



ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY

400 S. Union Street, Suite 270 (36104)
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Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 265-7125

MINUTES

March 26, 2021

Present:

Ronda Hood	Board Chair
Ed Goodwin	Vice Chair
Vernon Johnson	Board Member
Glenn Pippen	Board Member
Dr. Erin Ozgun	Board Member
Elizabeth Utley Sheehan, Esq.	Executive Director

Also Present:

Ellen Leonard, Esq. Alabama Attorney General's Office

The Alabama State Board of Respiratory Therapy held a meeting Board Meeting on March 26, 2021, via in-person and ZOOM conference in the Bailey Building located at 400 South Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104. The meeting was posted on the Secretary of State's website, as well as the Board's website, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Ronda Hood, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone present.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Board Chair Hood requested a review of the March 26, 2021, meeting Agenda. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to accept the March 26, 2021, meeting Agenda as presented.

Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

III. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Board Chair Hood requested a review of the February 10, 2021, Minutes.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to accept the February 10, 2021, Minutes.

Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a. Executive Director Sheehan updated the Board on the contract for an investigator. She advised that the contract is still in Contract Review and would hopefully be approved by April 2021.

b. Ms. Sheehan advised that the rule change and renewal fee increase will be placed on the agenda for the June meeting to comply with the publication requirements for the intended action.

c. Ms. Sheehan advised no response has been received from the Request for Attorney General Opinion.

d. Ms. Sheehan informed the Board that she met with the auditor to discuss the findings of the Board but had not received the written report from the auditors. Ms. Sheehan called the auditor the day prior to the meeting to request the report and he informed her that it was not available yet. Vice Chair, Ed Goodwin, notified the Board that he had received the audit report prior to the meeting and would forward it to the Board and staff.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussions were held as to when to open acceptance of early renewal applications. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to open early renewal applications on July 1, 2021.

Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

b. The Board and Ms. Sheehan discussed the pros and cons of reinstating a lapsed/expired Alabama license versus issuing a new license to previously licensed Alabama therapists. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to table this issue until the next meeting on June 18, 2021.

Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

c. Ms. Sheehan and the Board discussed the Emergency LRT licenses previously issued by the Board in response to the COVID-19 pandemic which must be discontinued due to the listings contained in the Auditor's Report. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to immediately remove the Emergency LRT License option.

Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

d. Ms. Sheehan and the Board discussed the listing on the Audit Report relative to background check requirements for applicants. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to immediately suspend background check requirements of applicants for licensure.

Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Sheehan presented the Board with a listing of new licensees for the quarter. After a review of the listing a motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to accept the listing as presented.

Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:45 a.m., Board Chair Hood motioned that the Board go into Executive Session to consider the general reputation and character, physical condition, professional competence, and mental health of applicants, in accordance with Section VII (1) of the Open Meetings Act. The motion was seconded, and Board Chair Hood stated the Board would reconvene at the conclusion of the Executive Session in approximately twenty minutes.

Votes in favor of the Motion to enter Executive Session: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

At 11:20 a.m., Board Chair Hood made motion for the Board to reconvene in Open Session.

Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

App-2021.01: A Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, not to waive the \$250 fine previously imposed for working without a license. Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

APP-2021.02: A Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to approve the pending license application of this applicant. Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

APP-2021.03: A Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to place this applicant into the Wellness Program. Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

APP-2021.04: A Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to deny the pending license application of this applicant. Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

APP-2021.05: A Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to approve the license application of this applicant. Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

APP-2021.06: A Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to place this applicant in the Wellness Program for one year. Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

APP-2021.07: A Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to place this licensee into the Wellness Program. Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

APP-2021.08: A Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried, to place this licensee into the Wellness Program. Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

APP-2021.09: A Motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried, to table this applicant's application until the Executive Director or her designee obtains information from the Georgia Composite Medical Board relative to this applicant's current status with Georgia and/or any disciplinaries by Georgia. Votes in favor of the motion: Ronda Hood, Ed Goodwin, Vernon Johnson, Glenn Pippen, and Dr. Erin Ozgun. Opposed: None.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATES

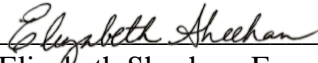
- a. June 18, 2021
- b. August 20, 2021 (if needed)
- c. December 3, 2021

IX. ADJOURNMENT

At 11:40 a.m. a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.



Ronda Hood, Board Chair



Elizabeth Sheehan, Executive Director