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Athletic Training Advisory Committee Draft Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2024

Labor & Industries, 7273 Linderson Way SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Members Present: Craig Bennett, Athletic Trainer, Vice-Chairperson; Kenneth Ahlstrom, Athletic Trainer; Courtney Peart, Athletic Trainer; Kasandra Hildenbrand, Athletic Trainer, Chairperson.

Members Absent: Kirk Westre, Public Member

Staff Present: Allyson McIver, Program Manager; Jennifer Santiago, Executive Director; Madissen Schatz, Assistant Program Manager; Na'Taya Harris, Administrative Assistant; Marianne Richter, Policy Analyst; Marie Carp, Assistant Attorney General.

Public Attendees Present: Charity McCright, Athletic Trainer; Jason Berglund, Athletic Training Program Manager Olympic Sports and Spine.

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Hildenbrand called the public meeting to order at 9:11 AM, welcoming participants and officially starting the business meeting.

1.1 Introductions

Chairperson Hildenbrand initiated the introductions for committee members and staff members. The introduction concluded with Chairperson Hildenbrand acknowledging all attendees.

1.2 Approval of Agendas

Chairperson Hildenbrand called for approval of the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda was made by Vice-chairperson Bennet and seconded by Ms. Peart. The committee unanimously approved the agenda.

1.3 Approval of August 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Hildenbrand invited questions or comments on the August 26, 2024 meeting minutes. The motion to approve the August 26, 2024 meeting minutes was made by Ms. Peart and seconded by Vice-chairperson Bennet. The committee unanimously approved the minutes.

1.4 Public Comment

The committee opened the public comment period. Ms. McIver invited the public to speak or share comments with the committee. No public comments were made, Chairperson Hildenbrand closed the forum.

2. Rules Workshop WAC 246-916-010 and 030, Licensure Requirements and Licensed in Other States

The committee did not receive any public comments on the first workshop, that was held November 7, 2024. Ms. McIver shared the rules draft and invited comments from the public and from the committee to address any questions. Ms. McIver provided background information regarding the rules and why they are relevant to the profession. The committee was in support of the draft rules.

3. Myofascial Decompression Discussion

Ms. McIver reviewed the previous discussions from August and April. This discussion was continued regarding myofascial decompression and if it was within scope for Athletic Trainers. Ms. McIver shared different strategies along with the risks and benefits to each option that could address this concern. Chairperson Hildenbrand recommended providing resources through the Athletic Training webpage through the FAQ's link on the Department of Health website and community outreach. The committee agreed that this was the best way to provide guidance regarding myofascial decompression.

4. Compounding/Reconstituting Medications Discussion

Ms. McIver reviewed the previous discussions regarding compounding and reconstituting medications. She also shared key factors that should be taken into consideration such as the working environment and sterile compounding in the State of Washington which is a practice of pharmacy. It was determined that compounding and reconstituting medications was not within the scope of practice of Athletic Trainers, and the committee discussed that scope issues would require a legislative change, not rulemaking.

5. Epinephrine Administration to Students

Ms. McIver provided an explanation and clarification regarding who can administer epinephrine to students without standing orders submitted to the school. She reviewed RCW's and the interpretation of the rules regarding who can administer the medication. Mr. Ahlstrom shared that he works in the school setting and confirmed that as the designated school personnel, he can administer an epi-pen only to students with a prescription on file and standing orders with the school. The committee discussed concerns about situations where a school nurse may not be available to administer an epi-pen to a student without a prescription on file.

Vice chairperson Bennet and Ms. Carp will be reaching out to their professional contacts to gather additional information that may help clarify the current understanding of who may administer an epi-pen, and the role of the designated school personnel. They will report back on any findings at the April 2025 committee meeting.

6. Workforce Data Collection Update

Ms. McIver provided an oversight into how data collection will be collected. There will be seven specific data points from all licensees at initial licensure. These criteria include race, ethnicity, gender, spoken languages, their primary and secondary practice location, and their practice specialty. At every renewal cycle the provider will be required to provide updates on the information provided at initial licensure. She also shared that HELMS will be implemented in February of 2025, HELMS will be utilizing the holiday weekend in February to implement the new licensing system to help reduce licensing issues and to provide a smoother transition.

7. Committee Representative for 2025 Legislative Session

Ms. McIver shared that for this legislative session all the committee members will be receiving weekly emails regarding updates and new bills being presented. The committee will contact Ms. McIver with any questions or comments they may have regarding the bills presented in the weekly emails.

8. Program Report

8.1 Credentialing Statistics

Ms. McIver reported on credentialing process improvements. As of November 4, 2024 there are about 25 pending applications, there is an average of 9 athletic trainer applications received per month. There was a total of 45 since July 1, 2024 through December 4, 2024. There is a total of 894 active athletic training licenses currently. She reviewed the top 6 counties within Washington for the athletic training population.

8.2 Operating Budget

This report reflects the timeframe for July 1, 2023 to October 31, 2024. The starting fund balance was \$411,320.00 and the ending balance was \$376,696.00. HELMS expenses, which are assessed against each profession, are reflected in the report. The estimated revenue is slightly below the estimated goal. She also shared about the budget freeze and how that could potentially affect the committee's travel plans for the September 2025 meeting if the freeze is still implemented during that time.

8.3 Disciplinary Statistics

Ms. McIver presented the disciplinary report from July 1, 2023 to November 27, 2024. She discussed that there was a total of 12 complaints, out of those 12 complaints 10 of them were investigated. 1 of the 12 complaints was an exception for a criminal conviction and that case was closed. 5 were for practicing beyond the scope of an athletic trainer, 1 was for practicing without a valid license, 3 or 4 complaints were for unlicensed practice, and 1 was for providing care below the standard patient care.

8.4 Committee Recruitment Updates

Ms. McIver shared that the committee is fully staffed, she did not have any further updates regarding staffing. Credentialing has been fully integrated into OHP and she shared what that looks like for the committee.

8.5 BOC Updates

Ms. McIver provided updates regarding California passing their athletic trainer title protection legislation. Development has been launched through the Council for State Governments National Center for interstate compacts in partnership with the Department of Defense and the BOC. They have created a task force to draft the language, the draft will be released to the jurisdictions once it has been developed. States will have to pass legislation in order to join the compact. Once enough states have passed legislation and agreed to join the compact then it can be implemented.

9. Adjournment

Chairperson Hildenbrand adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Washington State Athletic Training Advisory Committee

On File

Kasee Hildenbrand, Chairperson

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