

## Minutes

The Occupational Therapy Advisory Committee of the Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision met on April 2, 2015 in accordance with the Open Meeting Act. The meeting was held at the office of the Board, 101 NE 51<sup>st</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Advance notice of this regularly scheduled meeting was transmitted to the Oklahoma Secretary of State on December 15, 2014, and posted on the Board's website on March 31, 2015. The notice and agenda were posted in prominent public view on the front doors of the Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision building located at 101 NE 51st St., Oklahoma City, OK on March 31, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

Members present were:

Kari Garza, OT, Chair  
Troy Lee, OT, Vice Chair  
Mary White, OT  
Kim Hancock, OTA

Member absent was:

Ms. Wilma Cooper, Consumer Member

Others present included:

Barbara Smith, Executive Secretary  
Robyn Hall, Director of Licensing  
Reji Varghese, Executive Deputy Director  
Tiffany Wythe, AAG, Committee Advisor

Having determined a quorum, Ms. Garza called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

The minutes from the January 22, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Ms. White moved to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

The Committee welcomed Shaun Conway, Director of Credentialing Services, National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy ("NBCOT"). The Committee also welcomed the inaugural class for Occupational Therapy Assistant ("OTA") students from Oklahoma City Community College ("OCCC") who were in the audience.

The Committee Chair adjusted the Agenda and moved Item 3 (Presentation by NBCOT) to the bottom of the Agenda so that Mr. Conway would be able to participate in the Committee's discussion regarding appropriate handling of time lapses between graduation and applying for licensure (Agenda Item 9).

Applications for licensure and reinstatement of licensure were then reviewed. Mr. Lee moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapist licensure pending completion of the files. Ms. White seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**BAITY, SHELBY LINN  
BENITEZ, MARIA**

**BRAUN, MEREDITH LEIGH  
CARD, MARIE NICOLE**

**CARVER, BREANN LYNN  
CORLEY, KELLY**

Ms. White moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapist licensure and reinstatement. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**FREEMAN, CARRIE L  
RAEL, YOLANDA YVONNE**

**CLINE, GAYLE FRANCES (Reinstatement)**

Ms. Garza moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapist licensure pending completion of the files. Ms. Hancock seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**DOAK, JOHN JORDAN  
HOBSON, ASHLEY KEMP**

**KENNEDY, AMY L.  
KUBIER, DANIEL**

**MELTON, ZACHARY D  
MOORE, ASHLEY EVE**

Ms. Hancock moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapist licensure pending completion of the files. Ms. White seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**PERDUE, LAURA KATHERINE  
RATHBONE, KEISHA D**

**RUTHERFORD, KELSEY M  
SCHWENN, WHITNEE MAREE**

**SIPE, RACHEL  
STROUP, MEREDITH ANN**

Ms. White moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapist licensure pending completion of the files. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**SUBLETT, AUDREY  
WELLS, LAUREN ASHLEY**

**WETCH, EMILY  
WHITIS, TIMOTHY ADAM**

Mr. Lee moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapy Assistant licensure. Ms. White seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**BUTLER, ERICA DANIELLE**

**MENTIS, AUBREY C, JR**

Ms. Garza moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapy Assistant licensure. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**MORTENSON, LORI ALISHA**

**PATRICK, JOPLIN**

Ms. White moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapy Assistant licensure. Ms. Hancock seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**ANDERSON, JENNIFER LYNN**

**BIEHLER, BOBBI J.**

Ms. Hancock moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapy Assistant licensure and reinstatement. Ms. White seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**TURNER, MESTELL TAMASYN**

**MANLEY, JANELL LYDIA (Reinstatement)**

Mr. Lee moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapy Assistant licensure pending completion of the files. Ms. White seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**CUPPS, DEREK SHAUN  
DEVINEY, TAMMY D.  
DROSCHER, TODD EDWARD**

**GARD, JESSICA  
GULLEY, VANESSA M.  
HECKART, TAYLOR DAWN**

**HERRERA, RACHEL MARIE  
HICKS, CAROLINE  
HUTSON, SARAH MARGARET**

Ms. White moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapy Assistant licensure pending completion of the files. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**ALBERTY, CHELSEY ANN  
BELL, WILLIAM FRANKLIN  
BRAY, RENITA BENNETT**

**CALEY, MONTA SHERRIE  
CAMPBELL, HAYLEY B  
CARRIGAN, BRIAN RANDELL**

**CLINE, ILENE MICHELLE  
COCHRAN, JAMES PAUL  
COTTOM, JEROD CLEM**

Ms. Garza moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapy Assistant licensure pending completion of the files. Ms. White seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**ILETO, KIMBERLY CAASI  
INTERWICZ, RACHEL MARIE  
JOHNSON, RAMONA**

**MCAULAY, MICHELE T  
MCCOY, JACQUELINE ROSE  
MILLER, ROCHELLE**

**MINSON, MEGAN LYNN  
NEUGIN, JENNIFER DAWN  
PARRISH, KELLY LYNN**

Ms. Hancock moved to recommend approval of the following applications for Occupational Therapy Assistant licensure pending completion of the files. Ms. White seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**RATLIFF, MORGAN B  
RICHARDSON, JOSHUA C  
RICKETTS, JOANNA MARIE**

**STRACENER, TILLIE  
TROW, MEGAN NICOLE  
VAN TUYL, ANNABELLE W**

**WEATHERS, DENISE  
WILKINS, JOHN KENNETH  
WILLIAMS, SHELLY ROSE**

Next the Committee reviewed requests to supervise additional Occupational Therapy Assistants (“OTA”). Robyn Hall reported that **MICHAEL BOONE, OT**, upon being granted permission by the Committee in October of 2014 to supervise a fifth OTA, was required to provide follow-up documentation of such supervision by the April 2015 meeting. Mr. Boone

had not supervised a fifth OTA during that time and, therefore, had not submitted any such documentation. Ms. White moved to rescind the permission granted in October of 2014 for Michael Boone, OT, to supervise a fifth OTA. Additionally, if Mr. Boone wishes to supervise a fifth OTA in the future, he will need to seek permission from the Committee. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Robyn Hall next reported that **PAUL ESTES, OT**, upon being granted permission by the Committee in January of 2015 to supervise a fifth OTA, was required to provide follow-up documentation of such supervision to be reviewed by the April 2015 meeting. Mr. Estes had not supervised a fifth OTA during that time and, therefore, had not submitted any such documentation. Ms. White moved to rescind the permission granted in January of 2015 for Paul Estes, OT, to supervise a fifth OTA. Additionally, if Mr. Estes wishes to supervise a fifth OTA in the future, he will need to seek permission from the Committee. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

The Committee reviewed the request of **CHRISTY GATES, OT**, for permission to supervise a fifth OTA. Ms. White moved to table the request pending receipt of additional information and Ms. Gates personally appearing before the Committee. Ms. Hancock seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

The Committee then reviewed the request of **DENNA JANTZEN, OT**, for permission to supervise a fifth OTA. Ms. White moved to table the request pending receipt of additional information and Ms. Jantzen personally appearing before the Committee. Ms. Hancock seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

The Committee directed Staff to draft a list of additional information to be required from licensees requesting permission to supervise additional OTAs.

After a review of the continuing education requests (pre-approved), Ms. White moved to accept the requests as presented. Ms. Garza seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

The Committee then moved on to the matter of telehealth in Occupational Therapy. Ms. Garza updated the Committee on the telehealth survey responses that were recently received. She advised that the survey was loosely designed after Alaska's model and that over 450 licensees responded, with 36 licensees showing interest in serving on a telehealth subcommittee. The Committee was very pleased with the response to the survey.

The Committee saw the need to form a telehealth subcommittee using the information obtained from the survey. The Committee wishes for the subcommittee to be diverse with six members in addition to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the subcommittee. The Committee would like to have the categories of: (a) metro and rural practice locations; (b) educators; (c) practicing OT/OTAs; (d) multi-state; and those currently using telehealth, represented on the subcommittee if possible.

Staff was directed to identify the individuals who ranked the use of telehealth in OT practice as "high" and the survey responders who are using telehealth currently in their practice. From that group of individuals, Staff is to identify the survey response time and the current practice area for each responder. Further, Staff is to identify the responder who is currently using telehealth in evaluation of cases. When that information is obtained, it will be provided to the Committee Chair through a secure web download.

Ms. Garza moved to nominate Ms. White to chair the subcommittee. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative. The subcommittee will present a telehealth report at the July 2015 OT Committee meeting.

Next, under the Agenda item of “Continuing Education Audits,” Robyn Hall reported to the Committee that **ELIZABETH LAUREN GILBERT, OTA,** and **TERESA DALE MARTIN REDDEN, OTA,** did not respond to the certified letter requesting the required continuing education documentation and, therefore, the documentation is still missing. Ms. Garza moved that both licensees have a Complaint and Citation filed against them for failing to comply with continuing education requirements. Ms. White seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

After a review of the remaining continuing education audits, Ms. White moved to recommend acceptance of the verified continuing education hours as provided. Ms. Hancock seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Next, Mr. Shaun Conway with NBCOT took the floor and made a presentation which showcased the enhancements made to programs and services of NBCOT. NBCOT does not operate as an independent facility as it is accredited by two outside entities, NCCA (National Commission for Competency Assurance) and ANSI (American National Standards Institute). Mr. Conway spoke about the benefits of certification and showed how information may be obtained from various online portals. Mr. Conway stated that approximately 94% of OTs renew their certification with NBCOT and 90% of OTAs renew their certification. Some states have begun recognizing the renewal of certification exam as credit for required CEUs. Additionally, NBCOT also offers a practice analysis study as part of the renewal process and it pertains specifically to professionals who are more seasoned in the field of OT.

Mr. Conway told the Committee that NBCOT now qualifies to serve as a conduit between regulatory boards and/or committees and the National Practitioner Data Bank.

Mr. Conway then took us through the NBCOT Navigator – Continuing Competency Suite of Tools. These tools are made available free of charge to all individuals who are currently certified. The suite of tools contains assessment quizzes, knowledge assessment games and case simulations which are all geared toward problem solving. NBCOT is working on an ethics component to be included in the suite as well.

A question was raised by the Committee regarding the use of the terminology “continuing education” in the OT Practice Act. Mr. Conway advised that Maryland and Oregon revised their OT Practice Acts and currently use the term “continuing competency” as opposed to “continuing education” in their Acts. (Mr. Conway will send the pertinent language in this regard to Barbara Smith, Executive Secretary.)

Mr. Conway addressed the issue of applicants with significant time lapses between graduation and practice, or who have a significant time lapse in practice history. He stated that 20-plus states currently have language that specifically address those situations. Mr. Conway suggested that the competency tools could be useful in evaluating the competency of a professional who wants to re-enter practice, but has been out of practice for a significant time. Another possible requirement is for the applicant to take the certification exam for “licensure only” purposes as that would also show current competency. This certification exam option is available to Oklahoma’s OT applicants who desire re-entry into the field.

The Committee thanked Mr. Conway for his very interesting and informative presentation.

The students of the OTA class from OCCC shared that the meeting was very informative and they were grateful for the opportunity to attend the OT meeting and hear Mr. Conway's presentation.

There being no further business, Ms. White moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Garza seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative. The time was 11:52 a.m.