

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

December 16, 2013
10:00 AM

Department of Health – Town Center Three
243 Israel Road SE, Room 265
Tumwater, WA 98501

On December 16, 2013 the Occupational Therapy Practice Board met at the Department of Health, Town Center Three, 243 Israel Rd SE, Tumwater, WA. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

MEMBERS PRESENT

KARIN SCHULZE, OT, CHAIR
BRENDA LEMPE, COTA, VICE CHAIR
BETH ROLLINGER, OT
VERONICA CHASE, PUBLIC MEMBER

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA PHONE

BARB MUNROESTRUCK, OT

STAFF PRESENT

JANETTE BENHAM, PROGRAM MANAGER
SANDIE PEARSON, PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVE
ANDY FERNANDO, POLICY & LEGISLATIVE MGR
TOMMY SIMPSON, MILITARY PROGRAMS MGR
BILL KELLINGTON, SUPERVISING STAFF
ATTORNEY
PEGGY OWEN, DISCIPLINARY CASE MGR
LISA HODGSON, ACTING OFFICE DIRECTOR
TRINA CASTLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DEBRA DEFREYN, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
GENERAL

GUESTS PRESENT

THERE WERE NO GUESTS PRESENT FOR THE MEETING

Monday, December 16, 2013 – 10:00 AM – OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Karin Schulze, Chair, at 10:11 a.m.

1.1 Introductions

Board members, staff, and guests introduced themselves. Ms. Benham thanked Ms. Munroestruck for serving as a board member for two terms, and presented her with

a Certificate of Appreciation. Ms. Munroestruck has agreed to serve until a replacement can be appointed.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

1.3 Approval of October 11, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Board members reviewed and amended the meeting minutes from the October 11, 2013 meeting. Item 3.2 – Update on Citizen Advocacy Center (CAC) Annual Meeting was amended to reflect that Ms. Rollinger would not be attending the annual meeting. The October 11, 2013 Meeting Minutes were approved as amended.

1.4 Approval of Disciplinary Meeting Minutes

The Disciplinary Meeting Minutes from October 11, 2013 were approved as presented.

RULES HEARING – 10:17 a.m. to 10:26 a.m.

2. RULES HEARING: SUICIDE ASSESSMENT, TREATMENT, AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING

The board conducted a rules hearing to receive testimony regarding the proposed amendments to WAC 246-847-010 Definitions and WAC 246-847-065 Continued Competency, and the addition of WAC 246-847-066 Suicide Assessment Training Program Standards. These proposed rules will implement 2012 and 2013 legislation regarding training in suicide assessment. There were no audience members in attendance to provide verbal testimony regarding the proposed rules.

The board received one written comment from Paul Quinnett, Ph.D. suggesting the rule language be amended to replace the term “assessment” with “screen and refer”. The board considered Dr. Quinnett’s comments and suggested revisions. The board discussed that RCW 43.70.442(1)(c) specifically allows the board to approve training that includes only screening and referral elements but (1)(a)(v) requires occupational therapy practitioners to complete training in “suicide assessment, training, and management.” RCW 43.70.442(6) also states: “Nothing in this section may be interpreted to expand or limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated under chapter 18.130 RCW.” The board further referred to RCW 18.35.100 – Duty to Refer Medical Cases, which states: “An occupational therapist shall, after evaluating a patient and if the case is a medical one, refer the case to a physician for appropriate medical direction if such direction is lacking.” Finally, WAC 246-847-066(1) states that “A qualifying training in suicide assessment must (a) be an empirically supported training in suicide assessment that includes risk assessment, screening, and referral.” After discussion, the board determined

that the rule language “suicide assessment” does not infer that occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants will be conducting assessments to the extent that Dr. Quinnett defined. The intent of the assessment is to screen and refer.

There were no additional written comments regarding the amendments or the rule. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the rule as presented. The full board voted in favor of the motion to adopt this rule. The Rules Hearing portion of the meeting concluded at 10:26 a.m.

3. DESIGNATION OF BOARD REPRESENTATIVE FOR LEGISLATIVE UPDATE MEETINGS (MEET-ME-CALLS)

The board designated Karin Schulze as the representative and Beth Rollinger as the alternate to participate in the weekly legislative update meetings. The meetings are every Tuesday morning during the 2014 legislative session. The purpose is to keep board representatives informed of any bills that have been introduced that may affect health professions.

4. PRESENTATION – TOMMY SIMPSON, MILITARY PROGRAMS MANAGER

Mr. Simpson presented information regarding laws in Washington that assist military personnel and their families.

- The first law relates to licensure for spouses and registered domestic partners of military personnel transferring to Washington. This law requires that spouses or registered domestic partners of military personnel receive professional licenses quickly.
- The second law relates to inactive status for spouses and domestic partners of military personnel who are deployed or transferred out of Washington. While away, the military spouse of domestic partner can obtain an inactive status for their credential. They would not have to pay annual renewal fees, and can more easily reinstate the credential when they return.
- The third law relates to military training and is the most complex out of the three to implement. This law affects how the department evaluates certain military training and/or experience toward meeting licensure requirements. It requires that military training or experience satisfies licensure requirements for 22 health professions, providing that the regulating authority agrees that the training is substantially equivalent. Mr. Simpson has evaluated many military healthcare occupations that are equivalent to professions in Washington. He presented the “Crosswalk” document that outlines information regarding health profession licensure requirements and how specific military training/experience relates to or is equivalent to the licensure requirements. The military training for an OTA has been determined to be substantively equivalent and is approved for licensure in Washington.

Mr. Simpson concluded with a review of how the department will streamline applications to include:

- Issuing temporary practice permits when feasible
- Identifying military healthcare occupations equivalent to Washington professions

- Streamlining and simplifying licensure application processes for spouses and veterans
- Identifying gaps in training that can be closed through completing additional courses
- Partnering with education institutions in order to offer programs and courses that address gaps
- Evaluating equivalency training through collaboration with secretary, boards, and commissions

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Request for clarification regarding direct access, consultation, and self-treatment

Board members reviewed, discussed, and directed Ms. Benham to work with Ms. Schulze and Ms. Defreyn on drafting a response on behalf of the board. The question was whether an OT could consult with a client, perform an assessment, advise of their findings, and give a client a self-treatment outline. The board determined there was not enough specific client information to answer the question. The board discussed that the case could be a medical case and practitioners have a requirement under RCW 18.59.100 to refer medical cases.

5.2 Any additional correspondence received by program staff Program staff did not receive any additional correspondence to present.

LUNCH

CLOSED SESSION –The board went into closed session to complete application reviews and disciplinary case reviews (Agenda Items 10 and 11) during lunch from 12:17 p.m. to 12:47 p.m.

APPLICATION REVIEWS (Item 10)

There were no applications for board members to review at this time.

DISCIPLINARY CASE REVIEWS (Item 11)

See Disciplinary meeting minutes

OPEN SESSION – 12:48 p.m.

6. RE-ENTRY PLAN APPLICATION AND FORM REVIEW

The board reviewed and began revising the re-entry plan application and forms. Questions and concerns were raised regarding the supervision component listed on the form. Board members also wanted to do more research on specific competencies required for re-entry into the field. Board members discussed the supervision components and determined to place reviewing the rules relating to re-entry as a future agenda item. The board also deferred further revisions to the re-entry plan application and forms to a future meeting.

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The board requested the following items be on the agenda for future meetings:

- Temporary Permit for military spouses
- Rules – Supervisor standards and requirements for re-entry applicants
- OT/OTA separate forms for re-entry candidates
- Legislative update – meet me call update
- Election of board chair and vice-chair

8. CONSENT AGENDA

A copy of the November 2013 issue of “The Sentinel News for DOH Employees” was provided to board members in their board meeting packets.

9. OTHER OPEN SESSION BUSINESS

There was no other board business for discussion at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The board adjourned at 1:28 p.m. The next board meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2014 and will be a conference call. Updated meeting information will be posted on the Occupational Therapy website.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Janette Benham
Program Manager

Karin Schulze, Chair
Occupational Therapy Practice Board