



State of Louisiana  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS  
**Louisiana Physical Therapy Board**

**AGENDA**  
**Thursday, May 19, 2016**

- 8:00am**      **Call Hearing to Order**  
Hearing: 2014-I-031
- 11:00am**      **Call Board Meeting to Order**  
Review/Approve Agenda
- 11:05am**      **Review/Approve Minutes from April Board Meeting**
- 11:10 am**      **Petition to the Board: Ashley Fulkerson**
- 11:30am**      **Executive Session**  
Discuss sensitive information related to discipline of licensees.
- 12:00pm**      **Officer Reports**  
Chairman  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Executive Director
- 1:00pm**      **Legal Report**  
Complaint Summary  
Rules Review  
Other legal business
- 3:00pm**      **Committee Reports**  
CEU Committee  
Legislative Task Force
- 3:30pm**      **New Business**  
Correspondences  
Refund requests for renewals  
Background check policy/flow chart
- 4:30pm**      **Old Business**
- 5:00pm**      **Adjourned**

# Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

## MINUTES

### Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Thursday, May 19, 2016

#### APPROVED

The disciplinary hearing for case 2014-I-031 of licensee William “Andy” Hooper, PT04480 commenced at 8:00am. Board members present were: Chairman, Alvin “Al” C. Moreau, Secretary/Treasurer, Don Cassano, and board members Danny Landry, Elizabeth “Beth” Austin, and Kristina Lounsberry. George Papale, Prosecuting Attorney; Jeffrey Wale, Hearing Officer; and Charlotte Martin, witness were also present. Chairman Al Moreau moved to take the hearing under advisement to vote on a final findings of fact and conclusions of law at its next meeting. The board voted all in favor.

Proceedings for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board, taken in regular session on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 104 Fairlane Drive, Lafayette, LA 70507. A quorum of members were present. Board members present were: Chairman, Alvin “Al” C. Moreau, Secretary/Treasurer, Don Cassano, and board members Danny Landry, Elizabeth “Beth” Austin, and Kristina Lounsberry. Charlotte Martin, Executive Director; Board General Counsel George Papale was also present.

Chairman Moreau called the meeting to order at 10:30am. The board reviewed the agenda and approved the agenda as written. The board reviewed the minutes and adopted the minutes as amended.

License applicant Ashley Fulkerson interviewed in front of the board for license approval in lieu of failure to pass the licensing exam in four attempts or less. The Board voted unanimously to license Ms. Fulkerson due to the number of attempts to successfully pass the exam preceded the date of establishment of the current rule.

Chairman Moreau motioned to move into Executive Session pursuant to La R.S. 42:16 for the purposes of discussing investigating proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct. The Board voted and all were in favor to move into Executive Session.

The board exited Executive Session.

Kristina Lounsberry motioned to provide an extension to Sacha Comeaux for completing her essay and initial evaluation, as ordered by her Consent Order. The deadline for completion is extended to 30 days following necessary notification to the board with proper documentation. Ms. Comeaux must submit documentation in support of the medical condition and notify the Board of the discharge date for an amended timeline of completion to be established.

Elizabeth Austin moved to amend Gretchen Duplantis’ order to correct the typographical error and enter her correct license number and send the correction to the licensee. Kristina Lounsberry seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

### Chairman's Report

Chairman Moreau moved to allow Charlotte Martin, Executive Director the authority to sign contracts subject to ratification and review by the Board. Don Cassano seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

### Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Secretary/Treasurer Don Cassano reported cash in the bank totaled \$734,116.87. The checking account at Chase Bank totaled \$1,195.04 and the account at FM Bank totaled \$733,116.87. Total Income for April 2016 totaled \$43,855.60 and ordinary expenses totaled \$52,389.55. The Certificate of Deposit at Business First Bank earned \$287.60 in April and totals \$300.862.70. The CD matures April 2017.

### Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Charlotte Martin updated the board on licenses granted since the last board meeting included three physical therapy licenses by reciprocity, two physical therapy assistant licenses through reciprocity and one reinstatement. Mrs. Martin reported that the office staff processed 2,038 renewals total. Of the 170 non-renewals in 2016, one hundred eleven notified the board, leaving fifty-nine individuals who could potentially be practicing without a license. All individuals who did not renew received a letter notifying them that their license is lapsed and they are not to practice physical therapy in Louisiana until they reinstate their license.

## **LEGAL REPORT**

### Complaint Summary

George Papale reported the Complaint Summary to the Board:

- Open Investigations: 5
- Complaints Received: 2
- Closed: 3
- Informal Conference Scheduled: 0
- Hearings Planned: 0
- Consent Order: 0

The board reviewed Rule §335 related to supervision of PT Techs. Danny Landry and Kristina Lounsberry were asked to provide draft proposed language for the board to review at the June meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### CEU Committee

CEU Committee reported that 41 courses were approved. Of the 41 approved courses, 22 courses were traditional, 19 were distance learning. Of the 41 approved courses, 39 were clinical and 2 were administrative. The average turn-around time for approval was 4 calendar days.

Mrs. Martin updated the board on the Continuing Education Audit of 2016. Audit letters were sent to licensees on May 1, 2016 with a deadline of May 31, 2016 to respond.

Total number of licensees audited: 188

Compliant: 90

Total number of licensees replied (as of 5/17): 101

Non-Compliant: 11

LTF (Legislative Taskforce) Update

Legislative Task Force reported that the SB291 is currently moving forward to the House floor after passing the House committee on Health and Welfare.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Martin requested that the board allow her to interview one applicant for licensure over the telephone or by other telecommunication methods. The board voted unanimously against this exception citing Rule §151 that clearly states that the interview must be in-person.

The board discussed the background checks that are being performed at the time of initial license and determined that if a blemish appears on a returned background check, the first step is for Mrs. Martin to work with legal to determine if a board member needs to be involved. If not, the licensee may be licensed. If so, an investigative committee will be formed to discuss each applicant on a case-by-case basis.

Correspondences

*Sue Rostrom, PTA requested exemption from the live requirements of continuing education, pursuant to Rule §198 for personal hardship. Her renewal period will begin 02/01/2017.*

The board voted and unanimously approved her request.

*Marietta Sepulvado, PTA requested a refund of the additional \$170 fee for renewing in the month of April do to confusion about Rule.*

The board voted and unanimously denied the request.

*Lindsey Aucoin asked the board if therapists have certification requirements to implement a Work Harding and Work Conditioning Program to assist injured workers with returning to their pre-injured jobs.*

The board members requested that Mrs. Martin respond.

*Lloyd Vale asked if a PTA can do screens in a SNF setting and select "PT evaluation recommended" or elect to not selection that portion of the screen.*

The board requested that Mrs. Martin respond.

*Laura Bryant asked the Board if a student who graduates in December will begin working in October if the Board receives a certificate of registrar showing that all requirements have been met and a letter of completion from the program director.*

The board requested that Mrs. Martin respond.

*Renee Davis sent a message to the board to make them aware that Mississippi recently put out a newsletter stating for PTs to remove themselves from positions where the PTAs were performing administrative duties and that the PT should ultimately be in charge of the caseloads and management of the practice stating that PTAs should not be in management roles.*

The board reviewed this comment and elected to not make any comment or take any action on the subject.

The board meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.