



Janet T. Mills
Governor

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
AND FINANCIAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN PHYSICAL THERAPY
35 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0035

Anne L. Head, Esq.
Commissioner

Geraldine L. Betts
Administrator

BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN PHYSICAL THERAPY
Minutes of July 24, 2024, Public Board Meeting

Virtual Meeting Public Notification and Hearing/Viewing Instructions Provided at the Opening of the Meeting by Board Chair Anderson.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Leslie Anderson, Physical Therapist, Chair
Tracie Papsadora, Physical Therapist, Complaint Officer
Ashley Gagnon, Physical Therapist

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jennifer Adrienne McAuley, Physical Therapist, Vice Chair

STAFF PRESENT

Geraldine L. Betts, Administrator
Megan Hudson-MacRae, Assistant Attorney General, Board Counsel
Meagan McLaughlin, Comprehensive Health Planner II
Clark Phinney, Comprehensive Health Planner II
Dominic Cotone, Comprehensive Health Planner I

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Review and approval of the minutes of February 13, 2024

Papsadora moved to accept the minutes of February 13, 2024, as presented, seconded Gagnon, unanimously voted.

Review and approval of the minutes of April 3, 2024

Papsadora moved to accept the minutes of April 3, 2024, as presented, seconded Gagnon, unanimously voted.

2025 BOARD MEETING CALENDAR REVIEW

Anderson, Gagnon and Papsadora agreed on the recommended 2025 Board meeting calendar dates.



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OFFICE LOCATION: GARDINER ANNEX
76 NORTHERN AVENUE, GARDINER, MAINE

COMPLAINT PRESENTATION AND BOARD ACTION

2023-PHY-18863

Gagnon moved to dismiss 2023-PHY-18863 with no evidence of a violation of the Board's Laws and Rules, seconded by Anderson. Complaint Officer Papsadora abstained; motion carried.

2023-PHY-18941

Anderson moved to schedule an adjudicatory hearing and offer a Consent Agreement for the resolution of complaint number 2023-PHY-18941 to include the following 1) Admission to Board Rules Chapter 5, Section D(2)(F), for use of a physical therapy patient relationship to initiate a romantic relationship, and Board Rule Chapter 6, Section 10 for soliciting sexual misconduct with a patient, 2) Civil Penalty in the amount of \$3000.00 to be paid within 180 days from execution of the consent agreement, 3) Suspension of the practice of physical therapy for 180 days, 4) Probation for a period of at least two (2) years to include direct supervision. The Licensee will identify a candidate to act as a direct supervisor. The appropriate candidate must be a licensed health care professional whose license has been at least five (5) years in good standing with the State of Maine. The Supervisor must submit quarterly reports of supervision to the Board and a final report once the probationary period has ended. The Licensee agrees to report to the Board any changes to the licensee's employment or supervision, 5) complete 50 hours of pre-approved continuing education relating to professional ethics, and professional conduct and boundaries to be completed within 180 days of execution, Anderson to approve all continuing education. Seconded by Gagnon. Papsadora abstained; motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Supervision and Dry Needling Certification, 2024-PHY-19870

Papsadora moved to acknowledge and approve completion of dry needling certification and terminate suspension of 2024-PHY-19870, seconded by Gagnon, unanimously voted.

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

Caroline Joy Co, PT, DPT, CHT, CSFA, Astym-cert

Request for clarification regarding the practice and educational requirements for soft tissue mobilization techniques, specifically instrument-assisted soft tissue mobilization (IASTM/Gua Sha/Cupping within the scope of practice as licensed physical therapists.

The Board discussed this request and agreed that a physical therapist's scope of practice should be limited to their education. A licensee should use their professional judgement as to education and training on all services provided.

PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

Nancy Chaney addressed the Board by stating she was the mother of a complainant and wanted to the Board to know the licensee had shirts made up to reflect the case and felt it was a "slap in the face" to her daughter. The Board did not comment as it was not a matter subject to Board discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Papsadora moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 a.m. Seconded by Gagnon. Unanimously voted.

Prepared by: Meagan McLaughlin, Comprehensive Health Planner II

Board Approved: October 8, 2024