



Occupational Therapy Practice Board Draft Minutes

April 19, 2024

Yakima Valley College

W. Nob Hill Blvd., and S. 16th Ave., Meeting Room 119 Yakima, WA 98902

Members Present:

- Mary Spores, Occupational Therapist, Chairperson
- Ryan Wilson, Occupational Therapist Vice-chairperson
- Shari Roberts, General Public
- Joaquin Olivas, Occupational Therapy Assistant

Staff Present:

- Kathy Weed, Program Manager; Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director; Sierra McWilliams, Assistant Attorney General; Marianne Richter, Policy Analyst; Madissen Schatz, Assistant Program Manager; Na'Taya Harris, Administrative Assistant; Shani Hue

Guests and Other Participants:

- M Teresa Bowman, Occupational Therapist; Jamie Bliss, PNWU OT professor; Kristen Neville State Affairs Manager w/AOTA.

1. Call to Order

On Friday April 19, 2024 at 9:09 am Chairperson Spores called the Occupational Practice Board meeting to order.

1.1. Introductions – Board Members, Staff, and Audience

Following the call to order, Chairperson Spores facilitated introductions, allowing each board member and department staff to be acknowledged. Attendees joining virtually also had the opportunity to introduce themselves.

1.2. Approval of Agenda

Chairperson Spores presented the proposed agenda, seeking approval from the board. No objections were raised, and a motion to approve was initiated by Chairperson Spores. Vice Chairperson Wilson seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

1.3. Approval January 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes

The meeting then moved to the approval of the minutes from the previous session held on January 19, 2024. Chairperson Spores presented the minutes, and moved for approval, Vice-chairperson Wilson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

1.4. Public Comment

Chairperson Spores initiated the open forum session, providing a platform for the public to address issues related to occupational therapy. No comments were received.

2. Rules Workshop

The board engaged in discussions regarding the implications of SSHB 1724 on reducing barriers to licensure and renewal, focusing on 2SHB 1009 (the military spouse employment act) and consistency across licensure pathways. The board discussed changing the rules from 90 days to 180 days.

3. Review of lists and Labels Requests

3.1 Institute for Natural Resources flyer was approved by the board. Chairperson Spores motioned for approval of the flyer, Mr. Olivas seconded the vote, and the vote was approved unanimously by the group.

4. Updates on American Occupational Therapy Association Conference and OT Compact Commission Meeting

The board received information about the AOTA conference and updates on the OT compact work by Mary Spores, OT, Chair. Ms. Spores reported to the board that the committee shared reports on finance rules, and public relations. Discussion furthered on rules and definitions as well as rules on the data management system and process with FBI fingerprinting. The SHARE Act and federal mandate will be 13-to-18-month time frame.

5. Executive Director Report

A presentation by Ms. Santiago, Executive Director.

5.1 Ms. Santiago shared that there were no Legislative updates that directly impacted the board.

5.2 The board discussed the ongoing office reorganization aimed at integrating credentialing staff for efficiency. The process is progressing, credentialing staff will be

starting in OHP May 1, 2024. With the transfer of staff knowledgeable in OT and OTA credentialing to ensure understanding and continuity during the reorganization.

5.3 Discipline stats were very low, there were 19 cases within a 24-month period.

6. Program Manager Report

Presentation by Kathy Weed, Program Manager.

6.1. Recruitment Update

Ms. Weed informed the board about the ongoing recruitment process for a new OT board member, there has not been an update from the governor's office on the status of the new recruitment member.

6.2. Newsletter

The board reviewed the spring newsletter. The motion to approve the newsletter draft pending updates to the grammar and structuring of the article and the final DOH review was initiated by Ms. Spores and seconded by Ms. Roberts. The motion passed unanimously.

6.3. WOTACon attendance and October date

Ms. Weed suggested to the board that a poster be prepared and sent to be presented by a WOTACON representative, sharing what the occupational therapy board does.

6.4. BCC Leadership forum.

Chairperson Spores and Vice-Chairperson Wilson will be attending the BCC conference located in Tumwater at the Labor and Industries headquarters.

6.5. OTCC letter of support

The board was not able to fill out the letter stating their support due to the cutoff point for their submission.

7. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

The board discussed various topics for future meetings, including the amendment of the agenda to review the exception application matrix, the draft poster for the WOTACon OT presentation.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:13 am.

Board of Occupational Therapy Draft Minutes

April 19, 2024

Page 4

Mary Spores, Chairperson