

**WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE BOARD  
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING MINUTES**

January 26, 2011  
1:00 PM  
By telephone

On January 26, 2011 the Occupational Therapy Practice Board met by phone. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

**MEMBERS PRESENT VIA PHONE**

CAMILLE CURRY, OT, CHAIR  
KARIN SCHULZE, OT, VICE CHAIR  
BRENDA LEMPE, COTA  
BARBARA SMITH, OT  
MICHELLE MOULTON, PUBLIC MEMBER

**STAFF PRESENT**

JANETTE BENHAM, PROGRAM MANAGER 3  
BOB NICOLOFF, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SANDIE PEARSON, PROGRAM SUPPORT  
KIRBY PUTSHCER, DISCIPLINARY MANAGER  
MIKE BROWN, STAFF ATTORNEY  
DIANA STALEY , LEGISLATIVE POLICY ANALYST  
KRISTEN CULBERT, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY  
GENERAL

**GUESTS PRESENT**

BECKY GIBSON  
GREG WINTZ  
KATY FRANKENFIELD

**Wednesday, January 26, 2011 – 1:00 PM – OPEN SESSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Camille Curry, Chair at 1:06 p.m.

**1.1 Introductions**

Camille Curry introduced board members and program staff. Guests who were present by phone introduced themselves to the board.

**1.2 Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was amended to include board discussion on future meeting locations and an update on board member reappointment under Item 2.2 – Program Report. The agenda was approved as amended.

1.3 Approval of October 7, 2010 Meeting Minutes

The October 7, 2010 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

1.4 Approval of Disciplinary Meeting Minutes

There were no Disciplinary Meeting Minutes presented for approval at this time.

**2. PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT – Bob Nicoloff, Executive Director, and Janette Benham, Program Manager**

2.1 Executive Director Report

- Current Budget Report – Mr. Nicoloff provided an updated budget report through December 2010.

The board also received a handout which detailed the license and renewal fee history for Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants from 1998 to present.

Board members were given a handout explaining the four areas that may impact future license and renewal fees. These areas include:

- Maintaining current programs
- Providing safe health care
- Providing access to health care
- Online healthcare provider licenses

Some of the fees that may be increased include application fees, renewal fees, expired inactive license renewals, and duplicate license issuance fees.

Mr. Nicoloff also provided board members with a copy of the budget proposal as well as a chart containing growth projections for licensed Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants in Washington State.

- Update on current legislation – Michelle Moulton is the board's designated representative for the weekly legislative meet me calls. A copy of the January 18, 2011 Meet Me Call Bill Listing was given to board members. Diana Staley, Legislative Policy Analyst, provided an update on various bills that are moving through the legislative process.

## 2.2 Program Manager Report

Update on rules moratorium – Janette Benham, Program Manager, provided an update on the Governor’s moratorium on rule writing. The rules that board had been working on are on hold until the moratorium is lifted.

Ms. Benham updated the board on the location of the April 29, 2011 board meeting. The meeting will be held in the Department of Health office in Kent, Room 1.

The board was also informed that the Governor had reappointed Barb Smith, OT, to the board for a second term lasting three years.

## 3. **UPDATE ON HOUSE BILL (HB) 1076 AND SENATE BILL (SB) 5018 – Wound Care Management in Occupational Therapy**

3.1 Board member discussion – Board members reviewed and discussed HB 1076 and SB 5018 regarding wound care management and sharp debridement. Ms. Benham updated the board on the progress of HB 1076/SB 5018 – Wound Care Management in Occupational Therapy. The companion bills expand the OT scope of practice to include wound care management. OTs who meet the requirements outlined in the bill could perform sharp debridement to remove loose, devitalized tissue from a wound with scissors, scalpel, and tweezers without anesthesia. The bill outlines requirements, restrictions, and training. The Department is in support of this bill.

3.2 Public comment period – There was no public member comment at this time.

## 4. **CORRESPONDENCE – Board members reviewed, discussed, and responded to the following correspondence received by program staff.**

4.1 Email regarding Integrated Listening Systems and referral for services. Can OTs have clients listen to these Integrated Listening Systems while completing therapeutic activities? – Karin Schulze, OT, mentioned that the OT Practice Act doesn’t single out any one specific program (i.e.: Integrated Listening Systems). Barb Smith, OT, agreed and mentioned that various modalities are used in an OT setting. The board directed Ms. Benham to work with Mrs. Curry and Kristin Culbert, AAG on drafting a response on its behalf.

Is it necessary to have a doctor's referral to provide OT evaluations and treatments? – The board discussed whether a physician referral was necessary for an OT evaluation and treatment. Mrs. Curry, OT, stated that a physician referral was dependent on the practice setting and insurance requirements. The board directed Ms. Benham to work with Mrs. Curry and Kristin Culbert, AAG on drafting a response on its behalf.

## **5. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

The board discussed the following agenda items for future meetings:

- Teletherapy
- Ethics in Public Service Training
- New Performance Measures
- Budget and Fees Update
- Legislation Update
- Continuing Education Audits Update

## **6. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Members from the public directed their questions, concerns and comments to the board. Katy Frankenfield and Greg Wintz encouraged the board to include the topic of teletherapy as an agenda item of discussion for the next meeting.

## **7. OTHER OPEN SESSION BUSINESS**

Agreed Order

## **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 8.1 A copy of the January 2011 issue of "The Sentinel News for DOH Employees" was provided in the board member packets for review.

## **9. APPLICATION REVIEWS**

There were no applications to review at this time.

## **10. DISCIPLINARY CASE REVIEWS**

### **OPEN SESSION – Agreed Order Presentation**

Kirby Putscher, Disciplinary Manager, presented the Agreed Order for case number M2009-1348. The board accepted the Agreed Order.

**CLOSED SESSION – 2:15 p.m. to 2:41 p.m.**

**OPEN SESSION – 2:41 p.m.**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The board adjourned at 2:41 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2011, and will be held at the Department of Health office in Kent. Information will be posted on the Occupational Therapy website.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

---

Janette Benham  
Program Manager

---

Camille Curry, Chair  
Occupational Therapy Practice Board