

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Occupational Licensure
Board of Registration of Chiropractors
1000 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02118

Public Meeting Minutes

JUNE 2, 2022

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Chiropractors (the Board) was held remotely with video and audio conference as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, signed into law on February 12, 2022.

Dr. Reida noted a quorum of members present via video or phone and called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Daniel Reid, Chair
Dr. Sunit Jolly, Vice Chair
Dr. Jaclyn Debs, Secretary
Ms. Barbara Bush, Public Member
Dr. Joseph Grosso, Member
Dr. Kathleen O'Malley, Member
Dr. Abbey Denaro, Member

STAFF PRESENT

Lisa Guglietta, Board Executive Director
Sheila York, Esq., Board Counsel

OTHERS PRESENT (at various times)

Dr. Raymond Antoun, Request for Chiropractor of Record Experience Waiver
Dr. Reza Alizadeh, Owner of Life Clinic of MA PC
Tracey Lane, Massachusetts Chiropractic Society

ATTENDANCE

Dr. Reid took attendance by roll call and a quorum of board members was recorded with the following members present via video conference: *Reida, Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O'Malley, Denaro.*

CONFLICT OF INTEREST and OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS

Atty. York reviewed Conflict of Interest and Open Meeting Law requirements with the Board. Members should contact Atty. York with questions about possible conflicts with applicants, petitioners, or cases before the Board.

Ms. Guglietta stated that the law allowing for virtual meetings is scheduled to expire on July 15, 2022. The law may be amended to allow for virtual board meetings after that date, but the Board will likely be able to choose whether to schedule virtual or in-person meetings. The Board does not meet in July and members discussed the possibility of future in-person meetings. Board members were open to scheduling 2-3 in-person meetings in Boston during the year. The Board requested that staff schedule the August

meeting to be an in-person meeting at 1000 Washington St. in Boston provided a quorum of Board members could be physically present at that meeting. Board members, staff and members of the public were advised to pay careful attention to the location stated on the Notice of Meeting for the August meeting.

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

The Board discussed the draft public meeting minutes of 05/05/22.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Reida, seconded by Dr. Debs and VOTED (roll call);
to approve the public meeting minutes of May 5, 2022.

in-favor: Reida, Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O'Malley, Denaro

opposed: none

DISCUSSION

REQUEST FOR REDUCTION OF WAITING PERIOD TO RE-TAKE JP EXAM

Keith Kowalczyk, D.C. had requested a reduction of the waiting period to re-take the jurisprudence exam. He was given an authorization to retest by PCS prior to the meeting and no longer needed a waiver from the Board. The Board discussed eliminating the 30 day waiting period for applicants to re-take the JP exam. Board members noted that the goal of the examination was to ensure that the applicants knew the rules and regulations governing practice in Massachusetts. Allowing applicants to retake the examination within 30 days of their first attempt still ensures the applicant learns the material, while speeding up the licensing process. Board members expressed interest in reducing the length of time it takes to obtain chiropractic licensure in MA. To protect the security of the examination, the Board discussed keeping the 30 day waiting period between a second attempt and subsequent attempts at the examination.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Jolly, seconded by Dr. O'Malley and VOTED (roll call);
to eliminate the 30-day waiting period after the first time the JP exam is failed and to impose the 30-day waiting period if the applicant fails the JP exam for the second time.

in-favor: Reida, Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O'Malley, Denaro

opposed: none

CHIROPRACTOR OF RECORD EXPERIENCE WAIVER REQUEST

Raymond Antoun, D.C. requested a waiver of the four-year experience requirement for Chiropractor of Record. The owner of the chiropractic facility, Dr. Reza Alizadeh, was present for the meeting. Dr. Alizadeh stated he would apply for the Chiropractor of Record position if the Board would not approve Dr. Antoun's request due to his being a recent graduate and newly licensed. Dr. Antoun withdrew his request.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Reida, seconded by Dr. Grosso and VOTED (roll call);
to allow 10 days for Dr. Alizadeh to submit an application for Chiropractor of Record.

in-favor: Reida, Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O'Malley, Denaro

opposed: none

WALL CERTIFICATES

The Board discussed recent Wall Certificate requests. Due to COVID the Board has not been meeting in person and the Board officers have therefore been unable to sign certificates. The Executive Director will

keep a list of requests. The Board will sign them at the next in-person meeting and during other in-person meetings throughout the year.

REINSTATEMENTS - CE REVIEW

Dr. Paul Dion's license 3354-CH-CH expired on 3/31/20. He submitted a reinstatement application with proof of the required number of CEUs.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Jolly, seconded by Dr. Denaro and VOTED (roll call);
to **reinstate Dr. Dion's chiropractic license.**

in-favor: Reida, Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O'Malley, Denaro

opposed: none

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Debs brought to discussion the need for the new licensee orientation to be reconsidered as a requirement for MA licensure. She explained her own personal delay in licensure and witnessing new doctors having long waits before being able to begin practicing and taking associate positions.

Discussion also included having a new licensee orientation with Dr. O'Malley on July 7, 2022 so that applicants did not have to wait for the August meeting. The topic of possibly discontinuing the new licensee orientation will be on the August agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tracey Lane from the Massachusetts Chiropractic Society stated her concerns with attracting new chiropractic graduates into the state of Massachusetts due to the length of time it takes to obtain a license. She stated that two major issues were the multiple delays in getting licensed and the inability for students in clinic to complete a six-month internship with a licensed practicing doctor in the Commonwealth. Ms. Lane stated that most states allow students of chiropractic to work under licensed doctors for six months prior to graduation. She is going to investigate the processes and requirements of other states with faster licensing times and present her findings at a future meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

At 10:59 a.m. a motion was made by Dr. O'Malley **to end the public session and, after a 10-minute break, go into Closed Session per G.L. c. 112, § 65C for the purpose of reviewing cases in investigative conference**, seconded by Dr. Jolly and VOTED (roll call). The motion passed as follows:

In favor: Reida, Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O'Malley, Denaro

Opposed: none

The Chair announced that public session would not resume after closed session.

NEW AND OPEN CASES

The Board took the following actions during closed session:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| • AIB Data Report | Tabled to Future Meeting |
| • AIB Fraud Investigation | Tabled to Future Meeting |
| • 2021-001108-IT-ENF (DA) | Sent to prosecutions |
| • 2021-001159-IT-ENF (BE) | Tabled to Future Meeting |
| • 2021-001161-IT-ENF (AC) | Tabled to Future Meeting |

Quasi-Judicial Session: [Closed Session: G.L. c. 30A, § 18(d)]

- 2020-000985-IT-ENF (SP) -- Recommit to Hearings Officer.

NEW LICENSEE INTERVIEWS

Prior to the meeting, the following candidates completed their new licensee orientation/interview with Dr. Debs:

- Dr. Chris Molda (ME)
- Dr. Brittany Zuback (Ontario, Canada)
- Dr. Spencer Hackett (CT)
- Dr. Natalie Flaim (PA)
- Dr. Jordan Rawson (MA)
- Dr. EmilyAnn Rudzinski (CT)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at the conclusion of closed session at 12:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaclyn Debs, D.C., Secretary
Board of Registration of Chiropractors

Documents used by the Board during open session:

- *Posted agenda 6/2/22*
- *Draft public meeting minutes of 5/5/22*
- *Draft executive session minutes of 5/5/22 (to be held confidential)*
- *License reinstatement request and supporting documents, P. Dion*
- *Chiropractor of Record Experience Waiver form and supporting documents, R. Antoun*
- *Request for reduction of waiting period to take JP exam, K. Kowalczyk*