



ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
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SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES
January 10, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT: Helene Fearon, P.T., President
Joni Kalis, P.T., Vice President
Mark Cornwall, P.T., Ph.D., Secretary
Merlin Gossman, Member
Randy Robbins, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Heidi Herbst Paakkonen, Executive Director
Peggy Hiller, P.T., Program Compliance Specialist (Investigator)
Carol Lopez, Licensing Administrator

CALL TO ORDER – 8:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Fearon at 8:00 a.m.

**1. Substantive Review of and Action on the Following Applications for Physical Therapist
Licensure:**

Jennifer A. Dore	Bethany L. Hizer	Lee A. Hayes
Scott F. Kushner	Karen L. Schultz-Soltysik	Stephanie M. Sieck
Nikki E. Winegrad	Laura M. Wright	

Ms. Fearon introduced the agenda item and asked the Board for comments or questions on the files of the listed applicants. The Board noted that Mr. Kushner and Ms. Sieck did not list licenses held in certain other states that appeared on their transferred National Physical Therapy Examination score transfer reports from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy. Ms. Fearon moved to grant licensure to the listed applications with the exception of Mr. Kushner and Ms. Sieck; the motion also directed that Mr. Kushner and Ms. Sieck would be licensed only upon receipt of the missing licensure verifications providing that no discipline in those states was indicated. Ms. Kalis seconded the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**2. Substantive Review of and Action on the Following Applications for Physical Therapist
Assistant Certification:**

Deborah S. Barr	Filomena Blankenship	Juan Contreras
Rhonda L. Figueroa	Billie S. Kyler	Jane C. O'Brien
Gregory Pope	Richard G. Rodriguez	

Ms. Fearon introduced the agenda item and asked the Board for comments or questions on the files of the listed applicants. The Board discussed the fact that Mr. Rodriguez had indicated on his application that he had been in arrears with respect to his child support payments for a period of time while he was a physical therapist assistant student. He advised the Board that he has since rectified the situation with the Department of Economic Security and is no longer in

arrears. Ms. Fearon moved to grant certification to the listed applicants. Mr. Gossman seconded the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

3. Board Review and Possible Action on Staff Recommendations for Reconsideration of Continuing Competence Compliance Determinations

Ms. Fearon introduced the agenda item and asked Ms. Herbst Paakkonen to comment on the relatively high number of licensees whose files were not reviewed accurately by the Continuing Competence Audit Committee. Ms. Herbst Paakkonen explained that a number of factors could have contributed to the errors – some of the more experienced auditors were absent and fewer than half of the auditors were able to participate in the meeting, there were many files to review within a short time period which may have caused the auditors to feel rushed and resulted in errors, and the fact that it has been over a year since the last audit and the auditors may have needed some “refresher” training that the staff didn’t provide. Board staff also noted that the auditors has requested the staff conduct some research into the approval of certain courses reported by the audited licensees, but did not consistently make the same request of all the files. This may have contributed to the fact that 14 licensees previously found out of compliance due to courses lacking Category A approval were actually in compliance because the courses were Category A and a simple verification would have resulted in a different determination. Ms. Herbst Paakkonen advised the Board that the staff was committed to indentifying a solution to better ensure that the Board would be provided with accurate information and recommendations upon which to make a determination. Ms. Herbst Paakkonen advised the Board that the staff would proceed with the current review procedures for purposes of its next Audit Committee meeting that will soon be scheduled for early February, but that the staff will bring a recommendation to the Board in the next several months that will address a revised or alternative procedure for auditing continuing competence submissions. The Board expressed confidence in the staff’s ability to catch the errors prior to erroneous notices being sent to the licensees, and in the staff’s ability to propose a revised or different procedure to better ensure that the reviews are performed accurately. Ms. Fearon moved to rescind the Board’s previous action finding the 16 listed licensees out of compliance with the continuing competence requirements for the 2004-2006 licensure period. Ms. Kalis seconded the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Ms. Fearon then moved the Board find the 16 listed licensees in compliance with the continuing competence requirements for the 2004-2006 licensure period. Mr. Robbins seconded the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

Prepared by,

Heidi Herbst Paakkonen
Executive Director

Approved by,

Mark Cornwall, P.T., Ph.D.
Secretary