Wednesday, January 14, 2015

6:30PM  Agenda Review
        Call to Order, Al Moreau, III

        Officer Nominations and Elections

6:35PM  Minutes Approved – December Meeting

6:45PM  Reports of Officers/Board Office
        Chairman’s Report, Al Moreau, III
        Legislative Task Force, Al Moreau, III
        Secretary/Treasurer’s Report, Danny P. Landry
        Executive Director’s Report, Charlotte Martin

8:00PM  Reports of Special Committees
        Continuing Education Committee, Kristina Lounsberry

9:00PM  Special Orders
        Advisory Committee Nominations and Appointments

10:00PM Unfinished Business
        Task Tracker
        Monitoring Consent Orders

11:00PM New Business
        Correspondences, Charlotte Martin

12:00AM  Recess

Thursday, January 15, 2015

9:00AM  Hearing
        Rebecca Seymour, License #07641R
Proceedings for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board, taken in regular session on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 104 Fairlane Drive, Lafayette, LA 70507. A quorum of members was present. Board members present were: Chairman Al Moreau, III, Secretary/Treasurer Danny P. Landry, Don Cassano, Jr., Kristina Lounsberry, Elizabeth “Beth” Austin, and Susan “Sue” Bartol and Dr. Gerald Leglue, MD. Advisory committee members present were Eugene Noel and Wayne Campbell. Charlotte Martin, Executive Director; Sirwana Granger, Assistant Executive Director; George Papale, General Counsel; and Courtney P. Newton, Attorney were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Al Moreau welcomed Sirwana Granger, newly hired Assistant Executive Director for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board. He also introduced representatives from the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association, Cristina Faucheux, Government Affairs Committee Chairperson and Becky Leger, Ethics Committee.

Review of the Agenda

Chairman Moreau asked the members of the board to review the agenda. The agenda was restructured to for nominations and elections to be the first order of business, and to move the Legislative Taskforce Update to follow the Chairman’s Report.

Special Orders

As per La. R.S. 37:2404.A, election of officers was held. Al Moreau, III was elected Chairman and Danny P. Landry was re-elected Secretary/Treasurer.

Approval of Minutes

Secretary/Treasurer Landry reviewed the minutes from the December 2014 board meeting. The board voted and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairman’s Report

Chairman Moreau provided the board with proposed 2015 Jurisprudence Calendar. All Jurisprudence Seminars are held on Thursday from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. The dates for 2015 are as follows: 2/12 – Mandeville; 3/5 – Shreveport; 4/23 – New Orleans; 7/16 – Shreveport; 8/6 – Lake Charles; 8/27 – Lafayette; 9/17 – Baton Rouge; 10/22 – New Orleans; 11/5 – Alexandria; 12/10 – Monroe.

Chairman Moreau discussed with the board the opportunity to provide the Jurisprudence Seminar at the LPTA spring and fall meetings. The board voted in favor of holding a seminar during these two meetings.
Chairman Moreau discussed the policy for board members to receive credit for attending or presenting a jurisprudence seminar. Danny Landry motioned to create a policy to give board members who attend jurisprudence but do not receive per diem to receive credit for continuing education. Kristina Lounsberry seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

Chairman Moreau reported that the new format of the jurisprudence seminar, which includes an hour-long town hall meeting component, has been successful. The Baton Rouge seminars held this way doubled in attendance and would have easily surpassed this number if the venue would have accommodated the capacity needed on that date. The response from licensees has been positive. The next jurisprudence seminar is scheduled for Thursday, January 15, 2015 in Lafayette, La.

Chairman Moreau discussed the importance of board members to provide an accurate and consistent response to licensees at all times. He announced that he will be presenting at the Lafayette Jurisprudence seminar and all future seminars because of the need for a consistent message to be sent to the public. Chairman Moreau stated that if he is unable to present, then Danny Landry will present as is his duty as the other officer of the board.

Chairman Moreau asked Beth Austin to report to the board on the LSU Shreveport interviews of graduating class that was held on January 5, 2015. Beth asked that the staff update the presentation to add an interactive component and to add information about supervision ratios to the presentation.

Chairman Moreau reported that in the coming months the board will be presenting at several more school interviews for graduating classes and currently Danielle Linzer in the office is in the process of finalizing the schedule. For the interview at Louisiana College, Secretary/Treasurer Danny Landry will present.

Chairman Moreau reminded the board of who will be attending the Federation of Associations of Regulator Boards (FARB) Form that will be held from Thursday, January 22 through Sunday, January 25, 2015: Secretary/Treasurer Danny Landry, Board Member Beth Austin, Executive Director Charlotte Martin and Attorney Courtney Newton.

**Legislative Task Force Update**

Chairman Moreau noted that the board is mandated to promulgate a Rule regarding telehealth as part of the Board’s duty. He asked Attorney Courtney Newton to work with board members on language that can be voted on at the February board meeting. Secretary/Treasurer Landry recommended that the board review the language from the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners for consistency, As well as language from the FSBPT Model Practice Act 5th Edition & APTA’s Position Statement on Telehealth.

Chairman Moreau updated the board on the meeting that he, Secretary/Treasurer Danny Landry, Attorney Courtney Newton, Executive Director Charlotte Martin, and LPTA’s Governmental Affairs Committee chairperson Cristina Faucheux had with Senator Mills regarding questions
and concerns about moving forward with the Patient Access Resolution. All board member questions were answered by Senator Mills and reported to the board by Chairman Moreau. Chairman Moreau stated to the board that it is the recommendation of the Legislative Task Force to move forward with the Patient Access Resolution. The board voted on moving forward with drafting language for a Resolution for board review and another vote prior to submitting the Resolution. The board voted and approved with Chairman Al Moreau, Secretary/Treasurer Danny Landry, Don Cassano, Beth Austin and Gerald Leglue in favor. Sue Bartol and Kristina Lounsberry were opposed.

Secretary/Treasurer’s Report, Danny P. Landry
Secretary/Treasurer Landry reported the cash in the bank for the month of December 2014 totaled $54,337.37. He reported that the income for December 2014 totaled $12,165.46 and expenses totaled $54,218.30. The two Certificates of Deposit at the Bank of Montgomery totaled $714,405.48 at the end of December. One Certificate of Deposit totaled $200,752.01 in December and did mature on December 18, 2014. The other Certificate of Deposit totaled $513,653.47 at the end of December and will mature on March 27, 2015. The CD totaling $200,752.01 will be transferred to Lakeside Bank where the interest rate is 4.5% as compared to the 2.5% interest rate at the Bank of Montgomery. The Business Savings account at Chase Bank was $202,539.51 at the end of December.

Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director Charlotte Martin reported changes in staff since the previous board meeting. Ashley Richard, Administrative Coordinator 3 resigned effective January 31, 2014 and Sirwana Granger, Assistant Executive Director was hired effective January 5, 2015. At this time, Mrs. Martin reported that the position for Administrative Coordinator 3 will remain vacant.

Executive Director Martin reported that the Governor’s Report was finalized and submitted and she distributed copies to all board members for review. The board members provided feedback for improvements in next year’s annual report.

Executive Director Martin reported that the winter 2015 newsletter was finalized and mailed to all licensees.

Executive Director Martin reported that the staff is continuing to finalize the Board Member Orientation Handbooks and the deadline for completion is prior to the next board meeting.

Executive Director Martin reported that five physical therapists were licensed since the last board meeting, all obtaining licensure through reciprocity. One physical therapist assistant was licensed through reciprocity. All candidates for licensure complete a post-examination survey through FSBPT. The overall satisfaction rating for all jurisdictions on the question “How satisfied were you with the processing of your application by the state in which you applied for licensure?” was 83.33%. In Louisiana, the rating for this quarter (quarter four) was 98.41%. In 2014, the first quarter rating was 92%, the second quarter rating was 92.31%, and the third quarter rating was 91.30%.
Mrs. Martin reported that one foreign-educated physical therapist applicant is attempting to apply through reciprocity. Mr. Domes was interviewed by Sue Bartol. Ms. Bartol reported her concerns to the board, which included her revelation that Mr. Domes had not worked for the period of time required for licensure by reciprocity and he would need a provisional license to practice in Louisiana. Ms. Bartol recommended that the Board revise the application for licensure to include dates of employment at each place of employment to prevent this from being an issue in the future. The board asked that the staff gather information and bring him in before the board prior to licensing.

Reports of Special Committees

Kristina Lounsberry reported on behalf of the Continuing Education Committee. Since the last board meeting, 37 clinical courses and 2 administrative courses were approved by the board.

Mrs. Lounsberry presented a Course Sponsor application from Institute for Brain Potential for the course titled Calming and Overactive Brain. The board discussed the classification of this course and whether or not it should be approved by the board. The board reviewed the course and determined that it will be approved for 6 hours, as applied.

Charlotte Martin reported that several licensees are asking for a “late” exception to Rule §193.G.b. that licensees must submit the application for course or activity approval within 90 days of completion. The board determined that all late considerations will be denied, unless hardship can be proven. The only exception to CEUs that will apply are found in Rule §198 Exemptions from CEU Requirements. Mrs. Martin will issue a letter to all individuals who have submitted course approval applications for individuals whose course was completed more than 90 days prior to applying for a approval.

Special Orders

Chairman Moreau reviewed the application for Advisory Committee nominees. Since the nominees have no competitors, Mr. Moreau asked Charlotte Martin to obtain at least one competitor for each of the open positions prior to the board nominating any Advisory Committee members for 2015.

Unfinished Business

Sue Bartol reported on the correspondence update from Lucy Slade. Slade originally wrote, “I was curious if you were able to discuss at board meeting the issue regarding my license after Hurricane Katrina. Remember it was because check was lost in mail and initially was on list as renewed and then Jan 5th hospital was notified that I wasn't current. You were going to see if it could be expunged from my record.” The board consulted legal and determined that the board cannot expunge this public record.

Sue Bartol reported on research that she conducted since the last board meeting related to Sheila Crockett’s question: I’m wondering if a PTA can perform manual lumbar traction on a patient or is that limited to the physical therapist? The board reviewed Secretary/Treasurer Danny Landry’s
response and agreed that it is an appropriate response. Charlotte Martin will send the letter to Mrs. Crockett.

The board reviewed the status of licensees that are currently being monitored by the board and are following Consent Orders.

**New Business**

Correspondences, Charlotte Martin

Brent Robertson, PT (Lic #08652) asked, “I am looking to teach a fitness class (Geri-Fit) at senior living facilities and in the home (both group and one on one). It is an evidence-based strength training program geared toward geriatric patients. It has been recognized by the National Council on Aging as an evidence-based program and, just this past April, the CDC placed Geri-Fit on its Future Possibility List (Tier 4). I plan to soon be a licensed and certified Geri-Fit instructor. I plan to offer these classes to patients at discharge (who will benefit) and to the public to improve/maintain their strength as they age. My questions are as follows:

1) If the program is not advertised as being taught by a physical therapist and only as a Geri-Fit fitness class, would participants be considered “wellness” clients?

2) Can I utilize PTAs, PT technicians and personal trainers who are Geri-Fit certified instructors to teach the class? Would direct supervision and/or a PT need to be onsite when these classes are held for any of the above mentioned personnel?” Al Moreau will call Mr. Robertson.

The board recessed at 11:30pm

The board meeting reconvened at 9:00am on Thursday, January 15, 2015. A quorum of members was present. Chairman Al Moreau, Treasurer/Secretary Danny Landry, Kristina Lounsberry, Elizabeth “Beth” Austin, Dr. Gerald Leglue and Don Cassano. Charlotte Martin, Executive Director, George Papale, General Counsel, and Courtney P. Newton, Attorney were also present. Sue Bartol was not present.

**Hearing**

A hearing was conducted on Rebecca Seymour, License #07641R. Minutes of the hearing are included in the comprehensive transcript of the hearing.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

**Recap of Motions:**

Danny Landry motioned to create a policy to give board members who attend jurisprudence but do not receive per diem to receive credit for continuing education. Kristina Lounsberry seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.