



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES

May 17, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by the Board Chair, Krystal Lighty.

Call to Order

There was a motion and a second to close the open session at 2:30 p.m. to engage in medical review committee deliberations regarding confidential information in applications for licensure, in accordance with State Government General Provisions Article, Section 3-305 (b) (7) and (13). Unless recused, all Board members and staff who were present for the open session were also in attendance for both the closed and administrative sessions.

Board Members Present:

Delores Alexander, Consumer Member
Stephen Baur, PT
Rhea Cohn, PT
Meredith Levert, Consumer Member
Krystal Lighty, PT
Kimberly Rotondo, PTA
Katharine Stout, PT
Sumesh Thomas, PT

Also Present:

Joy Aaron, Deputy Director
Brett Felter, AAG, Board Counsel
John Bull, Compliance Manager/Investigator
Deborah Jackson, Licensing Coordinator
Desiree DeVoe, Investigator
Michelle Cutkelvin, Board Secretary

Guests:

Kristen Neville, Legislative Specialist

Board Chair, Krystal Lighty welcomed Board Members and visiting guest.	Welcome
The minutes of the meeting held on April 19, 2016 were approved.	Minutes
Kristen Neville, Legislative Specialist apprised that Board of the upcoming deadline for pre-proposal concepts papers. Ms. Neville states that as per the Office of Governmental Affairs, Boards should be more discriminatory with the proposals they choose to submit.	Legislative Update
Deborah Jackson, Licensing Coordinator gave the licensure report.	Licensure Update
Ravin Michelle Chase requested feedback on the following: On the TUG test can the patient use their arms to assist with standing? The Boards response is that it is beyond their purview.	Scope of Practice, Ravin Michelle Chase
Frank Reicherter, PTA requested feedback on the following: He states his “employer has recently required physical therapy assistants to participate in the completion of both weekly progress notes and the final discharge.” For the progress note we are asked to fill in current status on the goals, whether the goal has been met and response to treatment. For the discharge “current the status and whether the goals have been met” is required. It also noted on these two documents that the PTA has contributed to the completion. The assessment portions and any changes to the plan of care are filled out by the physical therapist. What, if anything, can the PTA contribute to these two documents? The Boards response is that a physical therapist assistant cannot say if goals are met. Modifications to goals are completed by the physical therapist, a physical therapy assistant can contribute. Pursuant to COMAR 1038.03.02.	Scope of Practice, Frank Reicherter, PTA
Rhodora Fontillas, PT requested feedback on the following: Scenario 1: If I had an in-person consultation and treatment in Texas with a patient from your state, and I want to subsequently monitor or supervise this patient’s therapy care using two-way video, email, smart phone, wireless tool or any other form of telecommunications technology, will the law governing PT practice in your state allow me to do this even if I do not hold a PT license from your state. Scenario 2: Suppose a resident of your state comes to Texas to consult me for PT. I had an in –person evaluation of his complaints related to physical function. I recommended exercise and activities to ameliorate his impairments or functional mobility difficulties. He subsequently goes home to your state (which is his state of residence) with the understanding that he will continue with his prescribed PT program on his own and come back to Texas after two months for a follow-up visit. If during the time that he is living at home in your state he calls or emails me to ask questions as it regards his PT program, will my responding to his questions constitute practice of PT in your state? Do I need a PT license in your state to answer his questions? The Boards response is as follows: in both instances if you are practicing in Maryland, you need to have a license in Maryland, per COMAR 10.38.01(9) “Licensed physical therapist” means an individual licensed by the Board to practice physical therapy in Maryland.” The Annotated Code of Maryland, Title 13, Subtitle 1, Section 13-301(a) states, “...an individual shall be licensed by the Board	Scope of Practice, Rhodara Fontillas, PT

before the individual may practice physical therapy or limited physical therapy in this State.”

Joy Aaron, Deputy Director states that for the position of Board Chair, Krystal Lighty has formally expressed interest and for the position of Vice Chair, Rhea Cohn has formally expressed interest. Ms. Aaron opened the floor for nominations. There were no nominations and no oppositions. Krystal Lighty was elected as Board Chair and Rhea Cohn was elected as Vice Chair.

Board Elections

Ms. Aaron states that the online application has been completed and will go “live” very soon. She states the PT Board will be the first to use the application. Board Chair, Krystal Lighty states that there is work to do in reference to Telehealth and set meetings to discuss the Compact.

Strategic Planning

Sylwia Blawat requested feedback on the following: In the state of Maryland is a PT aide allowed to put E stim pads on the patient? The Boards response is a PT aide can place an E Stim pad however they cannot turn the machine on.

Scope of Practice, Sylwia Blawat, PTA

Michael Furno requested feedback on the following: He states the company he works for is starting something new where the PTA is now contributing to a progress note every 5 days and to the discharge summary, both of which are reviewed and signed by the PT. In the progress notes we are being asked to update short term goals, comment on physical therapy progress/response to treatment, comment on treatments provided, justification of skilled service and reason for continued service. In the discharge summary we are being asked to state what goals were met or not, justification of skilled services, summary of services provided, pt progress/response to treatment, and discharge recommendations. The Board’s response is that a physical therapist assistant cannot say if goals are met. Modifications to goals are completed by the physical therapist, a physical therapy assistant can contribute. Pursuant to COMAR 1038.03.02.

Scope of Practice, Michael Furno, PTA

Elena Janetopoulos requested feedback on the following: She states that it has been brought to her attention that national physical therapy companies are firing physical therapy assistants because they are not getting reimbursements from insurance companies at the same rate as physical therapists by 30%. The Boards response is that this is not under their jurisdiction.

Scope of Practice, Elena Janetopoulos, PT

Ms. Aaron apprised the Board on the concerns raised at the administrators meeting. She states there is serious concern about the security of the building.

Administrators Meeting

The Board voted to **approve** the following CEU course applications:

Continuing Education

‘Neural Manipulation’; ‘Mindfulness & Pain Education’; and ‘PAMA Symposium’ (14 hours only).

The Board voted to **deny** the following CEU course applications:

'Integrative Medicine in Rehab' because the course is not substantially related to the PT practice; *'Manual Thermal Evaluation'* because the course is not substantially related to the PT practice and *'Embracing the Further Shore'* because the course is not substantially related to the PT practice.

There was a motion and a second to close the open session at 2:18 p.m. to engage in **medical review committee deliberations regarding confidential information** in applications for licensure, in accordance with State Government Article, Section 10-508 (a) (7) and (13). Unless recused, all Board members and staff who were present for the open session were also in attendance for both the closed and administrative sessions.

The board meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

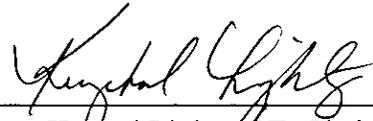
Respectfully submitted,

6/21/2016

Date Approved



Joy Aaron, Deputy Director



Krystal Lighty, PT, Chairperson