
ARIZONA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
1470 W. ADAMS ST., STE 2450, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007
(602) 274-0236
ptboard.az.gov

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES via
Google Meet Video Conferencing
Virtual Attendance
March 25, 2025**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kelly King, PT, DPT

**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, MA, Investigator
Liz Sinish PT, DPT, 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) February 25, 2025 Regular Session

Mr. Leone moved, seconded by Mr. Greer, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the regular session meeting minutes from the February 25, 2025 Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

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

End of Consent Agenda

4) Applications for Licensure:

A) Candidates who are requesting ADA accommodations. The Board considers ADA accommodation requests associated with the National Physical Therapy and Arizona Jurisprudence Examinations. Physical Therapist or Physical Therapist Assistant licensure requires successful completion of the application, including, but not limited to, receipt of transcripts and passage of the NPTE and/or AZLAW.

1) Review, consideration, and possible action on Physical Therapist applicants requesting ADA accommodations

a) Samantha Turgeon

Ms. Turgeon was present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Leone moved, seconded by Dr. Bustillo, to approve Samantha Turgeon's ADA accommodation request for additional time – time and a half, separate room, white board and markers. The motion passed unanimously.

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

B) Physical Therapist applicants who graduated from a foreign educational program

3) Review, consideration, and possible action regarding approving the Supervised Clinical Practice Period (SCPP) facility and supervising therapists proposed by Foreign Educated Physical Therapist applicant.

a) Jose Angelo Solon

Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Leone, to approve Jose Angelo Solon's supervised clinical practice period facility and supervising physical therapists. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- 4) Review, consideration, and possible action regarding the completed Supervised Clinical Practice Period (SCPP) and possible licensure of Foreign Educated Physical Therapist applicant.

a) Melissa Warren

Mr. Leone moved, seconded by Dr. Bustillo, to approve Melissa Warren's completed supervised clinical practice period reports, approve her license application and issue her Arizona Physical Therapist license. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- 5) Review, consideration, and possible action regarding the midpoint Supervised Clinical Practice Period (SCPP) report.

a) Hebah Amireh

Ms. Amireh and her supervising physical therapist, Dan Bonarotti, PT, MPT were present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Leone moved, seconded by Dr. Heick, to take no action and allow Hebah Amireh to continue her supervised clinical practice period. The motion passed unanimously.

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

1) Chynna Darling

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

1) Jagger Hulsebus
2) Jennifer Burdick

Mr. Leone moved, seconded by Dr. Heick, to approve consent agenda items 5A and 5B. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- E)** Matters recommended for opening a case and issuing an advisory letter related to continuing competence audit.

1) Ryan Peterson, PT
2) Melinda Monette, PT

- F)** Matters recommended for opening a case and offering a consent agreement related to continuing competence audit deficiency.

1) Lisa Lombard, PT
2) Megan Erlich, PT
3) Stephen Pietzak, PT
4) Barbara Ann Judd, PT
5) Jeanne DeBarr, PT
6) Spencer English, PT
7) Charlynn Polacek, PT
8) Bryant Cantrell, PTA

- 9) Sean Michaels, PTA
- 10) April Ward, PTA
- 11) Benjamin Williams, PTA

Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Leone, to approve consent agenda items 5E and 5F. The motion passed unanimously.

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

End of Consent Agenda

12) Board business and reports:

B) Executive Director's Report

1) Legislative update

Review, discussion, and possible action regarding proposed legislation and legislative committee actions including but not limited to HB2181, HB2583, SB1346, SB1237, SB1081, SB2927, SB1235, SB1037, HB2049, HB2632, SB1235, and SB1656.

Ms. Chepeus provided a summary of proposed legislation and legislative committee actions.

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

A) 24-24 James Beasley, PT

Initial review, discussion, and possible action regarding case

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

Mr. Beasley was present and addressed the Board.

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

- Eight hours of Continuing education in the area of Orthopedic assessment and intervention of the lumbar spine
- Four hours of Continuing education in the area of Documentation

Continuing education courses must be completed within 18 months with the possibility of early termination. Courses must be pre-approved, may be completed online, and do not count toward renewal requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

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

The Board Recessed from 9:52 A.M. to 10:01 A.M.

Let the record reflect Ms. Chepeus left the Board meeting at 9:52 A.M.

Roll call taken after returning from Recess at 10:01 A.M. by Ms. Crowley.

- B) 24-29 Tony Martinez, PT**
Initial review, discussion, and possible action regarding case

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

Mr. Martinez was present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Leone, to issue an Advisory Letter reminding Mr. Martinez of his duty to report in accordance with A.R.S. § 32-3208 and report previous Board actions on his license renewal application. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- C) 24-31 Pamela Pino, PT**
Initial review, discussion, and possible action regarding case

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

Ms. Pino was present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Greer, to issue an Advisory Letter reminding Ms. Pino of her duty to report previous Board actions on her license renewal application. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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

A) 24-32 Nicole Lawson, PTA

Initial Review, discussion, and possible action regarding case

Dr. Sinish provided a summary of the Board's investigation.

Ms. Lawson was present and addressed the Board.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Greer moved, seconded by Dr. Bustillo, to offer a Consent Agreement pursuant to the unlawful practice matrix including:

Twelve months of probation with the possibility of early termination after successful completion of the following terms:

- Three hours of Continuing education in the area of Ethics
- Successful passing of the AZLAW jurisprudence examination
- \$315 Civil Penalty
- Notification of employer/payers/patients of unlawful use of her Arizona Compact Privilege from November 24, 2023 to October 30, 2024

If the consent agreement is not signed, Ms. Lawson will be invited to an Informal Hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

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

12) Board business and reports:

- A)** Presentation regarding physical therapists and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Presentation by Steve Allison, PT, DPT, CME and Rick Wickstrom, PT, DPT, CPE, CME regarding physical therapists as medical examiners for Department of Transportation (DOT) Physical Examinations through the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMSCA)

Following the presentation given by Dr. Steve Allison and Dr. Rick Wickstrom, Dr. Bustillo moved, seconded by Mr. Greer, to enter into executive session to obtain legal advice. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Executive Session -A from 11:03 A.M. to 11:12 A.M.

Let the record reflect Ms. Chepeus returned to the Board meeting at 11:12 A.M.

Roll call taken after returning back from executive session at 11:12 P.M. by Ms. Chepeus.

Following the executive session, Dr. Bustillo thanked Dr. Allison and Dr. Wickstrom for their presentation.

B) Executive Director's Report

- 2) February 2025 Financials
Review and possible discussion

Board members reviewed the February 2025 financials.

- 3) Licenses and Registrations
Review and discussion on approvals granted in February 2025

a) 88 Licenses Newly Issued

- i. 21 Physical Therapists Endorsement
- ii. 36 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. 23 Physical Therapist Assistants Examination
- viii. 1 Physical Therapist Assistant Universal Recognition

ix. 0 Physical Therapist Assistant Military Spouse

b) 6 Licenses Reinstated and Reactivated

i. 5 Physical Therapists

ii. 1 Physical Therapist Assistants

c) 2 Business Entity Registrations

i. 4 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 and registrations processed in the month of February 2025.

13) Future Agenda Items

- A review of quarterly monitoring reports in case 21-31 & 22-28 Steven Kempton, PT

14) Adjournment

Mr. Barton moved, seconded by Dr. Heick, to Adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 A.M.

Prepared by,
Monica Crowley
Administrator Services Officer

Approved by,
John Heick, PT, DPT, PhD
Secretary