

1 **Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners**

2 BOARD MEETING

3 February 21, 2014

4 Austin, TX

5 9:00 AM

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7 Members Present: Stephanie Johnston, OTR, Chair  
8 Todd Novosad, OTR, Vice Chair  
9 Will Hale, Public Member  
10 Pamela Nelon, Public Member  
11 Angela Sieffert, OTA  
12 Jennifer B. Clark, COTA  
13 Amanda Ellis, Public Member  
14 DeLana Honaker, OTR, PhD

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16 Members Absent: Catherine Benevidez, OT

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18 Staff: Kara Holsinger, Assist Attorney General  
19 John Maline, Executive Director  
20 Mark Turek, Chief Investigator  
21 Augusta Gelfand, OT Coordinator  
22 Cynthia Machado, Licensing Manager

23  
24 Guest: Judith Joseph, TOTA Standard & Practice Chair  
25 Eileen Garza, TOTA  
26 Joan Garber, OTR  
27

28 **1. Call to Order**

29 The meeting was called to order at 9:20AM by Stephanie Johnston, Presiding Officer. She called the  
30 roll and announced that a quorum existed. Ms. Johnston welcomed the representative:s Judith Joseph  
31 and Eileen Garza and guest, Joan Garber, OT.

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33 **2. Public comment**

34 There was no public comment.  
35

36 **3. Presentation and discussion from Joan Garber on telemedicine.**

37 Ms. Garber brought hand-outs and showed a PowerPoint presentation in favor of telemedicine. Board  
38 members asked some questions about the pros and cons, about patient privacy, HIPAA, and other  
39 issues. Ms. Johnston thanked Ms Garber for her well researched presentation and said she would  
40 assign this discussion to the Rules Committee to report their recommendations at the next board  
41 meeting.  
42

43 **4. Approval of Minutes of the November 6, 2013 Board Meeting.**

44 Motion by: Todd Novosad  
45 Second by: Angela Sieffert  
46 Motion passed  
47

48 **5. Discussion and possible action on Executive Director's Report concerning fiscal and  
49 budgetary matters, performance measure, ongoing projects, agency personnel matters,  
50 potential costs saving measures, and other agency business**

51 Mr. Maline briefed the Board on the fiscal standing of the agency and the current performance  
52 measures. He mentioned that we have some new employees, who have replaced an employee in

1 accounting department, in the position of Assistant Licensing Manager, and at the front desk. He asked  
2 the board for any information they may have in the future of OT as he prepared his Strategic Plan.

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4 **6. Investigation Committee Report**

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6 **A. Review and possible action on Agreed Orders for cases:** 13-029; 13-039; 13-  
7 075; 13-100; 13-103; 13-107; 13-116; 13-117; 13-144; 13-149; 13-154; 13-162;  
8 13-167; 14-020; 14-024; 14-040; and 14-041.

9  
10 The Board ratified #13-100; 13-103; 13-107; 13-117; 13-149; 13-162; 13-167; 14-024; 14-040;  
11 14-041.

12  
13 **B. Discussion and possible action on the Investigation Committee Meeting of**  
14 **November 8, 2013 and January 24, 2014.**

15 Mr. Turek reported sixty-nine investigations were reviewed at those two meetings, resulting in  
16 the committee's issuance of eighteen Agreed Orders. Additionally the committee held two  
17 informal conferences.

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19 **C. Discussion and possible action on investigative activities to date.**

20 Mr. Turek reported first quarter receipt of forty complaints; closure of forty-five investigations;  
21 and the board issuance of nine Agreed Orders.

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24 **7. Discussion and possible action on the OT Coordinator's Report. The Coordinator's**  
25 **report may concern any item listed on the agenda and on events that have occurred**  
26 **between this meeting and the Board's last meeting**

27 Ms. Gelfand mentioned another audit under way and that NBCOT is now reporting scores weekly. She  
28 mentioned all the school presentations recently made.

29  
30 The current website will be taken down on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> and the new website will be launched.  
31 There is no e-news mailing ability from this website, so a newsletter will be posted to the website, and  
32 an email will go out in February. The new website will have a Search feature, a site map, the FAQs  
33 consolidated in one area for OT, PT and Facility FAQs. The proof of licensure will be a wallet card that  
34 licensees can print out. The JP Exam has a feature to allow return to previous questions, and the CE  
35 Submission Form online is editable. On the con side there is no board e-news feature for board  
36 announcements.

37  
38 **8. Discussion and possible action on the Presiding Officer's Report. The Presiding**  
39 **Officer's report may concern any item listed on the agenda and on events that have**  
40 **occurred between this meeting and the Board's last meeting**

41 Ms. Johnston reported that she had recently presented to TOTA's Gulf Coast East District meeting.  
42 She mentioned CE questions that are not specifically addressed in our Rules, such as repeat of  
43 courses and post-test issues, and asked Todd Novosad, Chair, to consider them at the next Education  
44 Meeting in June. Ms Johnston mentioned that Sunset is coming in 2016/2017 and suggested the  
45 Board prepare. She referred to today's Telehealth presentation and asked that DeLana Honaker, Chair  
46 of the Rules Committee bring this issue to the Rules Committee for any recommendations.

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48 **9. Discussion and possible action on scheduling future board meeting dates and agenda**  
49 **items for future consideration**

50 The Board has scheduled future board meetings for June 12-13, 2014; September 4-5, 2014 in Austin,  
51 and November 7, 2014 in Sugar Land. Any committee meeting will be held as needed in conjunction  
52 with the board meeting dates.

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54 **10. Adjournment**

1           The Chair called an adjournment at 11:14 AM.

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3   **Minutes adopted on:** June 13, 2014