



Kelly King, PT, DPT  
President

**ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
1470 W. ADAMS ST., STE 2450, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007  
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[ptboard.az.gov](http://ptboard.az.gov)

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES via  
Google Meet Video Conferencing  
Virtual Attendance  
July 25, 2023**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kelly King, PT, DPT, President  
Karen Bustillo, PT, DPT, CLT, Vice President  
Giovanni Leone, PTA; Secretary  
John Heick, PT, DPT, PhD  
Joshua Greer, Public Member  
Joshua Barton, Public Member

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**ASSISTANT ATTORNEY  
GENERAL PRESENT:**

Marc Harris, Assistant Attorney General

**BOARD STAFF PRESENT:**

Judy Chepeus, Executive Director  
Veronica Cardoza, Administrative Services Officer  
Monica Crowley, Licensing Administrator  
Mindy Richardson PT, Investigator

**BOARD SAFF ABSENT:**

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER – 8:30 A.M.:** Dr. King called the meeting to order at 8:31 A.M. (A recording of the meeting is available on the Board’s website.)
- 2) **Roll Call:** – See Above.
- 3) **Minutes: Review, consideration, and action:**
  - A) June 27, 2023, Regular Session

Mr. Leone moved, seconded by Dr. Bustillo to **Approve** the June 27, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X		X	X	

Nay							
Recused							
Abstained				X			
Absent							

**B) June 27, 2023, Executive Session A**

Dr. King moved, seconded by Dr. Bustillo to **Approve** the June 27, 2023, 2023 Executive Session A Meeting Minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X			X	X	
Nay							
Recused			X				
Abstained				X			
Absent							

**4) Applications for Licensure and Certification:**

C) Review, consideration, and possible action on Physical Therapist applicants who graduated from foreign educational programs.

- 1) Review, consideration, and possible action regarding educational equivalence, option to license or require a supervised clinical practice period and/or eligibility for NPTE/ AZLAW exams for applicants who graduated from a Non-U.S. Accredited foreign educational program.

- a. Minor Santamaria Alfaro

The Board reviewed and discussed the above request. Mr. Santamaria’s education credentialing was indicated as “substantially equivalent”.

Following review and discussion, Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Leone to **Approve** for NPTE/AZLAW exams and to complete a supervised clinical practice period after passing both exams. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT

Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**5) Consent Agenda:**

**A) Applications recommended for approval of Physical Therapist licensure upon successful completion of the application, including receipt of transcripts and passage of the NPTE and/or AZLAW.**

- 1) Kaitlyn Pinney
- 2) Richard Michaelson
- 3) Jared Daigle

**C) Cases recommended for termination of Board Order.** The Board will review, discuss, and may vote to take action on the following case(s):

- 1) 22-53 Katherine Crocker, PTA
- 2) 23-18 Jonathan Ryan Dugan, PT
- 3) 23-29 Tricia Keith, PTA
- 4) 22-11 Sarah Gomez, PT
- 5) 22-27 Erik Bidinger, PT

Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Dr. Bustillo to **Approve** consent agenda items 5A and 5C. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**End of Consent Agenda**

**9) Complaints and other disciplinary matters: review, consideration, and action.**

**E) LM**

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding opening a complaint

Ms. Richardson provided a summary to the Board.

Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Mr. Leone to **Take No Action**. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**10) Executive Director’s Report**

- 1) Update regarding the FSBPT Leadership Issues Forum (LIF) and Model Practice Act Workshop.** Review and discussion regarding the FSBPT LIF meeting and Model Practice Act Workshop held July 15-17, 2023

Dr. Heick and Ms. Chepeus provided an update of the FSBPT LIF meeting and Model Practice Act Workshop held July 15-17, 2023.

- 2) Update regarding Alternate Approval Pathway**  
Review and discussion regarding the FSBPT Alternate Approval Pathway

Ms. Chepeus provided the Board with a status update regarding the staff’s feasibility research of the Alternate Approval Pathway.

- 3) Update regarding the Sunset Review**  
Review and discussion regarding the Board’s Sunset Review

Ms. Chepeus provided an update regarding the Sunset Review to the Board.

**5) Update regarding Business Entity Renewals**

Review and discussion regarding the Business Entity Renewal Season

Ms. Chepeus provided an update regarding Business Entity Renewals to the Board.

**7) Informal Hearings**

A) 22-21 Jonelle Wartenberg, PTA (9:00 a.m.)

**Dr. King stated that she knew Ms. Wartenberg but that it would not prevent her from being impartial and participating in this matter.**

Ms. Chepeus called roll of Board members and staff. Dr. King provided a review of the proceedings and possible outcomes.

Ms. Richardson and Ms. Wartenberg were sworn-in as witnesses.

Ms. Richardson provided a summary of the Board’s investigation.

Ms. Wartenberg was present and addressed the Board.

**Let the record reflect Ms. Cardoza left the Board meeting at 9:16 A.M**

Ms. Wartenberg provided a closing statement.

Following review and discussion, Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Greer to adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of law as outlined in the investigative report with the amendment that she arrived at work at a time other than 6a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Greer to **issue a Board order** to include:

Six months’ **Probation** with the possibility of early termination after successful completion of the

following terms:

- Successfully pass the AZLAW jurisprudence exam
- Nine hours of **Continuing education** in the areas of Documentation, billing and supervision
- Three hours of **Continuing education** in the areas of Ethics

The continuing education Courses must be pre-approved, may be completed online, and do not count toward renewal requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**The Board Recessed from 9:57 A.M. to 10:04 A.M.**

Roll call taken after returning from Recess at 10:04 A.M. by Ms. Chepeus.

**6) Administrative Hearings**

A) 21-20 Alejandro Iniguez, PTA (10:00 a.m.)

Mr. Iniguez was not present and was not represented by legal counsel. Dr. King called the Administrative Hearing to order.

Ms. Chepeus called roll of the Board members and invited them to introduce themselves.

Dr. King provided a review of the proceedings and possible outcomes.

All Board members were furnished with the State’s Exhibits. Marc Harris, Assistant Attorney General representing the State of Arizona. Ms. Elizabeth Campbell, Assistant Attorney General, was present and served as Independent Advisor to the Board.

Ms. Richardson, PT Investigator was sworn in as a witness. Mr. Harris provided an opening statement.

Ms. Richardson provided testimony and Mr. Harris went over Exhibits 1 through 7. Exhibit 1 pages 19 through 150 were entered as confidential.

Mr. Harris entered Exhibits 1 through 7 into evidence. The Board accepted the Exhibits. Mr. Harris

provided a closing statement.

Following review and discussion Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Barton to adopt the Factual Allegations as outlined the State’s Notice of Hearing and Complaint as its Findings of Fact. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Leone to adopt the Allegations of Unprofessional Conduct as outlined in the State’s Notice of Hearing and Complaint as its Conclusions of Law. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Leone to issue an order of revocation of Mr. Iniguez’s physical therapist assistant certificate. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**9) Complaints and other disciplinary matters: review, consideration, and action.**

**D) 21-31 & 22-28 Steven Kempton, PT**

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding compliance with Consent Agreement including the possibility of lifting the Stay of Revocation

**Mr. Leone recused himself from the above case.**

Ms. Chepeus provided a summary of Mr. Kempton’s compliance with his Consent Agreement.

Mr. Kempton, PT was present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Dr. King to enter into **Executive Session** to obtain legal advice. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X		X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused			X				
Abstained							
Absent							

**Executive Session -A from 10:58 A.M. to 11:04 A.M.**

Roll call taken after returning from **Executive Session** at 11:04 A.M. by Ms. Chepeus.

Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Mr. Barton to recognize Mr. Kempton’s compliance efforts to date with the understanding that it is Mr. Kempton’s responsibility to ensure that he is in timely compliance with all of the terms of the agreement and that his failure to do so may result in the Board lifting the stay of revocation. The motion passed.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye		X		X	X	X	
Nay	X						
Recused			X				
Abstained							
Absent							



**Mr. Leone has returned to the Board meeting at 11:23 A.M.**

**A) 23-45 Armando Rivas, PTA**

Initial review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint

**Dr. King stated she knew Mr. Rivas but that it would not prevent her from being impartial and participating in this matter.**

Ms. Richardson provided a summary of the Board’s investigation.

Mr. Rivas was present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Barton moved, seconded by Dr. King to direct staff to further investigate all of the potential violations outlined in the investigative report and to obtain copies of any additional police and/or legal reports through Mr. Rivas and his attorney; to table the matter until it is processed by Pennsylvania; and then invite Mr. Rivas to an informal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**B) 23-28 Andre Porterfield, PT**

Initial review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint

Mr. Porterfield and complainant PC were present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Greer to **issue a Non-disciplinary order** to include:

- Six hours of **Continuing education** in the areas of Documentation, Supervision and Billing to be completed in three months. The continuing education Courses must be pre-approved, may be completed online, and do not count toward renewal requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

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Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

Dr. King moved, seconded by Dr. Bustillo to open a complaint against Theresa O’Malley PTA to include potential violations of A.R.S. § 32-2044(5) and (14). The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**C) 23-59 Austin Hooker, PT**

Initial review, consideration, and possible action regarding complaint

Ms. Richardson provided a summary of the Board’s investigation.

Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Mr. Leone to **issue an advisory letter** to remind Mr. Hooker of the laws and rules governing the practice of physical therapy and the mandatory reporting requirements of A.R.S. § 32-3208. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**F) GR**

Review, consideration, and possible action regarding opening a complaint.

Ms. Richardson provided a summary of the Board’s investigation.

Mr. GR and the complainant Julie DeGeyter were both present and address the Board.

Following review and discussion, Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Leone to enter into **Executive Session** to obtain legal advice. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**Executive Session -B from 12:55 P.M. to 1:03 P.M.**

Roll call taken after returning from **Executive Session** at 1:03 P.M. by Ms. Chepeus.

Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Leone to **open** a complaint and further investigate allegations of sub-standard care, supervision and documentation. The motion passed.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X			X	
Nay				X	X		
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**10)Board business and reports:**

**A) Executive Director’s Report**

**4) Reformation of the Rules Committee**

Review, discussion, and possible action on the reformation of the rules committee and its composition

Ms. Chepeus provided a summary regarding the reformation of the rules committee.

Following review and discussion, Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Leone to authorize the reformation of the rules committee and that once candidates have been identified that the matter be placed on a future agenda so that the Board can consider the candidates and make appointments to the committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**6) Mission Statement Recitation**

Review, discussion and possible action regarding the potential recitation of the Board’s mission statement during Board meetings

Ms. Chepeus provided a summary regarding the mission statement recitation.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Dr. Bustillo to have the Board begin each meeting with a recitation of its mission statement. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**7) June 2023 financials**

Review and possible discussion

Ms. Chepeus explained that due to the closing of the fiscal year, June financials are not yet available. The information will be provided to the Board at a future meeting.

**8) Licenses, Certificates, and Registrations**

Review and discussion on approvals granted in June 2023

**a) 67 Licenses/Certificates Newly Issued**

- i. 10 Physical Therapists Endorsement
- ii. 44 Physical Therapists Examination
- iii. 3 Physical Therapist Universal Recognition
- iv. 1 Physical Therapist Foreign Educated
- v. 0 Physical Therapist Military Spouse
- vi. 5 Physical Therapist Assistants Endorsement
- vii. 4 Physical Therapist Assistants Examination
- viii. 0 Physical Therapist Assistant Universal Recognition
- ix. 0 Physical Therapist Assistant Military Spouse

**b) 6 Licenses/Certificates Reinstated**

- i. 5 Physical Therapists
- ii. 1 Physical Therapist Assistants

**c) 1 Business Entity Registrations**

- i. 1 Newly Issued
- ii. 0 Reinstated

**d) 0 Interstate Telehealth Registrations**

- i. 0 Newly Issued PT
- ii. 0 Newly Issued PTA

Board members reviewed the licenses, certifications, and registrations processed in the month of June 2023.

**11) Future Agenda Items**

N/A

**12) Adjournment**

Dr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Leone, to **Adjourn**. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Leone	Mr. Greer	Mr. Barton	Dr. Heick	VACANT
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	

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Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent							

**Meeting adjourned at 1:31 P.M.**

Prepared by,

Monica Crowley  
Licensing Administrator

Approved by,

Giovanni Leone, PTA  
Secretary