

AR State Board of Physical Therapy
MINUTES
January 6, 2004

Tuesday, January 6, 2004

9 Shackelford Plaza, Suite 3, Little Rock, AR

Physical Therapy Board Members Attending: Seth Coulter; Jennie Gregory, Rob Hill, Jennifer Parks and Todd Burton

Representative from Attorney General's Office: Warren Readnour

Staff Attending: Alice Ryan and Nancy Worthen.

Others Present: Michael Teston, PT, Nancy Reese, PT

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Seth Coulter called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

- The minutes of the November 4, 2003 regular meeting were approved as amended.

FINANCIAL REPORT

• Financials

As of 12/30/03 the regular checking account balance with Metropolitan Bank was reported as \$18,963.98

As of 12/30/03 Bank of the Ozarks certificate of deposit has a balance of \$30,690.91.

As of 12/30/03 Money Market Funds total \$211,303.51.

Total Assets - \$260,958.40

The financial report was approved as presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE

• Licensure Information

Individuals licensed since the 011-04-03 meeting:

Total 7 PT's - By exam: 2 By reciprocity: 5

Total 6 PTA's - By exam: 2 By reciprocity: 4

Total PTs - 1415

Total PTAs - 667

INQUIRIES & COMPLAINTS

• John Helfrich, PTA

Mr. Helfrich applied for licensure by reciprocity. He received a certificate as an aid from the U.S. Army Ft. Sam Houston, Texas and was issued a Physical Therapist Assistant license in Colorado March 7, 1990. U.S. Army Ft. Sam Houston is not an accredited program. After review of Mr. Helfrich's file and consideration of his experience and education, the motion was made, seconded and passed to issue Mr. Helfrich an Arkansas license as a Physical Therapist Assistant.

• Seema Gadre, PT

CAPTE withdrew accreditation, effective January 1, 2002, from any physical therapist education program that culminates in a baccalaureate degree. Ms. Gadre graduated from Kasturba Medical College in India in March 2002. Ms. Gadre was issued an Arkansas license on 11/13/03. The Board determined that Ms. Gadre was inappropriately issued an Arkansas license based on the fact that she did not graduate from an accredited program. The motion was made, seconded and passed to send a letter to Ms. Gadre asking her to surrender her Arkansas license.

Addendum: On January 7, 2004 Nancy Reese, PT called with updated information concerning CAPTE accreditation. CAPTE withdrew accreditation, effective January 1, 2002, from any physical therapist education program that culminates in a baccalaureate degree. However, students enrolled in the final twelve months of the program will be considered graduates of a CAPTE-accredited program. Ms. Gadre graduated in March 2002 and therefore will not be asked to surrender her license.

• Foreign Educated Applicants

A discussion was held with Nancy Reese, PT concerning foreign-educated applicants. Nancy suggested that the Board provide UCA and other colleges an informational sheet outlining the requirements for foreign educated applicants. Information from Texas and North Carolina was reviewed. The Board agreed to adopt language from these two states and issue a letter to colleges stating requirements for foreign educated applicants. The application for licensure will be updated to explain the December 31, 2001 CAPTE accreditation deadline.

• AR Blue Cross Blue Shield

A letter was received from Becky Sewell concerning an article in the *AR Blue Cross Blue Shield Providers' Newsletter*. The article concerned an update that allows physical and occupational therapy procedures billed by a chiropractor to be paid by Federal Blue Cross Blue Shield Federal Programs. Mike Teston, PT was present at the meeting and voiced his concerns on this matter. Letters will be written to Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield and to the Federal Employee Program. FSBPT will also be contacted to request their stand on the matter. The motion was made, seconded and passed.

• Urvi Adani

Ms. Adani applied for licensure by examination. She graduated from Seth G.S. Medical College in 1999 and from the University of Florida in December 2003. The Masters from the University of Florida is post-professional and is not accredited by CAPTE. The Bachelors of Science from India did not satisfy the minimum number of credits required. After review of Ms. Adani's file, the Board determined her education did not meet the requirements. The motion was made,

seconded and passed to deny Ms. Adani an Arkansas license.

- **Elvira Cruz Balgos, PT**

The Board was notified that Ms. Balgos' Florida license had been revoked. The Board received information from Florida and a response from Ms. Balgos. Ms. Balgos has never practiced in Florida but has kept her license active. She failed to meet continuing education requirements for the licensure biennium of February 1, 1997 through January 31, 1999. After review of all information, the Board determined Ms. Balgos did not violate the Arkansas Practice Act and dismissed the complaint.

- **Laverne Mendel, PT**

The Board was notified that Laverne Mendel's Iowa license had been placed on probation in 1997 for failing to properly supervise a PTA. The Board determined Mr. Mendel did not violate the Arkansas Practice act and dismissed the complaint.

- **Physical Medical Associates**

A letter was received from Dave Hill concerning an advertisement by Physical Medical Associates. They are advertising physical therapy but they do not employ a Physical Therapist. Mr. Hill spoke with Dr. Vanable at Physical Medical Associates who said it was an error that physical therapy was mentioned on material sent to prospective patients. Alice contacted Mr. Hill and he is working with the clinic to get all physical therapy referrals to himself or another Physical Therapist. Physical Medical Associates have discontinued advertising physical therapy. The complaint was dismissed.

OLD BUSINESS

None presented.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Liz Atkinson Report**

Liz Atkinson is not currently working as a physical therapist. Her fine has not been paid yet but she has until 03/31/04.

- **Idumange Idumange**

Mr. Idumange has completed 907 hours of the required 1500 hours of supervision.

- **Stipends and Expense Reimbursements**

The motion was made, seconded and passed to authorize stipends and expense reimbursements.

- **2004 Renewals**

A discussion was held concerning the 2004 renewals to make sure the office was clear on processing of renewals with "yes" answers to the new questions added to the 2004 renewal.

- **Robbery Report**

Alice presented a report of stolen items and estimated dollar amounts from the December 4, 2004 robbery. The motion was made, seconded and passed to reimburse employees for stolen personal items if it is approved through the State.

- **Mavilyn Genciana**

Seth received an inquiry concerning Ms. Genciana's application for licensure by exam and the possibility of her receiving a temporary permit. Temporary permits are issued only under special circumstance. The Board determined an exception should not be made in Ms. Genciana's case.

- **Michael Teston, PT**

The Board received approval from the Attorney General's office to hire outside counsel to file an Amicus Brief for the Board on behalf of Michael Teston, PT.

Unfinished Business

- **Jurisprudence Exam**

Research concerning the jurisprudence exam is still ongoing.

- The regular meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.
- An executive session was held after the regular meeting. The session adjourned at 3:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Worthen
Assistant Director