



## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2022  
9:30 AM

This meeting was available by webinar only.

On January 21, 2022, the Occupational Therapy Practice Board met by webinar. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

WALTER GRUENWALD, OT, CHAIR  
MARY SPORES, OT, VICE CHAIR  
SUNNY ANDERSON, COTA  
NING BARFIELD, OT

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

DI IRONS, PUBLIC MEMBER

### **STAFF PRESENT**

KATHY WEED, PROGRAM MANAGER  
TRINA CRAWFORD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SANDIE PEARSON, PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVE  
LUKE EATON, AAG  
SIERRA MCWILLIAMS, AAG  
SARA KIRSCHENMAN, STAFF ATTORNEY  
ASHLEY BELL, PROGRAM COORDINATOR

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

KRISTEN NEVILLE, AOTA STATE AFFAIRS MANAGER  
GENIE CHARVET  
ANDRE MENIN, OT  
CLAIRE DOUGLAS, OT  
CARLOS ALANIZ  
TANA TENOLD

### **Friday, January 21, 2022 – 9:03 a.m. – OPEN SESSION**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Walter Gruenwald, OT, at 9:30 a.m.

##### **1.1 Introductions**

The board, staff and audience members introduced themselves.

**1.2** Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to amend the meeting agenda and to move Item 2 – Presentation on Credentialing Process to Item 7 and renumber agenda accordingly. The motion was seconded, and the board voted to approve the agenda as amended.

**1.3** Approval of the October 15, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Board members reviewed the October 15, 2021, meeting minutes. A motion was made, seconded and the board voted in favor of approving the meeting minutes as presented.

**1.4** Selection of Chair and Vice-chair for the remainder of 2022 meetings

The board nominated and unanimously elected Walter Gruenwald to serve as board Chair for 2022. Mary Spores was nominated and unanimously elected to serve as Vice-Chair for 2022.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE** – The board reviewed, discussed, and considered acting on the drafted response to correspondence received previously regarding if an OT may provide services to a client who has been evaluated by a physical therapist.

Ms. Weed presented a draft response regarding an OT only being allowed to provide services from an OT evaluation.

Members of the audience shared how evaluations are conducted in some facilities. Board members discussed and a motion was made to table the draft letter and work to clarify the guidance. The motion was seconded, and the board voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Gruenwald will work with Ms. Weed and Ms. McWilliams on clarifying the guidance and editing the draft response.

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** – Information presented to the board by Trina Crawford, Executive Director

**3.1** Budget update – Ms. Crawford presented a budget update as of December 2021. The program budget is in good shape with revenue continuing to exceed expenditures. The overall fund balance is well within the allotment and currently there are no concerns about the programs budget. Ms. Crawford shared she will provide an update to the board on the HELMS project at the next meeting.

**4. PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT** – Information was provided to the board by Program Manager, Kathy Weed.

- 4.1 Recruitment update – Ms. Weed shared that the recruitment for the COTA position has been sent forward to the Governor’s office. Ms. Weed also shared that she currently has received one application for the public member position and is expecting to receive one additional public member application.
- 4.2 2022 Legislative calls volunteer – Ms. Weed shared that SB 5518 – Concerning the occupational therapy licensure compact. The bill is expected to move forward through the legislative process. Ms. Weed also provide information on SB 5753 – Increasing board and commission capacities. This bill is also expected to move forward.

5. **PRESENTATION ON SB 5229 IMPLEMENTATION** – The board received a presentation on implementation of SB 5229, Concerning health equity continuing education for health care professionals. Presented by Ashley Bell, Behavioral Health Program Coordinator.

Ashley Bell presented information to the board regarding SB 5229. She shared that SB 5229 impacts most health professions. The bill requires the Department of Health (DOH) to draft model rules for continuing education for health equity. DOH has held several listening sessions. The board will have until January 2024 to draft rule language for SB 5229. Ms. Bell will provide an update to the board at a future board meeting.

6. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS** – The board discussed adding the following items to future agendas for discussion:

- SB 5229 Update
- Correspondence update
- Licensure compact update
- Recruitment update
- Business Plan

7. **PRESENTAION ON CREDENTIALING PROCESS** -The board received a presentation on the departments credential process and statistics. Presented by Kevin Robbins, Credentialing Supervisor.

The following licensing statistics were provided to the board:

	<b>OT</b> (Active licenses)	<b>OTA</b> (Active licenses)	<b>OT</b> (pending)	<b>OTA</b> (pending)
January 2022	4076	1210	175	44

Mr. Robbins provided an overview of the credentialing process. Ms. Anderson shared her concerns regarding the lengthy application processing times. Mr. Robbins explained that the credentialing unit had been short staffed. He shared that they currently are full staffed and processing times should be improving.

**8. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments directed to the board at this time.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The board adjourned at 10:59 a.m. The next regularly scheduled board meeting is April 22, 2022 and will be held by webinar only. Updated meeting information will be posted on the Occupational Therapy website.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

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Kathy Weed  
Program Manager

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Walter Gruenwald, Chair  
Occupational Therapy Practice Board