



Texas Physician Assistant Board
BOARD MEETING
November 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order on Friday, November 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. by Karrie L. Crosby, PA-C, Presiding Officer. Other board members present were Melinda Gottschalk, PA-C, Secretary/Treasurer; Rao K. Ali, M.D.; Clayton "Clay" P. Bulls, PA-C; Stephanie Corbett, PA-C; Victor Shen-Pou Ho, M.D.; Lawrence G. Hughes, Ed.D.; Cameron J. McElhany; Gregory S. Rowin, D.O.; Andrew W. Sauer, PA-C; Laura "Lali" Shipley; and Richard M. Todd, PA-C. Sandra Longoria, PA-C did not attend. Staff members present were Christopher Palazola, J.D., Director of Operations; Robert Bredt, M.D., Medical Director; Yvette Yarbrough, J.D., Assistant General Counsel; and various other staff.

Agenda item #1, Mission Statement. Ms. Crosby read the board's mission statement into the minutes. *Our Mission is to protect and enhance the public's health, safety and welfare by establishing and maintaining standards of excellence used in regulating the practice of medicine and ensuring quality health care for the citizens of Texas through licensure, discipline, and education.*

Agenda item #2, Board Member Report. Nothing to report.

Agenda item #3, Executive Director's Report.

Budget Report. Mr. Joey Estrada, CFO, gave an update on the budget.

Internal Audit. Mr. Carlton reported that the Licensure Department was reviewed and there were no outstanding recommendations or findings.

Legislative Update Mr. Carlton updated the board on the upcoming legislative session.

Agenda item #4, Medical Director Report. Dr. Bredt gave a report on the need for Physician Expert Panelists and process changes.

Agenda item #5, Physician Assistant Liaison Report. Ms. Gottschalk attended the October Medical Board meeting. There was nothing to report.

Agenda item #6, Public Information Update. Ms. Taurie Sloan, Government Affairs and Communication Director, gave an update on the upcoming legislative report and the website update.

Agenda item #7, Consideration and possible action regarding pending litigation. Ms. Yarbrough provided an update on pending litigation.

Agenda Item #8, Texas Physician Health Program (TXPHP):

- A. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding referrals.** After discussion, **Mr. McElhaney moved, Dr. Ali seconded, and the motion passed to accept the recommendation for 14-0281 PA and return the participant to TXPHP.**
- B. Report on Emergent Referrals.** There were none.
- C. Other discussion items.** Emily Doyle, MD, TXPHP Medical Director, presented the Drug Screening Quarterly Report and Program Activity Report.

Agenda item #9, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding licensee requests. Ms. Rhea Hines presented one request for reactivation of license. After discussion, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Dr. Ali seconded, and the motion passed to grant the request and return the license to active status.**

There were no items for Agenda Items 10-11.

Agenda item #12, Report on physician assistant licenses issued by Board staff. Ms. Grace Unterborn, Licensure Manager, provided a report on physician assistant licenses issued by Board staff since the last board meeting.

Agenda item #13, Report on physician assistant licensure process statistics. Ms. Unterborn reported that in Quarter 1 of FY23, 324 physician assistant licenses were issued in an average processing time of 7 days. In Quarter 1 of FY25, 223 physician assistant licenses were issued in an average processing time of 5 days.

Agenda item #14, Report on cancelled/not renewed data/retired licenses. A report on cancelled/not renewed data/retired/retired licenses was provided.

Agenda item #15, Reports and discussion regarding the Investigation, Litigation and Compliance Departments.

- A. Enforcement Activity Report** Mr. Chris Palazola, Deputy Executive Director of Operations, gave the Enforcement Activity Report.
- B. Warning Letters Report** Nothing to report.
- C. Criminal Case Review Report** Mr. Palazola gave a report on Criminal Case Reviews.
- D. Reports Regarding Cases Over One Year Old** Mr. Palazola gave a report on Cases Over One Year Old.
- E. Report Temporary Suspensions/Automatic Orders/Automatic Actions.** Nothing to report.
- F. Report Rehearing Request** Nothing to report.

Agenda item #16, Consideration and approval of membership of the Expert Physician Panel. There were none.

Agenda item #17, Review, discussion and possible action regarding cases recommended for dismissal.

A. Non-Standard of Care Cases

After discussion, **Mr. McElhaney moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of all non-standard of care cases assigned to Mr. McElhaney.**

B. Standard of Care Cases.

After discussion, **Mr. Bulls moved, Dr. Rowin seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of all standard of care cases assigned to Mr. Bulls.**

After discussion, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of standard of care cases assigned to Ms. Gottschalk with the exception of 24-7309 and 24-4432.**

There was a 5-minute break at 9:55 am.

After discussion, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Dr. Ali seconded, to deny the dismissal of 24-4432 and send back to a different consultant for further investigation.**

Ms. Gottschalk withdrew her motion and Dr. Ali withdrew his second.

Ms. Gottschalk moved, Dr. Rowin seconded, and the motion passed to deny the dismissal of 24-4432 and send back for further investigation.

After discussion, **Dr. Ho moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of JNF standard of care cases assigned to Dr. Ho with the exception of 24-7309.**

After discussion, **Dr. Ho moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of 24-7309 and send a custom letter about the importance of appropriate problem focused exams, including pelvic exam if necessary.**

After discussion, **Dr. Ho moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of Filed Investigation standard of care cases assigned to Dr. Ho.**

After discussion, **Dr. Ho moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of ISC Panel Dismissal standard of care cases assigned to Dr. Ho.**

After discussion, **Dr. Rowin moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of standard of care cases assigned to Dr. Rowin.**

Agenda item #18, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding routine follow-up investigative files previously referred from Discipline and Ethics Committee for follow-up action.

After discussion, **Mr. Bulls moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of case 24-8315 with a custom letter stating that it is the PA's responsibility to appropriately calculate the dosage and duration for any medications prescribed to patients.**

After discussion, **Mr. Bulls moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the dismissal of case 24-8316.**

Agenda Item #19, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding appeals of dismissed complaints.

A. Jurisdictional (none)

B. JNF

C. NJ (none)

After discussion, **Dr. Rowin moved, Dr. Ho seconded, and the motion passed to deny all appeals.**

There were no items for Agenda items #20.

Agenda Item #21, Consideration and approval of Modification/Termination Request Orders. After consideration, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Dr. Ali seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Termination Request Orders for Kantrell Harris, PA; Mercedes Serrano, PA; and Donald Harvey, PA.**

Agenda item #22, Consideration and Approval of Agreed Board Orders. After consideration, **Mr. Bulls moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Agreed Order for Ronnie Martin, PA; Charles Menger, PA (*Ms. Gottschalk recused*); Shalla Proctor, PA; Marie Timothee, PA; and Suzanne Self, PA.**

Agenda item #23, Consideration and approval of Remedial Plans. After consideration, **Mr. Bulls moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Remedial Plan for Alhashmin Murji, PA.**

There were no items for Agenda item #24-29.

Agenda item #30, Consideration and approval of Determination of Default.

1. Michael Howard Langfus, PA, SOAH #503-24-24933

Mr. Palazola gave a brief overview of the case. Mr. Langfus was not present, and no one was present on his behalf. After discussion, **Mr. Bulls moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to accept the determination of default.**

There were no items for Agenda item #31.

Agenda item #32, Discussion, recommendation and possible action regarding rule review and proposed changes to the following chapters in Title 22 of the Texas Administrative Code: Chapter 185, Physician Assistants. Ms. Yarbrough presented the proposed changes to Title 22 of the Texas Administrative Code: Chapter 185, Physician Assistants. After discussion, **Ms. Gottschalk moved, Dr. Hughes seconded, and the motion passed to repeal current Chapter 185 and adopt proposed Chapter 183.**

Agenda item #33, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action including rule review and adoption of proposed amendments to 22 T.A.C. chapter 185, Physician Assistants. There were none.

Agenda item #34, Open Forum for Public Comments. No one made public comments.

Agenda item #35, Consideration and Approval of July 17, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes. After consideration, **Dr. Hughes moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to approve the July 17, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes.**

Agenda item #36, Adjourn. There being no further items, **Dr. Rowin moved, Mr. Todd seconded, and the motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:17 am.**