



# Alaska Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Meeting

## June 7, 2024 Minutes

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
Friday, June 7, 2024 at 8:00 AM AKDT  
@ Juneau - Virtual

**These minutes have been approved by the board in accordance with PL-12/online voting.**

### 1. Call to Order

#### A. Roll Call

- i. The Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy board meeting was called to order on Friday, June 7, 2024, by secretary Enlow Walker at 8:14 am.
- ii. Board members present: Enlow Walker, Secretary; Rebecca Dean, Valerie Phelps, Lindsey Hill, Tori Daugherty.
- iii. Staff present: Reid Bowman, Program Coordinator 2 and Sheri Ryan, Licensing Examiner.
- iv. Quorum established. 5 of 6 appointed board members present.

#### B. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest/Ethics Reporting

No conflicts of interest were reported by the five board members present.

#### C. Accept Agenda

**Rebecca Dean moved to accept the agenda for the June 7, 2024 Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy meeting as submitted. Motion seconded by Valerie Phelps. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passed unanimously.**

### 2. Public Comment

No public comment given.

### 3. Regulations Projects

#### A. PT/OT Dry Needling Regulations Project

Review revised draft from Regulations Specialist and vote to move forward to Department of Law

**Valerie Phelps moved to accept the physical therapy and occupational therapy dry needling regulations language as written and move forward for public comment. Motion seconded by Lindsey Hill.**

The board discussed the ability for OTAs and PTAs to provide dry needling if properly trained if under the supervision of a PT or OT. No modification to regulation language made.

Board member Tina McLean joined the meeting at 8:26 am. Chair transferred from Enlow Walker to Tina McLean. Quorum maintained as six of six appointed board members present.

Chair McLean expressed concern that motion would allow regulations to move forward for public comment without board input on any changes made by the Department of Law. Board discussed requirement in (b) of both physical therapy and occupational therapy dry needling regulations for bloodborne pathogens OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1030 standards. Ms. McLean expressed concern that these standards are too broad and would create undue burden on licensees. Ms. McLean also questioned why there was repetition in (a)(3) of the dry needling regulations for informed consent. Informed consent is already a requirement under regulation. Board discussed current informed consent requirements in regulation and national trends.

**Valerie Phelps rescinded her motion and requested that this agenda item be tabled for discussion at the next board meeting. All in favor; none opposed. Motion rescinded.**

Regulations to be sent to Regulations Committee for refinement as discussed and brought back to the board for consideration at October meeting.

Board member Lindsey Hill left the meeting at 9:05 am; quorum maintained as 5 of 6 appointed board members in attendance.

**Action Items:**

Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Dry Needling regulations to be sent to Regulations Committee for refinement as discussed and brought back to the board for consideration at October meeting.

B. Foreign-Educated Physical Therapy 6-month Post-Graduate Internship Requirement Elimination

Review draft language recommended by Regulations Committee and vote

**Valerie Phelps moved to accept the regulation project draft language to eliminate the Foreign-Educated 6-month post-graduate internship requirement as submitted and move forward for public comment. Motion seconded by Enlow Walker. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.**

**Action Items:**

Staff to work with Regulations Specialist to move forward Regulations Project on 12 AAC 54.040 - to eliminate the Foreign-Educated 6-month post-graduate internship requirement.

C. SB74 - PT Compact Licensure

Adopt Regulations project to support [SB74](#).

Board discussed the passage of SB74 by Alaska Legislature 05/13/2024 and the need for the board to write regulatory language to support statute changes for Interstate Physical Therapy Compact Licensure.

**Rebecca Dean moved to adopt a regulations project to write regulatory language necessary to support SB74 - Interstate Physical Therapy Compact Licensure. Motion seconded by Valerie Phelps. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.**

**Action Items:**

Regulations Committee to begin work on draft regulation language to support SB74.

4. Annual Report - Deadline for final approval is June 20

Past reports for this board and other boards are available online at:  
<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/DivisionReports.aspx>

**Rebecca Dean moved to accept the PHY 2024 Annual Report as submitted. Motion seconded by Valerie Phelps. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.**

**Action Items:**

Staff to submit PHY 2024 Annual Report to publications team for finalization.

Board member Valerie Phelps left the meeting at 9:07 am. Quorum still in effect as 4 of 6 appointed board members still in attendance.

5. Meeting Summary - Action Items

**Action Items:**

1. PT and OT Dry Needling regulations will be sent to Regulations Committee for refinement as discussed and brought back to the board for consideration at October meeting.
2. Staff will work with Regulations Specialist to move forward Regulations Project on 12 AAC 54.040 - to eliminate the Foreign-Educated 6-month post-graduate internship requirement.
3. Regulations Project SB74 - referred to Regulations committee.
4. Staff will submit PHY 2024 Annual Report to publications team for finalization.
5. Staff will work with Tori Daugherty and Lindsey Hill on committee representation. Board to vote in OnBoard on any changes in committee representation.

6. Adjourn

**Motion made by Enlow Walker to adjourn. Motion seconded by Rebecca Dean. All in favor; none opposed. Motion passes unanimously.**

The Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board meeting was adjourned at 9:15 am on Friday, June 7, 2024.

Next board meeting scheduled for October 24-25, 2024 at 9:00 am to be held at the Atwood Building, 550 W. 7th Ave, Suite 1535, Anchorage, AK.