MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

May 8, 2017

Present: Board members Dr. Keith Swanson, Jeanne DeKrey, Reed Argent, and Dave Relling; Executive Officer Bruce Wessman; Board Counsel Jack McDonald; North Dakota Physical Therapy Association PTA liaison Cassie Christensen

Absent: Terry Eckmann, Dr. David Schall

Board President Jeanne DeKrey called the meeting to order at 9 AM Monday, May 8, 2017, at the Wheeler Wolf Law Firm, 220 N. 4th Street, Bismarck, ND 58501-4004.

Minutes: After review, it was moved by Reed Argent, seconded by Jeanne DeKrey and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board’s May 9, 2016, annual meeting, and the conference call meetings of June 21 and August 23, 2016.

JP Exam updates: Bruce Wessman presented the new JP exam and detailed passing results of the last 40 applicants. The Board has accepted this version of the JP exam and will continue to use this without content changes.

MDS and renewal form: Dave Relling has been working with Mark Lane from FSBPT on the logistics of adding the MDS to the PT renewal form. Dave will continue to work with Mark and will let the executive officer know when this is ready to add to the renewal form.

Update CC reporting form: Bruce Wessman presented the updated CC reporting form to the board. The form is available on our web page. All licensees that are to report CC activity are now required to fill out this form for renewal.

Legislative update: Jack McDonald presented the board with a packet detailing the legislative highlights of 2017. SB 2131 and HB 1157 both passed and will allow ND to join the PT compact and will also allow for criminal background checks for new applicants.

Audit: Bruce Wessman reported that the 2 year audit had been completed in 2016. A copy of the audit has been distributed to all board members. The audit contained no significant findings or recommendations.

Budget: Bruce Wessman presented the board with the budget July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018. After discussion it was moved by Reed Argent, seconded by Keith Swanson and unanimously approved to accept a bid of just fewer than $10,000 to update the online application and renewal tool. It was also moved by Reed Argent, seconded by Dave Relling and approved unanimously to approve $5,000 for the NDPTA to sponsor an educational seminar on ethics. It was then moved by Reed Argent, seconded by Dave Relling and approved unanimously to accept the budget with the above additions.
**Rule changes:** President DeKrey led a discussion on possible rules changes for the future. Areas discussed included the coursework tool updating to the current tool in use, Limit the number of attempts for the NPTE, Telehealth language, PT compact and criminal background checks. At this time no further action was taken other than to keep the above on our radar screen for the future.

**Financial statement:** Bruce Wessman presented the board with the financial statements as of May 1, 2017.

**Licensure stats:** Bruce Wessman presented the board with the current number of PT/PTA licensed by North Dakota. Currently there are 835 PT and 180 PTA.

**Foreign trained PT:** Currently there are 2 foreign trained PT starting a 1,000 hour preceptorship. FSBPT supervised clinical practice evaluation form will be used for both.

**Complaint:** Bruce Wessman informed the board that there were 2 complaints for the past year. Both complaints were dismissed after review by the Board’s attorney and executive officer.

**Pre graduation application form:** Bruce Wessman had received a letter of concern regarding testing early for the NPTE and licensure implications if the candidate did not graduate. Section 42-26.1-04 of the PT practice act clearly states the person must both graduate from an accredited institution and pass the national examination prior to licensure. The board instructed Mr. Wessman to share this information with the author of the letter. PT schools may have a form they use for their students that clearly states this policy.

**Approval to sit for the NPTE by FSBPT:** Bruce Wessman reported to the board that ND is now on the list of states that have asked FSBPT to take over the task of approving candidates to sit for the NPTE.

**Questions for the board:** 1) In the state of North Dakota is it legal for a therapist to write an order if this is delegated by a physician? This question deals with section 483.30 CMS rules of participation. The board tabled this question as this is a new rule from CMA and little is understood of it. 2) Does our license/practice act allow for, or limit, the use of diagnostic musculoskeletal ultrasound by PT’s in ND? The board concluded that as with all other non-entry level skills a therapist must be certified in the procedure if certification exists. For this modality a therapist would need a certification as a Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (RDMS). 3) Is patient education for medication management provided by a PT in a home health setting beyond the scope of practice? The PT board’s answer is: Collecting medication information is within the scope of practice of PT in a home health setting. However the PT will then bring this information to the RN to initiate or complete the reconciliation process and subsequent education. The PT should not provide counseling on drug interactions, prescribing or recommending changes in medication as this is beyond the scope of practice of PT in ND. 4) Can supportive personnel be called PT techs or technicians? The PT board will not permit use of these terms as the century code does not recognize a PT tech/technician. The board would like to emphasize that all supportive personnel should have documented competencies for tasks performed, and all persons should wear name tags that clearly state their title. 5) What portion of the DOT physicals could a PT complete when collaborating with a medical examiner under the Doctor section? The PT board
stated a PT could complete section 10-13 of the physical examination when working in collaboration with a medical examiner. 6) Can a PTA complete standardize testing procedure like a Berg or Tinetti balance assessment tool? This is allowable as long as the supervising PT has deemed the PTA competent to perform these tests. All interpretation or changing of the treatment plan that may result from these tests are to be done by the PT. 7) How should PT charge for Dry Needling? The PT board states that PT’s should follow the guide lines for billing of dry needling as set forth by the APTA. 8) Can a PT test for a PTA license in North Dakota? This is not allowed by the PT practice act.

**New online application system for prospective board members:** Bruce Wessman informed the board that the process for initial application for membership on the board is now an online process. A link to the application form will be placed on our web page.

**Farewell to Terry Eckmann:** Bruce Wessman announced that Terry’s term on the board expires on June 30th 2017. Daniel Conn has been appointed by the governor as the new public member to take effect on July 1, 2017. Mr. Wessman also announced that Jeanne DeKrey has been re-appointed to her second 5 year term.

**Fee for Privilege to Practice:** Discussion was held regarding what to charge for a fee to practice under the new PT compact. After discussion, it was moved by Reed Argent, seconded by Jeanne DeKrey and passed unanimously to charge a $40.00 fee for a PT compact privilege to practice.

**Delegate for PT Compact Commission:** Jeanne DeKrey was elected delegate for the PT compact commission. Bruce Wessman will inform FSBPT.

**Election of Officers:** It was moved by Dave Relling, seconded by Dr. Swanson and passed unanimously that Reed Argent and Jeanne DeKrey be elected President and Vice President respectively.

**2017 FSBPT Annual Meeting:** The Board designated Jeanne DeKrey and Reed Argent respectively, as FSBPT-funded delegate and alternate delegate to the 2017 FSBPT Annual Meeting. Bruce Wessman was designated to attend the 2017 FSBPT Annual Meeting as the Board’s administrator, FSBPT will fund his attendance. A motion was made by Jeanne DeKrey, seconded by Reed Argent and passed unanimously to fund the remaining board members to attend the FSBPT’s educational session.

**Next Board Meeting:** The date of next year’s board meeting will be May 7, 2018 at the Wheeler Wolf Law Office in Bismarck.

No further business appearing, President DeKrey adjourned the meeting at 12:00

DATED: May 8, 2017
/S/ Bruce Wessman
Executive Officer NDBPT