

# Louisiana Physical Therapy Board

## MINUTES Special Board Meeting May 16, 2019

### APPROVED

Proceedings for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board, taken in regular session on May 16, 2019 at the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board, 2110 W. Pinhook Rd., Suite 202, Lafayette, LA 70508. A quorum of members were present. Board members present were: Chairman Julie Ann Harris, Secretary/Treasurer, Karl Kleinpeter, and board members Phil Page, Kathryn “Katie” Brittain, and Craig Prejean. Charlotte Martin, Executive Director was present. Present from the public was Ben Myers.

Chairman Julie Ann Harris called the meeting to order at 12:50 pm.

Secretary/Treasurer motioned to move into Executive Session pursuant to La R.S. 42:16 for the purposes of discussing investigating proceedings regarding allegations of misconduct. The board members were all in favor to move into Executive Session.

The board exited Executive Session.

Katie Brittain moved to issue a notice of concern to payers on a current monitored license. Craig Prejean seconded the motion. The board members voted unanimously in favor to approve the motion.

Chairman Julie Ann Harris informed the board members of George Papale’s notice to the board of resignation effective immediately. The board currently has a contract with Mr. Papale for professional legal services. The board accepted his resignation, which will terminate his contract prior to approved end date of the contract.

The board members discussed Courtney Newton’s current contract with the board and decided to call for applicants for legal services, which will include general counsel and prosecutorial services. Katie Brittain moved to authorize the Executive Director of the board to issue and RFP for General Counsel and prosecuting attorney for the board. Karl Kleinpeter seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved the motion. The intention of this motion is to allow the current board to interview attorney prospects who seek to provide legal guidance to the board. The Request for Proposals (RFP) process is language that the board is using to demonstrate a competitive, open process for interviewing candidates. The board directs the executive director to contact the Office of State Procurement contracts division to confirm that an official state RFP process is not required for legal contracts. If it is required, the board will follow the official RFP process. If not, the board will post the position and interview candidates for selection.

The board members discussed contracting with the Attorney General’s Office during the interim while finding new legal counsel. Phil Page moved to authorize the Executive Director to amend the contract with the Attorney General’s Office of the Louisiana Department of Justice to include general counsel and prosecutorial services for the board. Craig Prejean seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

The board members discussed the legislative hearing that occurred on May 15, 2019 and the public discussion as it related to the property right of licensees under investigation. The board members decided to seek legal advice concerning property right from the Attorney General’s office, should the Attorney General’s Office amend the contract to provide general counsel services. Phil Page moved to seek legal advice from the Attorney General’s

Office on the property rights of licensees, specifically the licensee named at the legislative hearing. Julie Ann Harris seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

Karl Kleinpeter moved to provide signing authority to the Executive Director to sign contracts and amendments for the board office with documentation that the officers approved the contract prior to signature. Phil Page seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

Secretary/Treasurer Kleinpeter moved to adjourn the meeting. Katie Brittain seconded the motion. The board voted and unanimously approved. The board meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30pm.