



Mark Cornwall, PT, PHD, FAPTA  
President

**ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
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**REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES via  
Hangout Meet Video Conferencing  
July 20, 2021**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mark Cornwall, PT PHD, FAPTA, President  
Kelly King, PT, DPT, Vice President  
Karen Bustillo, PT, DPT, OCS, CLT, Secretary  
Peggy Hunter, PTA, CLT; Professional Member  
Michael S. Clinton, CPA; Public Member

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Joshua Greer, Public Member

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

**BOARD STAFF PRESENT:** Karen Donahue, PT, DPT, Executive Director  
Veronica Cardoza, Administrative Services Officer  
Judy Chepeus, Customer Service Representative  
Monica Crowley, Licensing Administrator

**1) CALL TO ORDER – 8:30 A.M.;** Dr. Cornwall called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. (A recording of the meeting is available through the Board Office)

Roll Call – The following Board Members were present: Dr. Cornwall, Dr. Bustillo, Dr. King, Ms. Hunter and Mr. Clinton.

**2) Review and Approval of Draft Minutes**  
A) June 29, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed and discussed the above minutes.

Dr. Cornwall moved the Board to **Approve** the June 29, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes. Dr. Bustillo seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X			

Nay							
Recused							
Abstained						X	
Absent					X		

B) June 29, 2021 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed and discussed the above minutes.

Dr. King moved the Board to **Approve** the June 29, 2021 Executive Session Meeting Minutes. Mr. Clinton seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X			
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained						X	
Absent					X		

**3) REVIEW, CONSIDERATION and ACTION**

A) Review, Consideration and Approval of Applications for Physical Therapist with Documentation Related to Disclosure on “Personal Information” Section of the Application.

1) Paul Debey

The Board reviewed and discussed the above application.

Dr. Bustillo moved the Board to **Approve** the above Application for Physical Therapist upon Receipt of Passing Scores on the NPTE/AZLAW and Final Transcript. Dr. King seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

2) Michael Snyder

The Board reviewed and discussed the above application.

Dr. King moved the Board to **Approve** the above Application for Physical Therapist upon Receipt of Passing Scores on the NPTE/AZLAW and Final Transcript. Dr. Bustillo seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

B) Review, Consideration and Approval of Applications for Physical Therapist Assistant with Documentation Related to Disclosure on “Personal Information” Section of the Application

1) Alberto Arriola

The Board reviewed and discussed the above application.

Dr. Cornwall moved the Board to **Approve** the above Application for Physical Therapist Assistant upon Receipt of Passing Scores on the NPTE/AZLAW and Final Transcript. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

2) Cara Schmidt

The Board reviewed and discussed the above application.

Dr. Cornwall moved the Board to **Table** the above Application until anger management course has been completed. Mr. Clinton seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, both Dr. Cornwall and Mr. Clinton agreed to modify their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to **Approve** the above Application for Physical Therapist Assistant upon Receipt of Passing Scores on the NPTE/AZLAW, Final Transcript, completed anger management course and retune to the Board for approval of her PTA certification. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

3) Joseph Trujillo

The Board reviewed and discussed the above application.

Ms. Hunter moved the Board to **Approve** the above Application for Physical Therapist Assistant upon Receipt of Passing Scores on the NPTE/AZLAW and Final Transcript. Dr. Bustillo seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

4) Julia Yousif

The Board reviewed and discussed the above application.

Dr. King moved the Board to **Approve** the above Application for Physical Therapist Assistant upon Receipt of Passing Scores on the NPTE/AZLAW and Final Transcript. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	

Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

C) Review of and Possible Action on Application for Physical Therapist Assistant/Physical Therapist Licensure from Applicant Requesting ADA Accommodations.

- 1) Heather Bannister- Appeal of Board Decision in June to Deny

Ms. Bannister was present and provided the Board with additional paperwork from her doctor. The Board took a brief recess to review additional paperwork.

**The Board Recessed from 8:51 A.M. to 8:57 A.M.**

The Board reviewed and discussed the above application and asked questions of Ms. Bannister.

Dr. Cornwall moved the Board to **Approve** the above request for ADA accommodations. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

D) Review of and Possible Action on the Following Applications for Physical Therapist Licensure – Foreign Educated Graduates of Programs Not U.S. Accredited. Review of Education, Determination of Supervised Clinical Practice Period, and Possible Licensure

- a) James Nacario-Requesting the Board to waive 2 deficiencies in Credential Evaluation Report and Passing TOEFL Score w/a score of 25 in every category on the same exam.

Dr. Donahue provide a summary to the Board. The Board reviewed and discussed the above application.

Dr. Cornwall moved the Board to **Take No Action** on the above agenda item. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

**4) COMPLAINTS, HEARINGS, INVESTIGATIONS and COMPLIANCE**

A) Review, Discussion and Possible Action for Informal Hearing:

1) Case No. 21-01; Danielle Ruff, PT (9am)

Ms. Ruff was present and was represented by Ms. Anne McClellan. The Board members and Board staff introduced themselves. Both Ms. Ruff and Ms. McClellan introduced themselves. Dr. Cornwall read a summary of how the hearing would be conducted and reviewed the possible outcomes of the hearing. Dr. Donahue and Ms. Ruff were sworn-in as witnesses. Dr. Donahue read the allegations against Ms. Ruff.

Ms. McClellan provided an opening statement.

The Board reviewed and discussed the case and asked questions of Ms. Ruff.

Patient JL was also present and was not represented by legal counsel. Patient JL provided an opening statement to the Board. The Board asked questions of patient JL.

Both Ms. McClellan and patient JL provided a closing statement.

The Board deliberated.

Ms. Hunter moved the Board to **forward** the above case to a **Formal Hearing**. Motion failed for no 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Dr. Cornwall guided the Board through each allegation for discussion. Following discussion on the allegations Dr. Cornwall moved the Board adopt the following Findings of Fact:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Arizona Board of Physical Therapy is that body politic created and empowered pursuant to A.R.S. §32-2001 *et seq.* to administer the laws of the State of Arizona relating to the practice of physical therapy.

Respondent holds License No. LPT-008117 to practice as a physical therapist in the State of Arizona.

Respondent’s initial evaluation of patient JL indicated the following deficiencies:

- a. Objective findings of the cervical spine were not specifically measured.
- b. Objective measurement of cervical motion does not indicate if pain was present.
- c. Manual muscle tests are incomplete.
- d. Neurological Exam is not documented.
- e. Joint mobility objective testing was not specific to level or location.
- f. Documentation of pain was not specific to location, frequency or duration.
- g. Selected goals were not measurable.

Respondent failed to document rationale for therapeutic interventions.

Assessment of JL was not documented following documentation on 2/6/19 that her pain status had significantly changed.

Respondent documented performance of tests and measures on 2/11/21 in which the measurements were not taken as the JL had left the facility prior to completion of her physical therapy visit.

Respondent’s documentation of modalities on 2/4/19 does not include parameters to enable another therapist to be able to assume treatment.

Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

Dr. Cornwall moved the Board adopt the following Conclusions of Law:

**A.R.S. §32-2044(4)** “Engaging in the performance of substandard care by a physical therapist due to a deliberate or negligent act or failure to act regardless of whether actual injury to the patient is established.”

**A.R.S. §32-2044(20)** “Failing to maintain adequate patient records. For the purposes of this paragraph, “adequate patient records” means legible records that comply with board rules and that

contain at a minimum and evaluation of objective findings, a diagnosis, the plan of care, the treatment record, a discharge summary and sufficient information to identify the patient.”

Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

The Board discussed possible disciplinary action against Ms. Ruff license. Following discussion Dr. Bustillo moved the Board adopt the following Order:

**Probation:** The Arizona Board of Physical Therapy hereby orders that Respondent, holder of License No. LPT-008117, is placed on probation for three (3) months. The probation may be extended or other enforcement actions taken in the event Respondent is found in violation this Order or violates the Arizona Physical Therapy Practice Act. Respondent may petition the Board for early termination of probation if the Board determines all requirements of the Order have been met. The Board orders Respondent to comply with the following terms and conditions:

**Continuing Education:** Respondent shall take and complete continuing education in the areas listed below within three (3) months from the effective date of this order. Respondent must submit to Board staff for approval prior to beginning the continuing education courses, a syllabus of each course. Respondent shall provide documentation to Board staff that the course was completed prior to any termination of probation is considered.

- a. Respondent shall take and complete a minimum of eight (8) hours of continuing education in the area of Documentation. The Board has accepted 8 hours of submitted continuing education that was completed prior to the informal hearing on July 20, 2021.

**Patient Record Review:** Respondent shall engage in three (3) patient record chart review by staff. Respondent shall submit five (5) complete patient records that were documented after completion of the documentation continuing education for review. Board staff will randomly select three (3) records for review by subpoena.

Ms. Clinton seconded the motion. Following review and discussion the motion carried by roll call.



Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

B) Review, Discussion and Possible Action for Initial Review:

1) Case No. 21-14; Leah Moses, PT

Dr. Donahue provided a summary of the case for the Board. Ms. Moses obtained Compact Privilege No.: 05004T on 5/14/21 prior to passing the AZ Law exam. Ms. Moses has not taken the AZ Law exam.

The Board reviewed and discussed the above case.

Mr. Clinton moved the Board to **Table** the above case to allow Ms. Moses to voluntary surrender her Compact Privilege within 30 day or case will be forwarded to an Informal Hearing. Dr. King seconded the motion. Following review and discussion the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

2) Case No. 21-06; Alison Sloben, PT

Dr. Donahue provided a summary of the case for the Board. Ms. Sloben obtained Compact Privilege No.: 04329T on 2/1/21 prior to passing the AZ Law exam on 2/14/21. M

The Board received **written proof of voluntary surrender** of Compact Privilege # CP: 04329T.

Mr. Clinton moved the Board to **Dismiss** the above case. Dr. King seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

3) Case No. 21-05; Robert Derinfeld, PT

Mr. Derinfeld was not present but was represented by Michele Thompson. Dr. Donahue provided a summary of the case for the Board. On February 12, 2021 Board received complaint. Complaint #21-05 was opened on March 3, 2021. Ms. AL, co-worker alleges Mr. Dierenfeld sexually harassed her physically and verbally in the workplace.

Ms. Thompson provide and opening statement.

Dr. King moved the Board to **Forward** the above case to an **Informal Hearing**. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, Dr. Cornwall moved the Board to enter into **Executive Session** to obtain legal advice. Dr. Bustillo seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

**Executive Session from 10:30 A.M. to 10:36 A.M.**

Roll call taken after returning back from **Executive Session** at 10:37 A.M. by Dr. Donahue.

Dr. King and Ms. Hunter both withdrew their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> motion.

Dr. King moved the Board to **Continue the Investigation** and include **A.R.S. §32-2044(4), A.R.S. §32-2044(12)** and **Principle 1, 3, 9 and 11**. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

Dr. King moved the Board to **Continue the Investigation** regarding potential violation of **A.R.S. §32-2044(10)(C)** due to investigative report findings of improper draping of a patient. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X			X	
Nay				X			
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

- C) Review, Discussion and Possible Action for Request for Approval of Monitor:  
 1) Board Order 18-39; Joshua Bitton, PT

The Board reviewed and discussed the above case.

Mr. Clinton moved the Board to **Table** the above case to allow Mr. Bitton to identify the PT who will be performing the monitoring. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

- D) Review, Discussion and Possible Action for Review of Potential Opening of Complaint:  
 1) MN, PT

The Board reviewed and discussed the above agenda item.

Dr. Cornwall moved the Board to **Open a Complaint** and include potential violation of **A.R.S. §32-2044(4)(6(13))**. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

**5) BOARD BUSINESS AND REPORTS**

A) Review and Welcome:

- 1) Geovanni Leone, PTA – newly appointed Board Member

Dr. Donahue provided an update. Mr. Leone introduced himself and provided a brief statement. No action was taken or needed.

B) Discussion:

- 1) Thank you, Ms. Hunter, PTA – outgoing Board Member

Dr. Donahue provided an update. Ms. Hunter provided a brief statement. No action was taken or needed.

C) Review and Discussion

- 1) 78 Individuals Licensed June 1, 2021- June 30, 2021
  - (1) 15 Physical Therapists Endorsement
  - (2) 57 Physical Therapists Examination
  - (3) 3 Physical Therapist Assistants Endorsement
  - (4) 1 Physical Therapist Assistants Examination
  - (5) 2 Physical Therapist Assistant Universal Recognition

Dr. Donahue provided an update. No action was taken or needed.

**6) ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Clinton moved the Board to **Adjourn**. Ms. Hunter seconded the motion. Following review and discussion, the motion carried by roll call.

Vote	Mr. Clinton	Ms. Hunter	Dr. King	Dr. Bustillo	Mr. Greer	Dr. Cornwall	
Aye	X	X	X	X		X	
Nay							
Recused							
Abstained							
Absent					X		

**Meeting adjourned at 11:17 A.M.**

Prepared by,

Monica Crowley  
Licensing Administrator

Approved by,

Karen Bustillo, PT, DPT, OCS, CLT  
Secretary