

Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

Board Meeting

April 11, 2025

9:00 am

Members Present: Liesl Olson, PT, Vice Chair
Kate Roby, PT, DPT, Secretary
Manuel "Tony" Domenech, PT, DPT
Melissa Thomas, PT, DPT
Omar Palomin, PT, DPT
Glenda Clausell, Public Member
Donivan Hodge, Public Member
Jacob Delgado, Public Member

Member Absent: Harvey Aikman, PT, DPT, Chair

Legal Counsel: Rosalind Hunt, Assistant Attorney General

Staff: Ralph Harper, Executive Director
Karen Gordon, PT Coordinator
Randall Glines, Staff Services Officer
Adriana Delgado, Licensing Manager
Amy Carter, Director of Enforcement

Guests: Craig Tounget, Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA) Executive
Director
Lindsey Green, TPTA CCAP Program Manager
Paul Lietz, PT
George C. Lobb, Attorney

The meeting of the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners was held by videoconference call pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.127.

1. Call to order
2. Roll call for members
3. Excusing board member absences.
4. Public comment
5. Minutes from the January 17, 2025 meeting
6. Hearing on Temporary Suspension of License #1331811 pursuant to Texas Occupations Code section 453.354(c)
7. Executive Director's Report concerning fiscal and budgetary matters, performance measures, ongoing projects, agency personnel matters, legislative session, and other agency business
8. Investigation Committee Report concerning:
 - A. Agreed Orders for case #s: 22640, 24330, 24426, 24427, 24428, 24433, 24441, 24447, 24453, 24456, 24461, 24463, 24467, 24485, 24499, 24500, 24505, 24509, 24510, 24514, 25002, 25003, 25004, 25017, 25026, 25032, 25042, 25050, 25058, 25063, 25075, 25104, 25112, 25118, 25123, 25128, 25141, 25143, and 25181
 - B. Number of cases reviewed, Agreed Orders issued, and other investigative matters discussed during the Investigation Committee Meeting of February 24, 2025
 - C. Performance measures, on-site investigation visits, school presentations, and other investigative activities that have occurred during the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2025
9. Education Committee Report concerning:
 - E. The Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA) Continuing Competence Approval Program (CCAP) report

- F. Proposing amendment to CCAP Memorandum of Understanding relating to audit of TPTA's Accredited Provider status
 - G. Proposing amendment to 22 TAC §341.2 (g) relating to Continuing Competence Audits
 - H. Request(s) for appeal to re-take the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE)
 - I. Request(s) for review of educational equivalency from foreign-educated applicants
 - J. Request(s) for Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) waiver
 - K. Request(s) for CCU medical waiver
 - L. Request to add the Certified Professional in Patient Safety (CPPS) certification examination to the list of pre-approved specialty examinations qualifying for continuing competence credit
 - M. Issues related to physical therapy entry-level education and continuing competence
10. Licensure by endorsement of PTAs who were grandfathered without taking the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE)
 11. Physical Therapy jurisprudence and ethics assessment module Request for Proposal
 12. Election of delegate and alternate delegate to the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Annual Meeting, October 23 – 25 in Spokane, Washington
 13. Election of delegate to the PT Compact Annual Meeting
 14. Board Coordinator's report concerning meetings attended since last Board meeting, Continuing Competence Audit results, number of current licensees, NPTE pass/fail statistics, TX Jurisprudence Assessment Module statistics, PT Compact statistics, and other events concerning the practice of physical therapy.
 15. Board Chair's report concerning meetings attended since last Board meeting, correspondence received on behalf of the Board, and other events concerning the practice of physical therapy.
 16. Long-term planning for future meetings, including future meeting dates and agenda items
 17. Adjournment
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1. Call to order

Ms. Olson, Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. as the presiding Board Member in the absence of Harvey Aikman, Chair

2. Roll call for members

Ms. Olson called roll and determined that a quorum existed.

3. Excusing Board member absences

Motion: To approve the absence of Harvey Aikman, Chair
Made by: Donivan Hodge
Second: Kate Roby

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Minutes from the January 17, 2025 meeting

Motion: To approve the minutes as submitted.
Made by: Tony Domenech
Second: Kate Roby

Motion passed unanimously.

1 **6. Hearing on Temporary Suspension of License #1331811 pursuant to Texas Occupations**
2 **Code section 453.354(c)**
3

4 Paul Lietz, PT and his attorney George Lobb appeared before the Board in response to the
5 emergency suspension of his license #1072692 on April 4, 2025. After discussion between Mr.
6 Lobb and the Board members including an explanation about the procedure, Ms. Olson called the
7 Board into Closed Session at 9:23 am.
8

9 Ms. Olson called the Board back into Open Session at 9:54 am and reported that no action was
10 taken in Closed Session. Ms. Clausell, Public Member, joined the meeting at this time.
11

12 Motion: To continue the suspension of license #331811 because of a continuing or
13 imminent threat to the public health or welfare continues to exist to justify
14 continuing the temporary license suspension. The suspension will be in effect
15 until a 60-day hearing is held. To authorize the presiding officer to sign the
16 order on the Board's behalf.

17 Made by: Donivan Hodge

18 Second: Tony Domenech

19 Motion passed unanimously.
20

21 Paul Lietz and his attorney exited the meeting at 9:48 am.
22

23 **7. Executive Director's Report concerning fiscal and budgetary matters, performance**
24 **measures, ongoing projects, agency personnel matters, legislative session, and other**
25 **agency business.**
26

27 Mr. Harper presented the Executive Director's Report that included the following:

- 28 • Financial expenses and revenues for the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2025;
- 29 • Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) and 89th Legislative Session priorities;
- 30 • Enrollment phase of new payment system with rollout in March or April 2025;
- 31 • Ongoing efforts to fill agency vacant positions;
- 32 • Performance Measures for 2nd Quarter FY 2025; and
- 33 • Versa Implementation on March 17, 2025.
34

35 **8. Investigation Committee Report , concerning:**
36

37 **A. Agreed Orders for case #s: 24330, 24426, 24427, 24500, 24505, 25066, 25075, 25080,**
38 **25083, 25084, 25144, 25180, 25182, 25187, 25198, 25206, 25209, 25218, 25242, 25244,**
39 **25245, 25246, 25247, 25255, 25256, 25259, 25264, 25265, 25267, 25273, 25277, 25295,**
40 **and 25300**
41

42 The Board voted to approve the following Agreed Orders:
43

44 24427, 24500, 24505, 25066, 25080, 25084, 25144, 25180, 25182, 25198, 25206, 25209,
45 25218, 25242, 25244, 25245, 25256, 25259, 25265, 25273, 25295, and 25300
46

47 **B. Number of cases reviewed, Agreed Orders issued, and other investigative matters**
48 **discussed during the Investigation Committee Meeting of December 2, 2024**
49

50 Ms. Carter reported that the Committee reviewed 150 cases, schedule six (6) and held four (4)
51 informal conferences, and issued thirty-three (33) Agreed Orders with twenty-two (22) being
52 accepted, eight (8) requesting an informal conference, one (1) no response, one (1) referral to
53 SOAH, and one (1) emergency suspension.
54

C. Performance measures, on-site investigation visits, school presentations, and other investigative activities that have occurred during the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2025

Ms. Carter reported on performance measures, on-site investigation visits and school presentations during the 2nd quarter of FY25.

9. Education Committee Report concerning:

E. The Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA) Continuing Competence Approval Program (CCAP) report

Dr. Domenech reported that the Committee reviewed the CCAP report and that there were no concerns noted. No action was taken

F. Proposing amendment to CCAP Memorandum of Understanding relating to audit of TPTA's Accredited Provider status

Dr. Domenech reported that the Committee reviewed and discussed Article IV. CCAP Audits, APS Audit Procedures, paragraph 3, page 6 of the CCAP Memorandum of Understanding and makes the following recommendation:

Motion: To recommend changing the frequency of the audit from annually to at a minimum of once per accreditation period.

Made by: Education Committee

Second: None needed

Motion passed unanimously.

G. Proposing amendment to 22 TAC §341.2 (g) relating to Continuing Competence Audits

Dr. Domenech reported that the Committee reviewed and discussed the current requirement that licensees who are more than 90 days late in renewing their license are not included in the continuing competence audit and must submit documentation of continuing competence activities at time of renewal. The Committee makes the following recommendation:

Motion: To recommend amending §341.2 (g) to include licensees who are more than 90 days late but less than one year late in renewing their license to be included in the continuing competence audit instead of submitting documentation of continuing competence activities at time of renewal.

Made by: Education Committee

Second: None needed

Motion passed unanimously.

H. Request(s) for appeal to re-take the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE)

Dr. Domenech reported that the Committee reviewed and discussed two (2) requests for an appeal to retake the NPTE.

Motion: To recommend approving the request from applicant #1 for an NPTE appeal.

Made by: Education Committee

Second: None needed

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: To recommend denying the request from applicant #2 for an NPTE appeal.

Made by: Education Committee
Second: None needed
Motion passed unanimously.

I. Request(s) for review of educational equivalency from foreign-educated applicants

Dr. Domenech reported that the Committee reviewed and discussed one (1) request for a TOEFL exception from an applicant by exam.

Motion: To recommend that the education of the requestor be deemed substantially equivalent.
Made by: Education Committee
Second: None needed
Motion passed unanimously.

J. Request(s) for Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) waiver

Dr. Domenech reported that the Committee reviewed and discussed two (2) requests for a TOEFL exception from applicants by exam.

Motion: To recommend that an exception to the TOEFL requirement be denied to both applicants.
Made by: Education Committee
Second: None needed

K. Request(s) for CCU medical waiver

Dr. Domenech reported that the Committee reviewed and discussed two (2) requests for a CCU Medical Waiver.

Motion: To recommend granting a CCU Medical Waiver to both requestors.
Made by: Education Committee
Second: None needed
Motion passed unanimously.

L. Request to add the Certified Professional in Patient Safety (CPPS) certification examination to the list of pre-approved specialty examinations qualifying for continuing competence credit

Dr. Domenech reported that the Committee reviewed the criteria for pre-approved specialty examinations and the submission requesting addition of the CPPS certification examination.

Motion: To recommend adding the Certified Professional in Patient Safety certification examination to the list of pre-approved specialty examinations with a value of 12 CCUs upon successful completion.
Made by: Education Committee
Second: None needed
Motion passed unanimously.

M. Issues related to physical therapy entry-level education and continuing competence

Dr. Domenech reported that there were no additional issues to discuss.

10. Licensure by endorsement of PTAs who were grandfathered without taking the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE)

The Board reviewed and discussed a request from a PTA licensed in Minnesota since 2008 when MN grandfathered PTAs into licensure and who had been working as a PTA since graduating from an CAPTE-accredited PTA program in 2000 to be licensed by endorsement without meeting the NPTE requirement.

Motion: To waive the NPTE requirement for requestor.
Made by: Tony Domenech
Second: Glenda Clausell

Motion passed unanimously.

The Board instructed Ms. Gordon to develop criteria for licensing grandfathered PTAs who had not taken the NPTE to include years of work experience and graduation from an accredited PTA program.

11. Physical Therapy jurisprudence and ethics assessment module Request for Proposal

The Board reviewed and discussed the Request for Proposal (RFP) for jurisprudence and ethics assessment module per the requirement in PT Rules §323.4. Request for Proposals for Outsourced Services.

Motion: To approve the RFP for posting to the Electronic State Business Daily (ESBD).
Made by: Donovan Hodge
Second: Tony Domenech

Motion passed unanimously.

12. Election of delegate and alternate delegate to the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) Annual Meeting, October 23 – 25 in Spokane, Washington

Liesl Olson was nominated as delegate to the FSBPT Annual Meeting and was elected by acclamation.

Tony Domenech was nominated as alternate delegate to the FSBPT Annual Meeting and was elected by acclamation.

13. Election of delegate to the PT Compact Annual Meeting

Harvey Aikman was nominated as delegate to the PT Compact Annual Meeting and was elected by acclamation.

14. Board Coordinator's report concerning meetings attended since last Board meeting, Continuing Competence Audit results, number of current licensees, NPTE pass/fail statistics, TX Jurisprudence Assessment Module statistics, PT Compact statistics, and other events concerning the practice of physical therapy.

Ms. Gordon reported on the following:

- Meetings/webinars/school presentation since the last Board meeting;
- Versa database migration activities;
- Total number of PTs, PTAs as of 3/31/2025;
- NPTE Pass/Fail statistics for PT and PTAs for January 2025;
- PT Compact Status and Compact Privileges statistics for 1st Quarter 2025;
- CCU Audit started in October 2024 is ongoing;
- TX JAM statistics for 1st Quarter 2025; and
- Legislative bill monitoring.

1 **15. Board Chair's report concerning meetings attended since last Board meeting,**
2 **correspondence received on behalf of the Board, and other events concerning the**
3 **practice of physical therapy.**
4

5 There was no Chair's report.
6

7 **16. Long-term planning for future meetings, including future meeting dates and agenda**
8 **items**
9

10 The Board's next meetings were scheduled for July 11, 2025, and October 10, 2025. Agenda items
11 for the July meeting will include reviewing submissions from the Request for Proposal for a
12 jurisprudence assessment module and an audit of TPTA's Accredited Provider status by the
13 Education Committee.
14

15 **17. Adjournment**
16

17 Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

18 Made by: Kate Roby

19 Second: Donovan Hodge

20 *Motion passed unanimously.*
21

22 Ms. Olson adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.
23

24 **Date reviewed by the Board: 7/11/2025**

25 **Action taken by the Board: approved as submitted**