

Minutes

The Physician Assistant Advisory Committee of the Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision met on April 15, 2021, in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act as recently amended and signed into law by Governor Stitt on February 10, 2021. Advance notice of this regularly scheduled meeting was transmitted to the Oklahoma Secretary of State on November 10, 2020. The notice and agenda were posted on the Board's website on April 12, 2021 at 12:28 p.m. pursuant to 25 O.S. § 311.9.

Members present:

Don Flinn, PA-C, Chair
Jeffrey Burke, PA-C, FHRS, CEPS, CCDS
*Lindsey Gillispie, PA-C
Louis Cox, MD
Carl Pettigrew, DO
Scott Williams, DO
Troy Bender, DMSc, MSPAS, PA-C, NESU Program Director
Shannon Ijams, MPAS, PA-C, OU-Tulsa, PA Program Director
Daniel O'Donoghue - OCU, Interim PA Program Director
Melody Yozzo, DHed, PA-C, OU-OKC, PA Program Director

Member(s) absent:

Charles Womack, MD

Others present included:

Lyle Kelsey, Executive Director
Patti Parrish, JD, General Counsel
Barbara J. Smith, Executive Secretary
Lisa Cullen, Director of Licensing
Rachel Herbert, CEU Processor
Thomas Schneider, AAG, Committee Advisor
Michael Leake, JD, Executive Director, DO Board

Having noted a quorum, Mr. Flinn called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Following Committee review, Dr. Cox moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 28, 2021 as written. Ms. Yozzo seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative with the following abstentions: O'Donoghue, Ijams, Williams, and Burke.

Jennifer Stauffer, MHS, PA-C, Director of Clinical Education for the Oklahoma State University PA Program appeared virtually and presented information including, but not limited to, the program's mission, admission requirements, curriculum, staff, and accreditation status. Mr. O'Donoghue moved to recommend approval of the Oklahoma State University PA Program. Dr. Williams seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Next the Committee reviewed applications for licensure. Ms. Yozzo moved to recommend approval of the following incomplete applications for Physician Assistant licensure pending completion of the files. Mr. O'Donoghue seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**STORM, MICHELLE L
TRAN, PHUONG THI KIM
WICKLUND, KARI
BASE, ELISE NICOLE
DELNERO, KAYLA MARIE
CAFI, JENNIFER
O'MEARA, AARON EDWARD
FEILNER, LINDSEY ANN
WRIGHT, CHARITY LYNN
JOHNSON, RACHEL WATSON
ASTLE, AMBER ELIZABETH
COX, HANNA
YANG, CHEE
TURNER, MADISON
HAMMONDS, KALI
EUSTACE, KARISA LYNNE
RIDDLE, HANNAH RHEA**

**HENRY, LUKE KENTON
BISHOP, JULIE ANN
LEVELING, KELSEY BETH
CHA, HAE YOUNG
TRAN, ROSA KIM
YOUNG, BLAKE
ROBERTSON, DESTINY DENAE
STOVALL, CAMRYN TRICE
GASSETT, LEAH
DONOHEW, TRINA
DUNFORD, BRIANNE JOELLA
ANDRUS, VERN ROBERT
MANZUR, MAFRUHA
RENOUARD, ELIZABETH SPENCER
TSANG, DOUGLAS
CLARK, SHANNON WHITNEY
AMYS, SARA**

Dr. Pettigrew moved to recommend approval of the complete applications of **LINDSAY MARIE BLANKENSHIP and EMILIA VELMA IVANS** for reinstatement of Physician Assistant licensure. Ms. Ijams seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Mr. O'Donoghue moved to recommend approval of the following complete applications for Physician Assistant licensure. Ms. Yozzo seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**WALTERS, ANDREA GALUS
PLATZ, PAUL
TATUM, ALAINA ADAIR
MAX, NATHAN ROBERT
RODGERS, JOSHUA ALLEN
HAMILTON, JAMES RYAN
LAZARO, VANESSA CASTRO
EVERT, JAMIE LYNN**

**BLACK, SARAH ABIGAIL
SPENCER, HOLLY MARK
SCOTT, KATIE LYNN
BALLARD, ANNA ELIZABETH
GLEN DENNING, ALEXANDRIA Y
JORDEN, SAMUEL T
WALSH, JOSEPH EDWARD**

**Ms. Gillispie joined the meeting.*

Mr. Kelsey opened a discussion regarding the licensees on the OAPA Double Hours List in 2019 and 2020 who, per Oklahoma Law and Rules, should have been referred for disciplinary action in early 2020. Lyle Kelsey stated the continuing medical education (“CME”) issue has been somewhat complicated by the pandemic. There are eleven licensees who did not complete

their double hours as required. Based on rule, if a licensee has not met the 20 hours requirement prior to December 31st, they have until March 31st of the following year to obtain the remaining hours, then an additional 40 hours must be completed before the end of that year. These 11 licensees had been assigned double hours for 2020 and failed to get them so they fall under 435:15-3-17(b) – Disciplinary Action.

The Committee also was in agreement that CMEs have been easier to obtain during the pandemic and, in some cases, less expensive.

The 11 licensees in question are currently licensed. While they were able to renew, they still fall under the rule for disciplinary action. Following discussion, Mr. Schneider stated that he would not recommend adding additional hours again. Okla. Admin. Code 435:15-3-17(d) states the requirement for the 20 hours and then it imposes the additional 40 hours requirement. It is his opinion that the thought behind this rule is the additional disciplinary action is their punishment rather than just adding on additional 40 hours.

The Committee determined that these 11 individuals should be referred to the investigation department of the Oklahoma Medical Board. Following investigation, these 11 individuals should then be referred to the Board for disciplinary action, if prudent. (*See Attachment #1*)

The Committee then discussed CME Requirements to Renew Licensure as set forth in Okla. Admin. Code 435:15-3-17. Mr. Kelsey stated that as it is now the Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants (“OAPA”) receives the CME certificates and, after verifying them, sends the Medical Board a list of the names and license numbers of those who have met the CME requirements. The concern there is the Medical Board has no verification other than OAPA stating such. The Medical Board needs to verify those documents to ensure they meet the requirements because the Board has the accountability, not OAPA. Mr. Flinn stated he would contact OAPA and discuss this issue with them. He advised Mr. Kelsey he would ensure that OAPA sends the Medical Board all the information necessary to verify the CME certificates.

Next, Mr. Kelsey gave a brief history of the PA Form 5 – Practice Agreement pursuant to the passage of SB1915. Mr. Kelsey and Mr. Leake updated the form but it received criticism, so it has been pulled and is being presented to the Committee for input. Mr. Kelsey stated that SB1915 also requires the Medical Board to collect information not previously required and to report that information to the governor and both houses of the legislature. It is Mr. Flinn’s understanding that every PA in the state will fill out a Practice Agreement this year and that the Practice Agreement must be filled out and sent to the Board within 10 days of its effective date.

After much discussion, it was determined that a subcommittee would be appointed and tasked with crafting a proper form/practice agreement pursuant to SB1915. Mr. Flinn asked the following members to serve on the Form 5/Practice Agreement Subcommittee: Dan O’Donoghue, Jeff Burke, Troy Bender, and Medical Board staff members. Mr. Leake asked if he could also serve on the subcommittee and Mr. Flinn stated that was fine.

Next, Mr. Kelsey led a discussion regarding the number of PAs currently supervised by MDs and DOs. He stated that there is a lot of discussion and opinions on both sides of this issue. There is currently an effective Medical Board rule that allows six mid-level practitioners in any combination to be supervised by an MD at one time. One of the Medical Board members asked Lyle to find out what the physicians on the PA Committee think about the number of supervisees

and that is why he brought this matter before the Committee today. Mr. Kelsey advised that if a physician needs to supervise more than six mid-level practitioners, they may bring a special request before the Medical Board. The physicians serving on the PA Committee did not have any comments.

A brief discussion was held regarding the status of drafting potential rules. Mr. Flinn stated they are working on re-entry guidelines and asked Mr. Schneider for an update. Mr. Schneider stated he, Ms. Yozzo, and Ms. Ijams discussed potential guidelines for re-entry. He focused on the definition for clinically inactive ("24 months"), an inclusive list of actions which the Committee could take, and then factors for those actions. Ms. Ijams stated they are following the recommendations of the American Academy of Physician Assistants ("AAPA"). Ms. Yozzo stated she was in agreement with the update that was provided by Mr. Schneider and Ms. Ijams.

There being no further business, Mr. O'Donoghue moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ijams seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned. The time was 4:34 p.m.

Licensees on the OAPA Double Hours List in 2019 and 2020 who, per Oklahoma Law and Rules, should have been referred for disciplinary action in early 2020

Attachment #1

ProfTYPE	ProfNum	LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME	MIDDLENAME	Expiration Date
PA	388	RICHARDSON	TERI	LYNN	3/31/2022
PA	498	FOUNTAIN	RALPH	EUGENE	3/31/2022
PA	1051	CARTER	WESTLEY	ALAN	3/31/2021
PA	1115	RODER	JEANNE	ANN	3/31/2022
PA	1564	TARRON	JAMIE	JO	3/31/2022
PA	1617	BENISH	RANDY	E	3/31/2022
PA	2202	ALLEN	KATHERINE	ELIZABETH	3/31/2022
PA	2278	BRILEY	DANIEL	SHANE	3/31/2022
PA	2406	LAI	DENNIS	QUINTIN	3/31/2022
PA	2407	HORTON	PATRICIA	AILEEN	3/31/2022
PA	2688	VARKEY	NANCY	ELIZABETH	3/31/2021