

MINUTES OF THE NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY MEETING
Red River Room, State Capitol, Bismarck, ND - March 3, 2020

Present: Board members Jeanne DeKrey, Dave Relling (phone), Cassie Christensen, Daniel Conn (phone) and Marcus Hieb; Executive Officer Bruce Wessman; and Board Counsel Jack McDonald. Others present were Kevin Axtman, Elizabeth N. Pitman (phone), Dr. Edward Kehrwald, Rob Pace, Kayla Leer and Britt Engel.

Board President Jeanne DeKrey called the meeting to order at 1:31 PM Tuesday, March 3rd, 2020, and made opening comments outlining the procedures to be followed for the hearing on Complaint No. 2 brought by Dr. Kehrwald against physical therapists Britt Engel and Kayla Leer employed by Physical Rehabilitation Network – Rehab Authority Bismarck (PRN – Rehab). She noted the board had earlier dismissed Dr. Kehrwald’s first complaint against these physical therapists.

Hearing: Kevin Axtman, the board’s investigator, explained his report on Complaint #2 which found no cause for board action against the physical therapists, followed by questions from the board. PRN – Rehab’s attorney, Elizabeth N. Pitman, Waller Law Firm, Birmingham, AL, presented arguments on behalf of her clients followed by questions from the board. Britt Engel presented her case notes and answered board questions regarding Dr. Kehrwald’s treatments. Dr. Kehrwald presented his arguments against the investigator’s findings and in support of his complaint, followed by questions from the board. Rob Pace, PRN – Rehab president, was questioned regarding the company’s policies and procedures.

Following these presentations and board discussion, it was moved by Dave Relling, seconded by Dan Conn, and unanimously approved to accept the investigator’s report and to dismiss the complaint against PRN – Rehab Bismarck physical therapists Britt Engel and Kayla Leer. Additionally, it was moved by Dave Relling, seconded by Cassie Christensen and unanimously approved that the board do not accept any further complaints from Dr. Kehrwald related to this episode of care.

NDBPT Sponsorship of NDPTA Centennial: The board discussed it providing financial support for the American Physical Therapy Association – North Dakota’s (APTA-ND) activities to commemorate the American Physical Therapy Association’s 2021 centennial. It was moved by Dan Conn, seconded by Cassie Christensen and

unanimously approved to provide a one-time payment of \$4,000 on the board's behalf to sponsor ND-APTA's centennial celebration.

2020 Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Annual Meeting:

The board designated Jeanne DeKrey and Dan Conn respectively as FSBPT- funded delegate and alternate delegate to the 2020 FSBPT Annual Meeting.

No further business appearing before the board, the meeting was adjourned by President DeKrey at 2:55 PM.

/S/ Bruce Wessman
Executive Officer

/S/ Jeanne DeKrey
Board President