



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
*Board Of Physical Therapy Examiners*

**BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES**  
**July 17, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by the Chairperson,  
Dr. John Baker.

Call to Order

**Board members present:**

Rhea Cohn, PT  
Ved Gupta, Consumer Member  
Krystal Lighty, PT  
Lori Mizell, PT, Vice Chairperson  
Delores Alexander, Consumer Member  
Kimberly Rotondo, PTA

**Absent Board Members:**

Donald Novak, PT

**Also Present:**

Carlton A. Curry, Executive Director  
Joy E. Aaron, Deputy Director  
Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel  
Brett Felter, Staff Attorney, Board Counsel  
John Bull, Compliance Manager/Investigator  
Eric Jordan, Investigator  
Ann Tyminski, Consultant  
Deborah Jackson, Licensing Coordinator  
Nancy Staniel, Board Secretary

**Guests:**

Kristen Neville, Legislative Specialist  
Senator Paula Hollinger  
Sharon Bloom, State Stat Specialist  
Ari Elbaum, Attorney

## Open Session Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2012

- Dr. John Baker, Board Chairperson, welcomed the new board member, Delores Alexander. Welcome
- The minutes of the meeting held on June 19, 2012 were approved with no modifications. Minutes
- Carlton A. Curry presented a report on the regional meetings held in June 2012. He advised the board that the PowerPoint presentation used at the meetings is now on the Board's website and that more information would be posted in the coming weeks. Continuing Competency Meetings
- Carlton A. Curry and Krystal Lighty, PT presented the proposed template to the Board. Ms. Lighty advised the Board that defining the criteria to meet continuing competency requirements is the major issue to be faced by the Continuing Competency Committee. Continuing Competency Template
- Deborah Jackson presented an update to the Board regarding the status of applications received and licenses issued in June 2012. Licensing Update
- Rhea Cohn, PT reported on the matter of Dr. Jan Dommerholt's website which provides a statement concerning trigger point injections. The Board questioned whether the quote was accurate. After discussion, the Board concluded that the quote was accurate based on present regulations, but, due to the current Dry Needling regulatory process, the Board will need to draft a letter advising Dr. Dommerholt that the Dry Needling process is still under review and ask him to remove the statement from his website. R.Cohn,PT/Website Revision Request
- Carlton A. Curry updated the Board on Telehealth issues. It was suggested that a committee be formed in the latter part of the year to review the challenges involved with Telehealth. Telehealth
- Luann Hollinger, PT, wrote the Board to inquire about Medicare billing and time guidelines. The Board agreed to inform Ms. Hollinger that the Board cannot address payment/billing issues. L.Hollinger,PT/ Billing Guidelines
- Denise Banta, Nurse Reviewer, wrote the Board with eight (8) practice inquires. After discussion, the Board agreed to draft a response to each individual question. Board members Rhea Cohn, Krystal Lighty, and Lori Mizell expressed doubt that PTs should order x-rays. The response to that issue will be delayed until Linda Bethman, AAG, researches the legislative history on the most recent PT bill. D. Banta/ Practice issues
- Susan Waranch, PT, wrote the Board to inquire about the average number of patients permissible per therapist throughout an 8-12 hour day. After discussion, the Board agreed to refer Ms. Waranch to the Practice Act for the regulation regarding three patients per treatment hour and the regulation that cites a PT/PTA must offer adequate treatment time to each patient. S.Waranch,PT/ Patients Per Hour

Janessa Shambaugh wrote the Board to inquire about supervision of an exercise physiologist assisting patients with aquatic exercises, and how many patients can be assisted at one time. The Board discussed and agreed that a physical therapist can directly supervise the exercise physiologist who is in the pool because the exercise physiologist in a PT practice is serving as a physical therapy aide.

J.Shambaugh/Aqua  
Therapy

Ava Crane wrote the Board to inquire whether a physical therapist assistant can practice limited physical therapy in an outpatient setting once a physical therapist has completed an evaluation and plan of care. The Board agreed that a PTA can render services under those circumstances as long as there is ongoing supervision by the physical therapist.

Ava Crane/  
Limited Therapy

Carlton A. Curry presented the proposed Dry Needling Regulations to the Board. He also advised the Board that the regulation approval process is currently on hold pending a Board response to a letter received from the Acupuncture Board. Rhea Cohn, PT will draft the response. Mr. Curry also advised the Board that a registry of active dry needling participants will be in place by the next renewal period.

Dry Needling

The Board voted to approve the following continuing education course applications: *"Management of Supervisor/Supervisee Challenges"* and *"Article: Studies of Stroke Rehabilitation Therapies Should Report Blinding and Rationalize Use of Outcome Measurement Instruments"*.

Continuing  
Education

The Board agreed that the reading of journal articles can be considered a self-study online course. Each request for CEU credit for such an article will be reviewed by the Board on a case by case basis.

The Board voted to deny the following continuing education course applications: *"Regulation of Body Weight"* because the course was not specific to the practice of physical therapy. *"Dietary Interventions for the Prevention and Treatment of Prostate"* because the course is not specific to the practice of physical therapy. *"Fueling Exercise and Recovery: How to Optimize Carbohydrate Intake"* because the course is not relevant to the practice of physical therapy. *"MSRA May Be Waiting Around the Corner"* because the course is not specific to the practice of physical therapy.

There was a motion and a second to close the open session at 2:55 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.

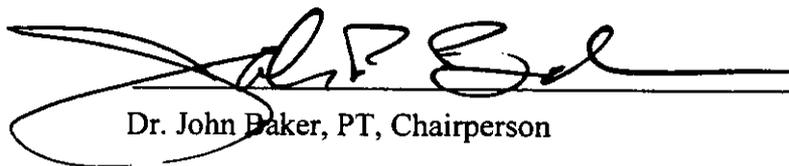
The board meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Carlton A. Curry, Executive Director

8/20/2012  
Date approved



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Dr. John Baker, PT, Chairperson