



Karen Bustillo, PT, DPT, CLT
President

ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
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**REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES via
Google Meet Video Conferencing
Virtual Attendance
August 27, 2024**

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Kelly King, PT, DPT, Vice President

**ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
GENERAL PRESENT:** Marc Harris, Assistant Attorney General

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Judy Chepeus, Executive Director
Monica Crowley, Administrative Services Officer
Phoenix Bryant, Licensing Specialist
Mindy Richardson PT, Investigator
Liz Sinish PT, Investigator

BOARD STAFF ABSENT:

1) **CALL TO ORDER – 8:30 A.M.:** Dr. Bustillo called the meeting to order at 8:30 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: Consent Agenda:**

A) July 23, 2024 Regular Session

Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Dr. Heick, to **Approve** the consent agenda consisting of the July 23, 2024 Regular Session meeting minutes. The motion passed.

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

Nay							
Recused							
Abstained			X				
Absent		X					

4) Applications for Licensure and Certification:

B) Review, consideration, and possible action on Physical Therapist Assistant applicants requesting ADA accommodations.

1) Madeline Henderson

Ms. Henderson was present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Mr. Barton, to **DENY** Madeline Henderson’s request for ADA accommodations. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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. The Board will review, discuss, and may take action on the following applicants who provided an affirmative response to application questions related to their background.

1) Abel Sanchez

B) Applications recommended for approval of Physical Therapist Assistant certification upon successful completion of the application, including receipt of transcripts and passage of the NPTE and/or AZLAW. The Board will review, discuss, and may take action on the following applicants who provided an affirmative response to application questions related to their background.

- 1) Solina Freas-Moffitt
- 2) Joshua Atkisson-Bromagen
- 3) Kelly Foster (Blasky)

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) 23-85 Katherine Kittrell, PT
- 2) 23-19 Mark Morelli, PTA

Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Leone, to **Approve** the consent agenda consisting of items in 5A, 5B and 5C. The motion passed unanimously.

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

11) Old Business: review, consideration, and action.

A) 23-68 Paul Kempton, PT

Review, discussion, and possible action regarding Mr. Kempton’s proposed consent agreement.

Ms. Chepeus provided a summary for the Board.

Mr. Kempton was not present but was represented by his attorney Ms. Teresa Sanzio, Esq.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Greer, to **Approve** Mr. Kempton’s signed consent agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

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

B) 23-72 Stephanie Whitmer, PT

Review, discussion, and possible action regarding Ms. Whitmer’s proposed consent agreement.

Ms. Chepeus provided a summary for the Board.

Ms. Whitmer was not present but was represented by her attorney, Ms. Sara Stark, Esq.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Mr. Barton, to continue the matter for further settlement discussions and if not resolved remand to formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

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

10) PT Compact matters: review, consideration, and action.

A) Annamarie Gerick, PT

Review, discussion, and possible action regarding compliance with jurisprudence requirements and PT Compact privileges

Ms. Sinish provided a summary to the Board.

Ms. Gerick was present and answered the Board’s questions.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Leone, to take no action and provide Ms. Gerick with an educational letter regarding her obligations to comply with compact privilege requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Let the record reflect Mr. Barton left the Board meeting at 8:59 AM.

7) Informal Hearings

A) 24-05 Georgia Holguin, PTA (9:00 a.m.)

Despite being properly noticed, Ms. Holguin did not appear for her informal hearing.

Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Dr. Bustillo, to remand 24-05 Georgia Holguin PTA to Formal Hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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

A) 24-02 Heather Laskaris, PT

Initial review, discussion, and possible action regarding complaint

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

Ms. Laskaris and her attorney, Mr. Cody Hall, Esq. were present and addressed the Board.

Complainant KM was not present.

Let the record show that the above case number, 24-02, was typed incorrectly. 24-03 is the correct case number.

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

- Three hours of **Continuing education** in the area of Billing and Coding
- Six hours of **Continuing education** in the area of Documentation
- Six hours of **Continuing education** in the area of Orthopedic Upper Extremity

Continuing education shall be completed in 6 months; courses must be pre-approved, may be completed online, and do not count toward renewal requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Meeting 8/27/24

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

B) 24-08 Eric Mirarchi, PT

Initial review, discussion, and possible action regarding complaint

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

Mr. Mirarchi and his attorney, Ms. Sara Stark, Esq, were present and addressed the Board.

Let the record reflect Mr. Barton rejoined the Board meeting at 9:47 AM.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Greer, to invite Mr. Mirarchi, PT, to an Informal Hearing. The motion passed.

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

The Board Recessed from 10:10 A.M. to 10:21 A.M.

Roll call taken after returning from recess at 10:21 A.M. by Ms. Chepeus.

C) 24-13 Kristen Uradzionaek, PT

Initial review, discussion, and possible action regarding complaint

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

Ms. Uradzionaek and her attorney Ms. Lisa Bivens, Esq. were present and addressed the Board.

Complainant SY was present and addressed the Board.

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

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

Executive Session -A from 11:00 A.M. to 11:09 A.M.

Roll call taken after returning from **Executive Session** at 11:09 A.M. by Ms. Chepeus.

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

- Fifteen hours of **Continuing education** in the area of Professional Boundaries and Medical Ethics

Continuing education shall be completed in 9 months; courses must be pre-approved, may be completed online, and do not count toward renewal requirements. The motion passed.

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

D) 24-14 Pablo Ruiz, PT

Initial review, discussion, and possible action regarding complaint

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

Mr. Ruiz and his attorney, Ms. Leah Schachar, Esq, were present and addressed the Board.

Complainant HR was not present.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Dr. Heick, to dismiss case # 24-14. The motion passed unanimously.

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

E) DG

Review, discussion, and possible action regarding opening a complaint

Ms. Richardson provided a summary to the Board.

DG was present and addressed the Board.

Let the record reflect Dr. Heick left the Board meeting at 11:59 AM.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Leone, to continue this matter until after DG’s 8/28/2024 court date. The motion passed unanimously.

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

F) WB

Review, discussion, and possible action regarding opening a complaint

Ms. Richardson provided a summary to the Board.

WB was not present.

Complainant EA was present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Leone, to **Open** a case against William Brown, PT. The motion passed unanimously.

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

12) Board business and reports:

A) Executive Director’s Report

- 1) **Renewal season updates; oral report**
Review and discussion regarding the renewal season in process through August 31, 2024.

Ms. Chepeus provided an update regarding the current license/certificate renewal period.

- 2) **Licenses, Certificates, and Registrations**
Review and discussion on approvals granted in July 2024
 - a) **37 Licenses/Certificates Newly Issued**
 - i. 18 Physical Therapists Endorsement
 - ii. 11 Physical Therapists Examination
 - iii. 2 Physical Therapist Universal Recognition
 - iv. 0 Physical Therapist Foreign Educated
 - v. 0 Physical Therapist Military Spouse
 - vi. 5 Physical Therapist Assistants Endorsement
 - vii. 1 Physical Therapist Assistants Examination
 - viii. 0 Physical Therapist Assistant Universal Recognition
 - ix. 0 Physical Therapist Assistant Military Spouse
 - b) **1 Licenses/Certificates Reinstated and Reactivated**
 - i. 1 Physical Therapists
 - ii. 0 Physical Therapist Assistants
 - c) **4 Business Entity Registrations**

- i. 4 Newly Issued
- ii. 0 Reinstated

d) 3 Interstate Telehealth Registrations

- i. 3 Newly Issued PT
- ii. 0 Newly Issued PTA

Board members reviewed the licenses, certifications, and registrations processed in the month of July 2024.

13) Future Agenda Items

- Review of the mission statement

14) Adjournment

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

Prepared by,

Monica Crowley
 Administrator Services Officer

Approved by,

Giovanni Leone, PTA
 Secretary