

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING & REGULATION**  
**South Carolina Board of Physical Therapy Examiners**  
**Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building**  
**110 Centerview Drive**  
**Columbia SC 29211**  
**Thursday, October 12th, 2023**

**Board Members Present**

Mary Addison Blackstone P.T., Chairperson  
Lori McMillan, P.T., Vice Chair  
Mollie Barrow, P.T., Member  
Hunter L. Bowie, P.T., Member  
Matthew Judd Warren, P.T.A., Member  
Larry J. Kopelman, P.T., Member

**Absent Board Members**

Anna M. Dilts, P.T., Member

**Staff Present**

Mack Williams, Board Administrator  
Marcie Greene, Advice Counsel  
Roland Alston, Esq.  
Jonathan Owens, Program Coordinator

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the SC Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building 110 Centerview Drive, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

**Call to Order**

Ms. Blackstone, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Motion:** In open session, Ms. McMillan made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Approval or Disapproval of Absent Members:**

**Motion:** In open session, Mr. Bowie made a motion to approve Ms. Dilts's absence. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Approval of July 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes:**

**Motion:** In open session, Mr. Bowie made a motion to approve the July 13, 2023 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Introduction of New Board Member:** Mr. Larry Kopelman, PT, introduced himself to the Board.

## **Administrative Reports**

**OIE/IRC Report:** Mr. Bond presented the statistical report to the Board. The Board accepted the report as information.

**IRC Report:** In open session, Mr. Bond presented the IRC report, Case # 2023-2 for dismissal and Case # 2023-5 recommended for a letter of caution to the Board.

**Motion:** In open session, Mr. Bowie made a motion to accept the IRC recommendations for Case # 2023-2. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Motion:** In open session, Mr. Warren made a motion to accept the IRC recommendations for Case # 2023-5. The motion was seconded and approved.

**ODC Report:** Ms. McMenamin, Esq. presented the ODC report. The Board accepted the report as information.

**Financial Report:** Mr. Williams presented the financial report. The Board accepted the report as information.

## **Disciplinary Hearings:**

### **Formal Complaint:**

**2022-4:** The respondent made a personal appearance before the Board and was not represented by legal counsel. Mr. Alston presented the Formal Complaint to the Board.

**Motion:** In open session, Mr. Bowie made a motion to move into closed session to protect personal health information. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Motion:** In closed session, Mr. Bowie made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Executive Session:** No votes were taken during executive session. {1:12 pm – 1:55 pm}

**Motion:** In closed session, Mr. Bowie made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Motion:** In closed session, Mr. Warren made a motion to issue a public reprimand with suspension with stay for six (6) months and enter a two (2) year probationary, civil penalty of \$820.00, complete an ethics and documentary course, have on-site supervision, provide quarterly reports, and submit to other requirements known by the Board and respondent. The motion was seconded and approved.

## **Application Hearings**

**Rene Villegas:** Mr. Villegas made an appearance before the Board, and was not represented by legal counsel. The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether Mr. Villegas should be granted a license as a physical therapist.

**Motion:** In open session, Ms. McMillan made a motion to grant the physical therapy license pending receipt of a W-2 to show that Mr. Villegas has worked one-thousand clinical practice hours. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Request Approval to Take the NPTE Exam 6<sup>th</sup> and Final Time:**

**Tequila McNeal:** Ms. McNeal made an appearance before the Board, and was not represented by legal counsel. The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether Ms. McNeal should be approved to take the NPTE exam for the sixth and final time.

**Motion:** In open session, Mr. Warren made a motion to allow Ms. McNeal to take the NPTE exam for the sixth time. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Tyra Pugh:** Ms. Pugh made an appearance before the Board, and was not represented by legal counsel. The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether Ms. Pugh should be approved to take the NPTE exam for the sixth and final time.

**Motion:** In open session, Mr. Bowie made a motion to allow Ms. McNeal to take the NPTE exam for the sixth time. The motion was seconded and approved.

**2021-2022 Audit Update:**

**Motion:** In open session, Ms. Barrow made a motion to approve a special call meeting by WebEx on Thursday, November 9, 2023 to discuss the next move for the upcoming CE audit. The motion was seconded and approved.

**2024 Board Meeting Dates:**

**Motion:** In open session, Mr. Bowie made a motion to approve the 2024 Board meeting dates. The motion was seconded and approved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** In open session, Mr. Bowie motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

  
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**Administrator**

1-11-24  
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**Date**