

MINUTES

**UTAH
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
LICENSING BOARD MEETING**

September 14, 2015

**Room 464 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 9:07 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 11:45 A.M.

**Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:
Compliance Assistant:**

April Ellis
Lisa Martin
Debbie Harry

Board Members Present:

Jeffrey M. Coursey, PA-C, Chairperson
Lori G. Buhler
Robert C. Moesinger, MD
Robert E. Ferguson, Jr. MD

Board Members Absent and Excused:

Shari Bloom, PA-C
David Schmitz, MD
Kyle Harmer, PA-C

Guests:

Terry Jeffries
Joe Coombs, USP
Brye DeGiulio, USP
Garry Nieder

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

MINUTES:

The minutes from the June 1, 2015 meeting were read.

Dr. Moesinger made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Ms. Buhler seconded the motion. The board vote was unanimous.

Elect Chairperson

This item was tabled until more board members are present.

APPOINTMENTS:

9:10 am

Debbie Harry, Compliance Update

Ms. Harry reported the following are in compliance or out of compliance with their Stipulations and Orders:

- Mr. Neiderhouser is not in compliance with his Stipulation and Order.
- Mr. Hussey is in compliance with his Stipulation and Order.
- Mr. Langi is not in compliance with his Stipulation and Order.
- Mr. Norton is not in compliance with his Stipulation and Order.
- Mr. Rayner is in compliance with his Stipulation and Order.
- Ms. Glick is in compliance with her Stipulation and Order.

9:15 am

Mr. Curtis Neiderhouser, Probationary Interview

Dr. Moesinger conducted the interview asking Mr. Neiderhouser about reports being submitted late.

Mr. Neiderhouser stated he did not get reports signed prior to individuals being out of the office.

Dr. Moesinger states Mr. Neiderhouser missed three check-ins as of the June meeting.

Mr. Neiderhouser states those missed days are most likely weekends.

Dr. Moesinger states the importance of fulfilling all requirements in a timely manner.

Ms. Harry suggest Mr. Neiderhouser set multiple reminders throughout the day.

Dr. Moesinger asks if Mr. Neiderhouser has any questions or items to discuss.

Mr. Neiderhouser states the evaluation suggests after

six months it would be possible to remove the requirement of drug screens.

Ms. Ellis states all probationers with substance issues are required to continue drug screens for the duration of probation.

Mr. Neiderhouser requests the frequency of testing be reduced.

Ms. Ellis states Mr. Neiderhouser tested 7 times over 3 months, which is a reasonable amount.

Mr. Neiderhouser asks about regaining his controlled substance license.

Dr. Ferguson suggest the topic be addressed in December maintaining compliance with all reports being submitted on time.

An appointment was made for Mr. Neiderhouser to meet with the board on December 14, 2015.

9:35 am

Mr. Kenneth Hussey, Probationary Interview

Dr. Ferguson conducted the interview asking if there have been any changes in Mr. Hussey's practice.

Mr. Hussey states there have been no changes in his practice.

Dr. Ferguson asks about Mr. Hussey's understanding prescribing practices.

Mr. Hussey state he cannot prescribe controlled substances for more than a 30 supply.

Mr. Coursey asks about Mr. Hussey's practice of maintaining his name badge being displayed.

Mr. Hussey states he now wears his name badge at all times.

Mr. Coursey asks what Mr. Hussey does when a patient indicates they require a prescription for a controlled substance.

Mr. Hussey states the front desk employees redirect many of the patients that require controlled substance prescriptions.

Mr. Coursey asks if Mr. Hussey is working in the office alone.

Mr. Hussey states he does not practice alone.

An appointment was scheduled for Mr. Hussey to meet telephonically with the board on December 14, 2015.

9:55 am

Mr. Kingi Langi, Probationary Interview

Mr. Coursey conducted the interview asking how Mr. Langi is doing.

Mr. Langi states he has a clinic in Salt Lake and one in Provo and he splits time between the two locations. Mr. Langi states his supervisors are Jim Ngatuvai and Dr. Steve Young both are family practice physicians.

Mr. Coursey asks if the two supervisors work on site with Mr. Langi.

Mr. Langi states Dr. Young visits the office and will take chart to Dr. Young for chart review.

Mr. Coursey clarifies that the supervisors are available by phone and not in the office.

Mr. Langi confirms that the supervisors are always available by phone and do not work in the office.

Mr. Coursey asks about supervision with Dr. Ngatuvai.

Mr. Langi states the supervision is going well Dr. Ngatuvai reviews charts and they meet regularly to discuss patients.

Mr. Coursey asks if patients understand Mr. Langi's role as a physician assistant.

Mr. Langi states the patients understand that he is a physician assistant and that he is supervised by a

physician.

Dr. Ferguson states the board is not questioning the quality of care that Mr. Langi is providing, the board's goal is to help him follow the law in its entirety.

Mr. Coursey asks Mr. Langi about his prescribing practice.

Mr. Langi states he works with his patients concerning proper use of medication, completes a databank review, and checks drug screens regularly.

Mr. Coursey asks what Mr. Langi does when he feels his supervising physician should see the patient.

Mr. Langi state he will contact his supervisor to discuss the patient and that he refers patients to specialists.

Mr. Coursey states the reports that Mr. Langi brought today were due on the 28th.

Mr. Langi states his supervisor was on vacation which delayed obtaining the signature.

Mr. Coursey states the supervisor report is not as detailed at the board would like to see and encourages that the next report contain more details.

An appointment was made for Mr. Langi to meet with the board on December 14, 2015.

10:15 am
Mr. Brady Norton, Probationary Interview

Dr. Ferguson conducted the interview asking how Mr. Norton is doing.

Mr. Norton states his current therapist is a good fit and he is able to address many of his issues. Mr. Norton states he is volunteering at an urgent care.

Dr. Ferguson asks how long Mr. Norton will be in California.

Mr. Norton states he plans on being in California until December.

Dr. Ferguson asks if there have been relapse issues.

Mr. Norton states he has not had a relapse issue, Mr. Norton states on one drug screen he saw a positive for opioids that may be due to a medication that often results in a false positive.

Dr. Ferguson asks if Mr. Norton will move back to Utah after treatment ends in December.

Mr. Norton states if employment is found in California he would consider staying.

An appointment was made for Mr. Norton to meet with the board on December 14, 2015.

10:35 am

Mr. Hansel Rayner, Probationary Interview

Mr. Coursey conducted the interview asking how Mr. Rayner is doing.

Mr. Rayner states he is doing well. Mr. Rayner states after starting work with the Archers Dr. Cullen Archer left the practice. Mr. Rayner states he continued to work with Dr. Sandra Archer. Mr. Rayner introduces Dr. Sandra Archer.

Mr. Coursey asks about Mr. Rayner's the scope of practice and the patients that are seen in the clinic.

Mr. Rayner states Dr. Archer has been trained in reproductive endocrinology. Mr. Rayner states he operates the ultrasound and performs the exams.

Mr. Coursey clarifies the primary practice is fertility.

Dr. Archer states she performs consultations while Mr. Rayner performs the exam. Dr. Archer states she sees infertility patients prior to them seeing a fertility specialist and that the clinic will be adding consultation for thyroid and gestational diabetes.

Dr. Moesinger clarifies that Dr. Sandra Archer is

Mr. Rayner's only supervising physician and they work at the same site.

Mr. Rayner confirms he only has one supervisor.

Mr. Coursey states the board appreciates the supervisor reports that are detailed and submitted on time.

Dr. Archer asks as Mr. Rayner has been in compliance would the board consider early release from probation.

Ms. Ellis states Mr. Rayner started probation in October of 2013, however Mr. Rayner has been with this practice for a short about of time.

Dr. Ferguson states if Mr. Rayner remains at a one clinic for a good period of time it would show the board a consistency that has not been displayed.

Dr. Moesinger states the board would like to see another six months of consistency and the discussion can be readdressed.

Mr. Rayner asks about the option of changing the report requirement to quarterly.

Ms. Harry states the discussion can be had after six months of a consistent supervisor. Ms. Harry suggests Mr. Rayner make the request at the December meeting.

An appointment was scheduled for Mr. Rayner to meet with the board on December 14, 2015.

10:55 am

Ms. Melissa Glick, Initial Probationary Interview

Mr. Coursey conducted the interview asking how Ms. Glick is doing.

Ms. Glick Ms. Glick states she is about to be sober for nine months, she is working at Turning Point Center, attends 4 or 5 meetings a week including Professionals in Recovery, aftercare, a twelve step program and connects with a sponsor by phone. Ms. Glick asks about working under the same supervising physician at two different location.

Mr. Coursey clarifies that the work is with the same supervising physician

Ms. Glick confirms it there are some differences in the work they are very similar and it is with the same supervisor.

Mr. Coursey states even with the same supervising physician as it is a slightly different scope of practice an additional practice plan would be required.

Ms. Glick states she will revise the practice plan to include this additional opportunity.

An appointment was made for Ms. Glick to meet with the board on December 14, 2015.

11:15 am

Mr. Steve White, Reinstatement Review

Mr. Coursey asks if Mr. White has obtained employment.

Mr. White states he has an offer from an emergency department in Elko Nevada. Mr. White states he cannot obtain his Nevada license until the Utah board make a decision on reinstating his license.

Mr. Coursey asks what Mr. White has done prior to reapplying.

Mr. White states he has obtain a supervising physician, went through a multi-disciplinary evaluation, obtained a therapist that he sees monthly, and attends AA 2-3 times a week.

Mr. Coursey asks if Mr. White has sought employment in Utah.

Mr. White states he has looked for employment in Utah however he has been unsuccessful.

Mr. Coursey asks about support from the Elko clinic if the position works out.

Mr. White states he has informed the employer of his

situation and they are understanding.

Ms. Ellis states the evaluation did recommend drug screening and Utah would require probation to fulfill the recommendation.

Mr. White states he understood when he applied that probation would be a possible requirement.

Mr. Coursey asks if Mr. White is aware if a probation license would impact obtaining his Nevada license.

Mr. White states he has been informed that Nevada would likely mirror what Utah establishes.

Mr. Coursey states the board is supportive of a reinstatement.

Ms. Ellis states a Stipulation and Order will be drafted and sent prior to a probation license being issued.

Mr. White thanks the board for their time.

11:35 am

Mr. Scott West, Application Review

Mr. Coursey welcomes Mr. West and asks what his understanding is for this appointment.

Mr. West states while in school some of his actions required a review and resulted in suspension. When he graduated and applied for a license he was required to answer yes on the question questionnaire. Mr. West states based on the 'yes' answer and supporting documents he understands the board requires a review of the full events.

Mr. Coursey asks about Mr. White to discuss the submitted narrative concerning the professionalism course.

Mr. West states he was involved in a course that consisted of group discussions, several essays, from the work involved in the course Mr. West was able to recognize his mistakes and the decisions that he made to in the course of his actions.

Mr. Coursey reinstates the importance of a physician assistant maintaining patient safety. Mr. Coursey asks about Mr. West's impression of the article he was required to read.

Mr. West states he was impressed and surprised by the statistics listed in the article. Mr. West states he has a greater appreciation for the board's concern.

Mr. Coursey asks if Mr. West has an employment opportunity.

Mr. West states he has a possible job that is dependent upon the board decision.

Mr. Coursey states the board feels it appropriate for Mr. West be issued a license.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:
Supervision Exception

Mr. Coombs states the prison has some staffing changes, one physician is retiring, one physician is under review, and this leaves one physician to supervise the seven physician assistance on staff. Mr. Coombs states the prison he has asked for an exception to the supervision rule. The prison has been granted an exception from the division until October 9, they are working with the governor for solutions while looking to hire more physicians. Mr. Coombs ask that the exception be extended until December 31, 2015.

Ms. Ellis states the rule states a supervising physician is not allowed to supervise more than the equivalent of four full-time physician assistance at one time.

Dr. Ferguson asks if an extension of the exception will assist or harm the other options of hiring physicians through the health department or other options.

Mr. Coombs states an extension will not harm their other efforts.

Mr. Coursey asks if Dr. Roberts is the only physician remaining, what the physician assistance

do for supervision when Dr. Roberts is not in the clinic.

Mr. Coombs states Dr. Roberts would be available by phone.

Mr. Coursey states his concern for the physician assistance and maintaining the quality of care. Mr. Coursey states he supports granting the extension.

The board agrees that an extension of the exception is allowed.

Ms. Ellis states the division will issue an updated letter.

Mr. Coombs thanks the board for their time.

Probationer Status

Ms. Ellis states the division has had discussion about the status of probationers' licenses. Ms. Ellis states there is inconsistency in the status of the licenses. The decision of the division to remove the status of restricted and all probationers' license status now shows 'active on probation'.

CORRESPONDENCE:

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR: December 14, 2015

ADJOURN: 11:45 A.M.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

Date Approved

Chairperson, Utah Physician Assistant Licensing Board

23/NOV/15
Date Approved

Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing