



Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants

1740 W. Adams St, Suite 4000, Phoenix, AZ 85007
Telephone: 480-551-2700 • Fax: 480-551-2702 • www.azpa.gov

FINAL MINUTES FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETING Held on Friday, June 11, 2021 1740 W. Adams St., Board Room A, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Board Members

Myles A. Whitfield, P.A.-C, Chair
Susan Reina, P.A.-C, Vice Chair
Richard L. Averitte, Jr., M.D.
Kendra Clark, P.A.-C
Kevin K. Dang, Pharm D.
Randy D. Danielsen, PhD, P.A., D.F.A.A.P.A.
Thomas E. Kelly, M.D., F.A.C.E.P.
John J. Shaff, PA-C, D.F.A.A.P.A.
Beth E. Zoneraich

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Whitfield called the Board's meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

B. ROLL CALL

The following Board members participated in the virtual meeting: Chairman Whitfield, Vice-Chairwoman Reina, Dr. Averitte, Dr. Dang, Dr. Danielsen, Dr. Kelly, PA Shaff and Ms. Zoneraich. The following Board member was absent: PA Clark.

ALSO PRESENT

The following Board staff and Assistant Attorney(s) General participated in the virtual meeting: Patricia McSorley, Executive Director; Kristina Fredericksen, Deputy Director; Raquel Rivera, Investigations Manager, Michelle Robles, Board Operations Manager; and Andrea Cisneros, Minutes Administrator. Also present: Carrie Smith, Assistant Attorney General ("AAG").

C. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No individuals addressed the Board during the Call to the Public.

D. REVIEW, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE SETTING OF FEES FOR THE INTERSTATE PRACTICE OF TELEHEALTH REGISTRATION PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 36-3606

Ms. McSorley reported that A.R.S. § 36-3606 calls for an out of state health care provider to pay a registration fee as determined by the applicable health care regulatory board. The registration is not a licensee but would convey to the Board responsibilities to oversee the licensee and be regulated under the Board's statutes and rules. No registration is required for 9 telehealth encounters or fewer in a calendar year. The provider can provide telehealth in Arizona but not practice physically in the state. There has been discussion whether or not the Boards can set the renewal fee and clarification will be obtained by the Governor's Office. In the meantime, Ms. McSorley requested that the Board to set a fee. Ms. McSorley provided a fee recommendation based on the current license application fee schedule.

MOTION: Ms. Zoneraich moved for the Board to set the initial telehealth registration fee at \$200 and the renewal fee at \$200 annually.

SECOND: PA Reina.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairman Whitfield, Vice-Chairwoman Reina, Dr. Averitte, Dr. Dang, Dr. Danielsen, Dr. Kelly, PA Shaff and Ms. Zoneraich. The following Board member was absent: PA Clark.

Chairman Whitfield inquired about tiered fees or to encourage providers to register. Ms. McSorley confirmed that the workload for registration applications is similar to a full license application workload for Board staff. Ms. McSorley opined that there will be a strong interest in the registration and that in the future there will be a reassessment of the process and fees by the Committee. The Board will need to report numbers to the registration committee. Chairman Whitfield expressed concern regarding the additional workload on Board staff with an annual renewal process instead of being on the same two year renewal cycle for PA's who hold a full license. Board members agreed with making the process as simple and less of a burden on Board staff as possible. Ms. McSorley clarified that the statute set the annual renewal timeframe. Chairman Whitfield opined that Ms. McSorley has appropriately priced the registration as it is \$30 more expensive than a full license which may encourage PAs to apply for a full license. Ms. McSorley commented that if the Board is not able to set a fee the additional workload will be a burden on staff and the agency will not be compensated.

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 1-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

CONSENT AGENDA

E. LICENSE APPLICATIONS

i. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDED ADVISORY LETTER

1. PA-21-0046A, GARRETT C. HUNTER, PA-C, LIC. #7626

MOTION: Chairman Whitfield moved for the Board to grant the license and issue an Advisory Letter for practicing with an expired license. While the licensee has demonstrated substantial compliance through rehabilitation or remediation that has mitigated the need for disciplinary action, the Board believes that repetition of the activities that led to the investigation may result in further Board action against the licensee.

SECOND: Ms. Zoneraich.

Dr. Averitte suggested providing information to physician assistants about different platforms and providers that keep track of their renewal dates to ensure that they don't let their licenses expire. Dr. Danielsen agreed that this may be helpful as it is ultimately the physician assistant's responsibility to renew timely and to be aware of the statutes and rules associated with having a license. Dr. Dang suggested issuing a fine when a physician assistant practices on an expired license to increase awareness. Chairman Whitfield opined that the provider is already penalized by not being able to practice due to the Board's three month meeting schedule. Historically there is a minimal amount of PAs that are in this situation and there rarely is a repeat offender. Ms. McSorley noted that the Board does send reminders; however, this is only successful if the PA's contact information is correct. A couple of years ago, staff attempted legislation to penalize the PA when the licensee practices on an expired license, but it was not successful. PA Shaff suggested if an uncomplicated license expires within a certain time and the PA pays a fine the license can be granted by the Executive Director. Ms. McSorley commented that she will investigate and bring this issue back to the Board at a future meeting. Board members were in agreement with this suggestion.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairman Whitfield, Vice-Chairwoman Reina, Dr. Averitte, Dr. Dang, Dr. Danielsen, Dr. Kelly, PA Shaff and Ms. Zoneraich. The following Board member was absent: PA Clark.

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 1-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

F. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dr. Kelly moved for the Board to adjourn.

SECOND: PA Shaff.

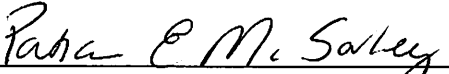
VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairman Whitfield, Vice-Chairwoman Reina, Dr. Averitte, Dr. Dang, Dr. Danielsen, Dr. Kelly, PA Shaff and Ms. Zoneraich. The following Board member was absent: PA Clark.

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 1-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

The Board's meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.




Patricia E. McSorley, Executive Director