

STATE OF NEVADA

JOE LOMBARDO
Governor



Board Members

JENNIFER NASH, PT, DPT, NCS
Board Chair

KATHERINE JOINES, PT, DPT
Vice-Chair

LAURA BRONCO, PTA
*Secretary/Treasurer
PTA Board Member*

JESSIE FISHER, PT, MPT, MBA
Board Member

AARON STEVENS
Public Member

Staff

CHARLES D. HARVEY, MPA
Executive Director

MURIEL MORIN-MENDES
Licensing Coordinator

APRIL RAMIREZ
Board Operations Support Specialist

DEBORAH DIETER, PT
Board Investigator

PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD

3291 North Buffalo Drive, Suite 100
Las Vegas, NV 89129

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 28, 2023

Item 1. Call to Order/Roll Call to determine the presence of a quorum.

The Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM

Board Members in Attendance: Jennifer Nash, Board Chair; Kat Joines, Vice Chair; Jessie Fisher, Board Member; Aaron Stevens, Public Board Member; Laura Cerame, PTA Board Member/Secretary/Treasurer.

Staff in Attendance: Charles D. Harvey, Executive Director; Debby Dieter Investigator; April Ramirez, Board Operations Support Specialist, Muriel Morin Mendes; Licensing Coordinator

Board Counsel: Rosalie Bordelove, Chief Deputy Attorney General, Ziwei Zheng, Deputy Attorney General

Item 2. Public Comment

Letter received from Physical Therapist Jack Close

Item 3. Review and Discussion of May 5, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes (*For Possible Action*).

Motion: Motion to approve May 5, 2023, meeting minutes as presented: Jessie Fisher, PT Member

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

Item 4. Report from Nevada Physical Therapy Association (*APTA NV*) (*Informational Only*).

Pamela Smith APTA Secretary was present during the Board meeting and updated the Board on the APTA NV Chapter updates.

Item 5. Report from Board Legal Counsel (*Informational Only*)

No Update at this time.

Item 6. Disciplinary Matters (**For Possible Action**)

A. Update on Consent Decree and Evaluation Review (**For Possible Action**)

- i. Review of March 27, 2023, Evaluation for Michel Rantissi, License No. 1735, pursuant to the Board's December 2020 Consent Decree, and for the Board to determine if any action is necessary.

No action taken at this time. Mr. Rantissi will revisit with the Board at the January 2023 Meeting to discuss the termination of his probation.

B. Update on Consent Decree and Risk Assessment Review

- i. Review of May 8, 2023, Risk Assessment for Mark Rizkalla, License No. 3466, pursuant to the Board's May 2022 Consent Decree, and for the Board to determine if any action is necessary.
- ii. **No action taken at this time. Mr. Rizkalla will revisit with the Board at the November 2023 meeting to discuss the termination of his probation.**

C. Recommendation for approval of stipulated settlement agreement, if one is presented, in the following cases:

- i. Case 2019-28: Carrie Cameron, PT, License No. 3163

Motion: Motion to accept the settlement agreement as presented;
Kat Joines, Vice Chair

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

- ii. Case 2022-20: James Greathouse, PT, License No. 2408

Motion: Motion to accept the settlement agreement as presented;
Kat Joines, Vice Chair

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

C. Recommendation for Case Dismissal. The Board will review and possibly approve action regarding the dismissal of the following cases:

- | | | | |
|------|--------------|-----|--------------|
| i. | Case 2022-03 | iv. | Case 2023-08 |
| ii. | Case 2023-05 | v. | Case 2023-10 |
| iii. | Case 2023-07 | vi. | Case 2023-12 |

Motion: Motion to approve the case dismissals for the following cases: 2022-03, 2023-05, 2023-07, 2023-08, 2023-10, 2023-12; Jessie Fisher, PT Member

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

Item 7. Request for Termination of Probation (*For Possible Action*). The Board will review and discuss the licensee's request for release from probation, for approval, denial, or other administrative action pursuant to the September 9, 2022, Order Granting Licensure with Probation.

A. Airah Leonado, License No. 4977

Motion: Motion to terminate license probation for Airah Leonado License number 4977; Jessie Fisher, PT Member

Second: Laura Bronco, PTA Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

Item 8. Review and Discussion on the board strategy for consistency in the approval of foreign-trained applicants (new or endorsement) without PT/PTA work experience in the United States. (*For Possible Action*).

The Board held a discussion in regard to finding a strategy for consistency in the approval of foreign Trained applicants. No action taken at this time.

Item 9. Review and Decision Regarding Pending Licensure Application (*For Possible Action*). This appearance is necessary to review the applicant's work history. The Board will review, discuss, and possibly decide on the pending licensure requests for the following applicants.

A. Earl Templo

Motion: Motion to approve the application for Earl Templo with six months of supervision by a Nevada licensed Physical Therapist, thirty hours of continuing education to be completed within the first year of his licensure. Jessie Fisher, PT Member

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

B. Mikaela Apolonio

Motion: Motion to approve the application for Mikaela Apolonio with no stipulations, Kat Joines Vice Chair

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

C. Gisel David

D. **Motion:** Motion to approve the application Gisel David with six months of supervision by a Nevada Licensed Physical Therapist, fifteen hours of continuing education, with a total of thirty hours of continuing education for the first year prior to the expiration of her license to be completed within the first year. Jessie Fisher, PT Member.

Second: Laura Branco, PTA Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

E. Mark Angelo Salugao

Motion: Motion to approve the application for Mark Angelo Salugao with no stipulations, Kat Joines Vice Chair

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

F. Suniti Sitaram Walambe Pujari

Motion: Motion to approve the application for Suniti Sitaram Walambe Pujari, obtain an additional fifteen hours of continuing education which will then be a total of thirty hours of continuing education prior to license expiration, Kat Joines, Vice Chair

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

G. Vrundaben Patel

Motion: Motion to approve the application for Vrundaben Patel with no stipulations, Jessie Fisher, PT Member

Second: Laura Branco, PTA Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

Item 10. Professional Services: Board Lobbyist

A. Consideration of amending the professional services contract of Board Lobbyist Neena Laxalt (*For Possible Action*). The Board will

discuss and possibly approve an increase of \$3,000 per month for a period of three months with an option for three additional months or until contract expiration, (whichever is sooner), to assist with the furtherance of proposed Board regulations.

Motion: Motion to amend the professional service contract of Board Lobbyist Neena Laxalt, to approve for an increase of three thousand dollars per month for a period of three months with an option for three additional months until the contract expiration. Kat Joines, Vice Chair
Second: Laura Branco, PTA Member.
Roll Call Vote Completed.
The motion passes unanimously.

Item 11. Advisory Committee on Continuing Competence (ACCC) Update (*For Possible Action*)

A. Consideration of Applicant to serve on the ACCC.

i. Nicole Lopes

Motion: Motion to approve the application of Nicole Lopes to be added to the ACCC Committee, Jessie Fisher, PT Board Member

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

B. Consideration of recommendations for continuing competence courses reviewed at the June 9, 2023, and July 7, 2023, ACCC Meetings.

Motion: Motion to approve the ACCC Courses from the June 9, 2023, and July 7, 2023 ACCC Meeting. Jessie Fisher, PT Board member

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

Item 12. Board Operations

A. License Ratifications (*For Possible Action*). The Board will review, and approve licenses issued by the authority of the Board pursuant to NRS 640.090, NRS 640.146, NRS 640.240, and NRS 640.250.

Motion: Motion to approve the License Ratifications as presented. Kat Joines, Vice Chair

Second: Jessie Fisher, PT Board Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

- B. Report from Executive Director *(Informational Only)*
- i. Director Havey provided feedback on the 2023 FSBPT LIF Conference.
 - ii. The July 2023 Board Newsletter was sent out to all active licensees. Director Harvey thanked Chair Nash for her input on the newsletter. Currently we have approximately 3400 active licensees
 - iii. Director Harvey provided the Board Operations Update.
 - 1) The Application processing time increased slightly due to the transition to the new licensing system, averaging about 2 days.
 - 2) 1,100 Continuing Competency applications have been received and reviewed.
 - 3) There are 23 pending complaints and investigations. Six of those cases have been approved for dismissal today.
 - 4) Nevada was recognized at the FSBPT LIF Conference in regard to our updated Consumer Protection Rating score and we are currently green in all rating categories. This means that we are providing the FSBPT ID, Licensure data, and disciplinary data, which helps track licensees in each state through their unique FSBPT ID.
 - 5) The Board's new licensing system is in its third month of operation. Board staff continues to work closely with the vendor to address any issues that arise, and opportunities to improve or streamline the system and our processes. The Thentia Team has been very responsive, and we continue to meet with them on a regular basis to identify and resolve issues.
 - 6) Phase two of the licensing system project will begin in September 2023, and we have several significant projects included in this phase, including: FSBPT Application Programming Interface (API), and the CE Broker integration.

- C. Director Harvey requested approval for the Board Investigator to attend the FSBPT Annual Meeting Request to send the Board Investigator to the FSBPT Annual Meeting *(For Possible Action)*

Motion: Motion to approve the Board staff and Board Members to attend the FSBPT Annual Education Meeting. October 19-21, 2023, supported through the Board funds. Kat Joines, Vice Chair

Second: Jessie Fisher, PT Board Member

Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

D. Review and Possible Approval of the FY 2024 Budget *(For Possible Action)*

Director Harvey provided the Board with the FY2024 Budget proposal for review and possible approval.

Motion: Motion to approve the FY 2024 Budget. Kat Joines, Vice Chair

Second: Laura Branco, PTA Member

Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

Item 13. Update on the 2023 FSBPT Leadership Issues Forum *(Informational Only)*
A. Vice Chair Joines

Vice Chair Kat Joines provided an update on the 2023 FSBPT LIF Conference.

Item 14. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ) *(For Possible Action)*. The Board will receive an update on DEIJ initiatives and possibly approve additional actions.

Vice Chair Joines shared some recommendations and initiatives that she, Board member Jessie Fisher and Director Harvey had come up with. The Board discussed various training opportunities that are available to licensees, Board members and staff, including Nevada.gov Cultural Competency Training initiatives; the APTA DEI Certification program; and FSBPT DEI webinars.

Motion: Motion for the Board to approve DEIJ Training for Board Members and Board Staff of the DEIJ course of their Choosing via APTA or Nevada.gov. The Board will provide the funding for those courses. Laura Branco, PTA Member.

Second: Aaron Stevens, Public Member

Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

Item 15. Board Member Nomination and Election for Positions of Board Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, and Liaison/Member of the Advisory Committee on Continuing Competence. *(For Possible Action)*.

Motion: Motion to nominate Kat Joines from Vice Chair to Board Chair; Laura Branco, PTA Member.

Second: Jessie Fisher, PT Board Member

Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

Motion: Motion to nominate Jessie Fisher from PT Board Member to Vice Chair; Jen Nash, Chair

Second: Kat Joines, Vice Chair

Roll Call Vote Completed.

The motion passes unanimously.

Motion: Motion to nominate Jessie Fisher as Board Liaison for Advisory Committee on Continuing Competency, Kat Joines, Vice Chair
Second: Laura Branco, PTA Member
Roll Call Vote Completed.
The motion passes unanimously.

Item 16. Report from Board Chair and Members *(Informational Only)*

Chair Nash stated that she has enjoyed serving as Board Chair. Chair Nash thanked the Board Members for working hard and being on this committee, and stated that she forward to Kat Joines leadership as Board Chair.

Item: 17. Discussion of Future Agenda Items *(Informational Only)*

- A. Continuation on DEIJ discussion
- B. Discussion on Military/Veteran Changing fees without changing regulations.

Item 18. Public Comment

Richard Wolfe, FSBPT Chief Administrative Officer, placed in Zoom Chat that the FSBPT will fund a delegate, Alternate delegate and administrator to attend the annual FSBPT annual Education Conference.

Item 19. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:27 pm.