

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE EXAMINERS  
LICENSURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 21, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 8:39 a.m. by Chairman, Everett G. Heinze, Jr., M.D. Committee members present were Meng-Sheng Linda Lin, L.Ac. and Pedro (Pete) V. Garcia, Jr. Jerry Walker, Deputy Executive Director; Jennifer Soffer, J.D., Assistant General Counsel; Jaime Garanflo, Director, Customer Affairs; Tim Speer, Manager, Acupuncture/Physician Assistant Division; and various other staff were also present.

**Agenda item #2, Executive Session, was considered. Mr. Garcia moved, Ms. Lin seconded, and the motion passed at 8:40 a.m. to go into executive session for private consultation and advice of counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation, deliberations concerning licensure applications, and/or possible disciplinary action order under the authority of the Open Meetings Act, GOV'T CODE, §551.071; and the Medical Practice Act, TEX. OCC. CODE ANN., §152.009; and TEX. OCC. CODE ANN., §§205.304; and Attorney General's Opinion No. H-484.** Open session resumed at 9:00 a.m. and it was announced that no action was taken during executive session. A certified agenda was made.

**Agenda item #3, regarding applicants for Texas Acupuncture Licensure, was considered. Mr. Garcia moved, Ms. Lin seconded, and the motion passed to recommend to the full Board that Saiyad Salahuddin Ahmad, Kimberly Ann Alvarado, Cheryl Dale Brandes, Yong Cui, Joanna Wharton Feinberg, Roman Hamilton Footnick, Maria Florentina Garcia, Jane Gramzinski, Cecilia Hsing Gulyas, Donna S. Guthery, Leslie Hamilton, Bobby G. Jackson, Tara Lee, Jin Ma, Gabrielle Eve Mathieu, Michelle Pinkman, Paul Douglas Rutkowski, Lisa Hse Stuesser, Melanie Dawn Van'T Vlie, and Kun Zhao be issued acupuncture licenses.**

**Applicant #AC-7 appeared before the committee with their attorney, Tim Weitz, J.D., and answered the Committee members' questions regarding their arrest record including two incidents of driving under the influence. Mr. Garcia moved,**

**Ms. Lin seconded, and the motion passed to recommend to the full Board that Applicant AC-7's application be deferred until the applicant obtains an evaluation by an addictionist who has been approved in advance by the Executive Director and the evaluation is presented to the committee for review.**

**Applicant #AC-8 appeared and answered Committee members' questions regarding their arrest record for marijuana possession. Mr. Garcia moved, Ms. Lin seconded, and the motion passed to recommend to the full Board that Applicant AC-8's application be deferred until the applicant obtains an evaluation by an addictionist who has been approved in advance by the Executive Director and the evaluation is presented to the committee for review.**

**The committee reviewed the application of Applicant AC-9. Mr. Garcia, Ms. Lin seconded, and the motion passed to recommend to the full Board that: (1) staff be directed to contact the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM) regarding its policy for granting transfer credits for courses taken more than 15 years before enrollment in an Acupuncture school, and (2) if the ACAOM's guidelines have been met regarding Applicant #AC-9's transfer credits that Applicant be approved for acupuncture licensure.**

**Agenda item #4, regarding a report on procedure for reviewing applicants for Texas Acupuncture License, was considered.** Mr. Walker reviewed the Legislature's request that the agency cut costs. Staff recommended that in order to reduce copying and mailing costs, applications that have no issues be placed on a list with a summary for the committee members to review. Committee members would continue to receive copies of the applications that have any issues. It was the consensus of the committee to accept staff's recommendations.

**There being no further business, Mr. Garcia moved, Ms. Lin seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.**