



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 15, 2021
9:00 AM

This meeting was available by webinar only.

On October 15, 2021 the Occupational Therapy Practice Board met by webinar. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

MEMBERS PRESENT

WALTER GRUENWALD, OT, CHAIR
MARY SPORES, OT, VICE CHAIR
SUNNY ANDERSON, COTA
NING BARFIELD, OT
DI IRONS, PUBLIC MEMBER

STAFF PRESENT

KATHY WEED, PROGRAM MANAGER
JENNIFER SANTIAGO, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SANDIE PEARSON, PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVE
LUKE EATON, AAG
SIERRA MCWILLIAMS, AAG
SARA KIRSCHENMAN, STAFF ATTORNEY

OTHERS PRESENT

KRISTEN NEVILLE, AOTA STATE AFFAIRS MANAGER
BECKY BUESCHER, OT
BARBARA STRUCK, OT
KATE WHITE TUDOR, WOTA LOBBYIST
MIRNA MASUN

Friday, October 15, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. – OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Walter Gruenwald, OT, at 9:04 a.m.

1.1 Introductions

The board, staff and audience members introduced themselves.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and the board voted to approve the agenda as corrected.

1.3 Approval of the July 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Board members reviewed the July 23, 2021 meeting minutes. A motion was made, seconded and the board voted in favor of approving the meeting minutes as presented.

2. **UPDATE ON LICENSURE COMPACT** – The board received an update on the OT licensure compact legislation timeline. Information presented by Kate White Tudor, WOTA Lobbyist.

Under the OT Compact, Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants licenses will be recognized by other compact states. The compact will allow OT and OTAs to practice in other compact states. Telehealth will be included in the compact. An interstate commission will be created; however, the Occupational Therapy Practice board will maintain control over initial licensure, scope of practice, etc. WOTA plans to run legislation in 2022 for implementing the compact. The Washington Occupational Therapy Association will be working on legislation for the 2022 legislative session.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE** – The board reviewed, discussed and considered taking action on the question of whether an OT can provide services to a client who has been evaluated by a physical therapist.

Board members discussed whether an OT can work off of an evaluation done by a physical therapist. This question has been brought before the board in the past. An OT needs to evaluate the client to provide OT services. Ms. Weed will work with the board chair and Ms. McWilliams to draft a response.

4. **REVIEW OF ACOTE POLICIES** – The board received a presentation on ACOTE policies to ensure they align with state law. Sunny Anderson, COTA presented the information.

In 2020 new standards were implemented. There are now four levels of accreditation. Ms. Anderson did a comparison and did not find any conflict with WA State law and ACOTE's new standards.

5. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** – Information presented to the board by Jennifer Santiago, Acting Executive Director

5.1 Budget update – Ms. Santiago shared that June 30, 2021 marked the end of the 2019 to 2021 biennium. The program budget is in good shape with revenue

continuing to exceed expenditures. Program budgets are still under development and have not yet been finalized. The budget is developed based on historical and anticipated upcoming costs.

6. PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT – Information was provided to the board by Program Manager, Kathy Weed.

- 6.1** Recruitment update – Ms. Weed shared that the recruitment for the COTA position will need to be extended as she did not receive any applications. She has received Ms. Spores application for re-appointment.
- 6.2** 2022 Legislative calls volunteer – Ms. Weed explained that the legislative meet-me-calls historically have been held on Wednesday mornings. Ms. Spores, OT volunteered to participate in the legislative meet-me-calls.
- 6.3** 2022 Meeting dates – The board discussed meeting dates for 2022. The board approved the following meeting dates:
 - January 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.
 - April 22, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.
 - July 15, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.
 - October 14, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – The board discussed adding the following items to future agendas for discussion:

- Election of Chair and Vice-chair
- Recruitment update
- Update on compact fees
- Credentialing process

8. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Kristen Neville, AOTA shared that housing for the Inspire Conference in March is open. Registration for the conference will open in November. The conference is being held in person and virtually.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The board adjourned at 10:51 a.m. The next regularly scheduled board meeting is January 21, 2022 and will be held by webinar only. Updated meeting information will be posted on the Occupational Therapy website.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Kathy Weed

Walter Gruenwald, Chair

Program Manager

Occupational Therapy Practice Board

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