board meeting.

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Executive Director's Report - Loretta Ponton reported on licensure statistics stating the total licensee numbers have increased 6.89% over the previous year. That is slightly below the 10% rate of previous years; however, it is expected to increase as new graduates enter the workforce.

The Board administrative office is relocating to the building adjacent to the current location. The office will have a conference room, four offices and a break room. The lease will be for seven-years, with option to renew. The move will take place in late August of this year.

Ms. Ponton reported the Speech and Hearing Board is in the process of hiring a new Executive Director with an anticipated hire date of October 1, 2019. They will remain co-located with the Board for a cost savings of approximately \$7,000.

Ms. Ponton reported on status of complaints in process totaling 12 active cases.

Deputy Attorney General Report - Henna Rasul stated she had nothing to report.

Public Comments – Liz Straughan asked if there were any public comment. There was no public present.

Adjournment – Liz Straughan adjourned the meeting at 10:46 a.m.