

NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

MAY 13, 2024 VIA ZOOM AND DAKOTA MEDIA ACCESS— 9 AM (CDT)

Present: **In-person:** board members Nancy Kopp, Marcus Hieb, Cassie Christensen, Steve Ziegler, and Justin Berry; Executive Officer Scott Holm and board counsel Jack McDonald. **Via-video conferencing:** board members Terry Eckman and Dr. Rohit Mahajan; American Physical Therapy Association-North Dakota (APTA-ND) physical therapist liaison Brittany Anderson and Physical Therapist Assistant Wendy McGinley. **Guests:** North Dakota Labor Commissioner Nathan Svihovec, Research Assistant Carolyn Laird, American Physical Therapy Association-North Dakota (APTA-ND) President Cindy Flom-Meland

Board President Justin Berry called this Annual Meeting of the North Dakota Board of Physical Therapy to order at 9:05 am on Monday, May 13th, 2024 at the Dakota Access Media, 1101 E Front Ave, Bismarck, ND

Approval of Minutes: It was moved by Marcus Hieb, seconded by Steve Ziegler and approved unanimously to accept the meeting minutes from May 8th, 2023, July 20th, 2023, January 19th, 2024, March 28th, 2024, and April 11th, 2024.

Labor Study: North Dakota Labor Commissioner Nathan Svihovec and Carolyn Laird, Research Assistant, attended the meeting to discuss the SB 2249 Legislative Study; Occupational Licensure Study. Prior to the meeting, Executive Officer Scott Holm completed the Occupational Licensure Study questionnaire. Commissioner Svihovec provided background information for the study and asked the board clarifying questions regarding board processes specific to licensing.

APTA-ND and ND Board of PT Collaboration: Cindy Flom Meland, APTA-ND President, and Cassie Christensen, NDBPT member provided updates on the work group that has been formed including members of the APTA-ND and the NDBPT to review the Model Practice Act, the North Dakota Practice Act, and North Dakota Rules and Regulations. Items for discussion included potential updates to the Rules and Regulations, and the North Dakota Practice Act. Informed consent has been identified by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) as a key item for discussion within the Model Practice Act and state level Rules and Regulations. Lastly, discussion occurred regarding the next steps with imaging advocacy. The APTA-ND has continued to monitor the role and impact of physical therapists ordering plain film imaging. A

group of physical therapists and physicians have been working collaboratively to evaluate the role of a physical therapist ordering imaging and have begun discussions regarding physical therapists ordering other types of imaging.

BCI Refresher: Scott Holm presented an in-person BCI refresher. Background checks are only used for initial PT and PTA licensure. NDBPT will complete the refresher annually at the annual board meeting.

Election of Officers: Scott Holm shared Justin Berry, President and Marcus Hieb, Vice-President have expressed interest in continuing in these roles. The slate of candidates was presented, it was motioned by Steve Ziegler, and seconded by Cassie Christensen to accept the slate of candidates. As there was no opposition for these positions Justin Berry and Marcus Hieb were elected President and Vice President respectively via unanimous vote.

Financial Statement: Scott Holm reported that the cost of a bi-annual audit has risen dramatically and confirmation from the Board Counsel, Jack McDonald, that the Board does not meet the requirements for an external audit. Holm presented the recommendation to have a financial statement prepared by an external firm to ensure quality control of financial accounts. It was moved by Marcus Heib, seconded by Nancy Kopp and approved unanimously to pursue utilizing an external firm to prepare financial statements.

Licensure Statistics and Compact Update: Justin Berry provided an update of current licensees. ND currently has 1,111 physical therapists and 188 active physical therapist assistants. Berry also reported there are 114 active compact licensees.

Continuing Competence Audits: Scott Holm presented the continuing competence audit results for 2022-2023 reporting period. 60 Active licensees were audited for continuing competence for the reporting term of 2022-2023. 4 licensees had to be contacted during the last week of the audit due to email discrepancies. All 6 were able to upload their CC activity within the week and email discrepancies were resolved.

Financial Statements: Scott Holm provided update on the current state of finances and board accounts. Holm reminded the Board that we did not charge renewal fees during the 2024 renewal period.

2024-2025 Budget: Scott Holm presented a draft budget for the coming year. The proposed budget included a \$5,000 APTA-ND Education Sponsorship. It was moved by Cassie Christensen to approve the APTA-ND Education Sponsorship, seconded by Terry Eckman. Discussion on the budget including the updated expense for preparation of financial statements. No further discussion on the budget, it was moved to approve the budget by Marcus Hieb, seconded by Nancy Kopp. The above motions were approved unanimously.

Legislative Updates: Jack McDonald presented the upcoming legislative schedule. McDonald reviewed the key legislative deadlines for the upcoming legislature.

Questions from Licensees: Scott Holm presented questions from licensees received throughout the year. Questions from physical therapists regarding certification and competency for advanced skills. Physical therapists have asked questions specifically about on-field coverage for sporting events, dry needling, and blood flow restriction. With each question the review includes the physical therapy scope of practice and competency. If the intervention or service is within the scope of practice for a physical therapist, it is the responsibility of the physical therapist to ensure they are competent. Example: dry needling is within the scope of practice for a physical therapist; however, it is not an entry-level skill so certification and additional training is required for the therapist to be deemed competent. The Board does not outline the specific courses required. Another question received was in regard to physical therapists ordering plain film imaging in North Dakota and whether or not the patient could go to Minnesota (PTs are not allowed to order plain film imaging) to have the x-ray taken. The Board advised to have the imaging completed in ND where physical therapists are allowed to order plain film imaging. Lastly, there have been questions regarding the verification of dry needling certification. Scott Holm presented that some states request physical therapists to identify if they have received a certification in dry needling. Holm will continue to gather information on what other states do and how they use this information.

Next Meeting: May 12, 2025

Adjourn: With not other items before the Board Nancy Kopp motioned, Cassie Christensen seconded to adjourn the annual meeting of the NDBPT, meeting adjourned at 11:36 am