

**NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
NOVEMBER 8, 2021  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**Time and Place**

The North Carolina Board of Occupational Therapy met in Regular Session via Webex conference call on November 8, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

**Members Present**

Laura Echols, Leonard Trujillo, Nicole Blackwell, Lynn Losada, Dr. Kevin Coates, Danielle Ward and Young Kim.

**Others Present**

Charles P. Wilkins, Legal Counsel to the Board and Elizabeth Kirk, Board Administrator.

**Members Absent**

None

**Chairperson**

Ms. Echols, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Conflict of Interest**

Ms. Echols called for any conflicts of interest with the meeting agenda. There were no conflicts or potential conflicts.

**Approval of Minutes**

The September 20, 2021 minutes were approved.

**Approval of Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer's report for September 1, 2021 through October 31, 2021 was discussed and approved as submitted.

**Administrator's Report**

The administrator's report was reviewed and approved as submitted.

### **Legal Services Committee**

Ms. Blackwell reported the Committee reviewed a bill from Broughton Wilkins Sugg & Thompson, PLLC for the months of September and October 2021 for seven (7) disciplinary proceedings. The total hours worked was 16.40 and the total fees are \$4,100. The Board closed three disciplinary files following the September 2021 Board meeting and currently has nine disciplinary files pending. Upon motion made and seconded, the bill was approved for payment.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Board reviewed correspondence and general information received following the last Board meeting.

### **Strategic Planning Retreat**

The Board held a retreat on June 14-16, 2019 at the Rizzo Conference Center in Chapel Hill, NC. The Board reviewed the retreat to-do list developed by Board staff and agreed to continue working on the to-do list.

### **NC Legislature**

Mr. Wilkins reported on bills pending in the North Carolina General Assembly.

### **CLEAR**

#### **a. 2022 Winter Symposium**

Board members were advised the 2022 Winter Symposium is meeting virtually January 5, 2022.

#### **b. 2022 Annual Meeting**

Board members were advised the 2022 Annual Meeting is meeting in Louisville, Kentucky on September 14-17, 2022.

#### **c. 2023 International Congress**

Board members were advised the 2023 International Congress is meeting in Dublin, Ireland in the summer of 2023.

### **AOTA**

#### **a. 2022 Conference**

Board members were advised the 2022 annual conference is meeting virtually and in San Antonio, Texas, March 31, 2022 through April 3, 2022. Mr. Kim and Mr. Trujillo agreed to attend.

**b. Staying Connected with AOTA**

Board members reviewed an email dated September 23, 2021 regarding staying connected with AOTA and its latest information.

**c. State Affairs Newsletter**

Board members reviewed an email dated October 7, 2021 regarding the state affairs newsletter.

**d. Representative Assembly Motions**

Board members reviewed emails regarding the representative assembly motions, specifically on dry needling.

**e. OT News for You**

Board members reviewed an email dated October 21, 2021 regarding news from AOTA.

**NCOTA 2021 Fall Conference**

Board members discussed the NCOTA 2021 Fall Conference and agreed to try and participate in the 2022 conference.

**FARB 2021-2024 Forums**

Board members were advised of the various FARB forums from 2021 through 2024.

**NBCOT**

**a. 2021 OT State Regulatory Leadership Forum**

Board members were advised the 2021 NBCOT State Regulatory Leadership Forum met virtually on September 22 and 23, 2021. Ms. Losada and Mr. Wilkins reported on the forum.

**b. Regulatory E-Newsletter October 2021**

Board members reviewed an email dated October 12, 2021 regarding the October 2021 E-Newsletter.

**Update on review of OT Compact**

Ms. Kirk informed the Board that this item will remain on the agenda for future discussion.

### **Response to Melissa Brawley regarding heart and lung sounds**

Board members reviewed an email dated September 21, 2021 from Mr. Wilkins to Melissa Brawley regarding heart and lung sounds.

### **Response to Sabrina Jones regarding staple removal**

Board members reviewed an email dated September 21, 2021 from Mr. Wilkins to Sabrina Jones regarding staple removal.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Email from Linda Davis regarding military rules and guidelines**

Board members reviewed an email dated October 8, 2021 regarding military rules and guidelines and agreed an OT practitioner employed by the government of the United States and practicing OT solely for the government of the United States is exempt from North Carolina licensure and is not required to be licensed in North Carolina. However, if an OT practitioner elects to be licensed in North Carolina, the OT practitioner is required to comply with the NCBOT Practice Act and Rules, both of which govern the licensee's practice of OT and are required to be followed to maintain a license in North Carolina.

### **Email from Sandra Shelton regarding her practice at Womack Army Medical Center**

Board members reviewed an email dated October 14, 2021 regarding her practice at Womack Army Medical Center and agreed an OT practitioner employed by the government of the United States and practicing OT solely for the government of the United States is exempt from North Carolina licensure and is not required to be licensed in North Carolina. However, if an OT practitioner elects to be licensed in North Carolina, the OT practitioner is required to comply with the NCBOT Practice Act and Rules, both of which govern the licensee's practice of OT and are required to be followed to maintain a license in North Carolina.

### **Emails regarding licensure when working for the VA and/or US Army**

Board members reviewed the Practice Act and Rules as well as information from emails about licensure requirements when working for the VA and/or US Army.

### **Closed Session**

Upon motion duly made, seconded and passed, and pursuant to NCGS 143-

318.11(a)(1) and (6) as well as NCGS 143-318.18(6), the Board went into Closed Session at 10:10 a.m.

**Return to Open Session**

The Board returned to Open Session at 10:25 a.m.

**Closed Session Report**

**Disciplinary Matters**

Mr. Wilkins reported the Board was advised in Closed Session that nine cases are currently being investigated.

**Adjournment**

The Open Session adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

**Next Meeting**

The next Regular Session meeting will be held at the office of the Board on January 10, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

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Laura Echols, Chair

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Nicole Blackwell, Secretary/Treasurer