



STATE OF NEVADA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

MINUTES PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

November 5, 2022

Members Present: Mel Minarik, Elizabeth Straughan, Jose Pablo Castillo, Phil Seitz
Members Absent: Allison Stone
Staff Present: Loretta L. Ponton, Executive Director
Stacey Whittaker, Licensing Coordinator
Henna Rasul, Sr. Deputy Attorney General
Public Present: Jeannette Belz, Connie Christiansen, Paula Cook

Call to Order, Introduction of Board Members, Confirmation of Quorum

Vice Chair Minarik, called the Board meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present. Chair Stone was absent; Vice Chair Minarik assumed the Chair role.

Public Comments – Vice Chair Minarik opened public comments. There were no comments.

Approval of the Minutes – Vice Chair Minarik asked if there were any corrections to the July 16, 2022 meeting minutes. Hearing none called for a motion.

Elizabeth Straughan made the motion to approve the minutes as presented; Jose Pablo Castillo seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Vice Chair Minarik asked if there were any corrections to the August 12-13, 2022, meeting minutes. Hearing none called for a motion.

Jose Pablo Castillo made the motion to approve the minutes as presented; Phil Seitz seconded the motion. The motion passed with Elizabeth Straughan abstaining.

Biennial Audit Report, FY 21/FY 22 – Mel Minarik called on Connie Christiansen, CPA.

Ms. Christiansen presented the Biennial Audit Report prepared by Christiansen Accounting Network for Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2021, and June 30, 2022. Ms. Christiansen stated she is pleased to report the Board received a healthy audit with no unexpected results. All documentation was received in a timely manner with no discrepancies.

Elizabeth Straughan made the motion, seconded by Phil Seitz to approve the Biennial Audit of the Board's financial statement for the period ending June 30, 2021, and June 30, 2022. The motion passed.

**Disciplinary Matters – Consent Decree, Complaint Case C22-05 and C23-01
Darrin Hurdsman, OT-2424**

Vice Chair Minarik confirmed Board members had received and reviewed the proposed consent decree with Darrin Hurdsman. Ms. Ponton summarized the terms of the Consent Decree.

Vice Chair Minarik called for a motion. Elizabeth Straughan made the motion, seconded by Phil Seitz to approve the Consent Decree with Darrin Hurdsman, OT in complaint case C22-05 and C23-01 as presented. The motion passed.

Ms. Ponton stated the Board’s action will be reported to the National Data Bank, NMBCOT and AOTA.

Disciplinary Hearing – Violation of Board Order, Case C22-03 Shacindra Sloan, OTA-2554

Vice Chair Minarik called upon Ms. Ponton. Ms. Ponton stated the Board of Occupational Therapy, at their meeting of January 29, 2022, issued an Order in the disciplinary hearing in Case C22-03, finding Ms. Sloan violated the Nevada Occupational Therapy law and regulations. A copy of the final Order was sent February 14, 2022, by Board legal counsel.

On March 22, 2022, a follow-up letter was sent to Ms. Sloan with a copy of the Board Order reminding Ms. Sloan of the terms of the Order which requires a current license with this Board, completion of continuing education, submittal of specific documentation to the Board, payment of legal fees in the amount of \$7,147.15 and adherence to all law and regulations governing the practice of occupational therapy in Nevada. The Board has not received any response from Ms. Sloan nor has the Board received required documentation or payments and Ms. Sloan’s record has not been updated to reflect employment status, supervisory status or contact information. Ms. Sloan did not renew her OTA License which expired effective July 5, 2022.

On September 15, 2022, a formal notice of hearing was sent to Ms. Sloan at her last known address by certified mail, US mail and email; pursuant to Chapter 233B, Chapter 241, Chapter 622A, Chapter 622 and Chapter 640A of the Nevada Revised Statutes and Chapter 640A of the Nevada Administrative Code. The certified mail Notice of Hearing was returned not deliverable.

Vice Chair Minarik asked if members had any questions. Hearing none, called for a motion.

Elizabeth Straughan made the motion, seconded by Phil Seitz, to revoke Shacindra Sloan’s license OTA-2554 for 10 years. The motion passed.

Elizabeth Straughan made the motion if Ms. Sloan applies for licensure after the revocation period, she will be required to meet all requirements of the Consent Decree in addition to all current license requirements at the time. Phil Seitz seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

Legislative Interim Report– Loretta Ponton shared a video by the Nevada Independent on “How a Bill Becomes a Law”. Jeanette Belz of Belz and Case Government Affairs provided a written and verbal report on interim legislative committee meetings, 2023 Bill Draft Requests and the upcoming elections.

Executive Director’s Report – Loretta Ponton reported on licensing statistics, office operations and a status update on the 2023-2024 Strategic Direction. Ms. Ponton presented and summarized the FY23 Financial Statements ending September 30, 2022.

Ms. Ponton provided an update on the Nevada Jurisprudence Exam and reported that the CE Audit is now complete. There is one complaint currently in the investigative process.

Elizabeth Straughan made the motion, seconded by Jose Pablo Castillo, to accept the Executive Director's Report as presented. The motion passed.

Report from Deputy Attorney General – Henna Rasul, Sr. DAG had nothing to report.

Board Activities and Reports – A proposed 2023 meeting schedule was presented with the next meeting scheduled for January 28, 2023. Ms. Ponton reported that Elizabeth Straughan will be terming out on December 31, 2022 stating this will most likely be her last meeting. Phil Seitz has submitted his reappointment application to the Governor's Office. Ms. Ponton discussed her timeframe for retirement, the recruitment process and redefining job descriptions.

Vice Chair Minarik thanked Liz Straughan for her service noting this was the third full 6-year term.

The board discussed future agenda items as presented in the board packet. Vice Chair Minarik asked if there were any further items, there were none.

Public Comment – Vice Chair Minarik asked for public comments. Paula Cook thanked the board for allowing the students to take the Nevada Jurisprudence Exam, it was a great experience. NOTA will have an upcoming event in March 2023 with more information to follow.

Adjournment – Vice Chair Minarik adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.