**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**Division of Occupational Licensure**

**Board of Registration of Chiropractors**

**1000 Washington Street**

**Boston, MA 02118**

**Public Meeting Minutes**

**AUGUST 4, 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 107 of the Acts of 2022, An Act Relative to Extending Certain State of Emergency Accommodations, signed into law on July 16, 2022.

Dr. Jolly noted a quorum of members present via video or phone and called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Sunit Jolly, Vice Chair

Dr. Joseph Grosso, Member

Dr. Jaclyn Debs, Secretary

Ms. Barbara Bush, Public Member

Dr. Kathleen O’Malley, Member

Dr. Abbey Denaro, Member

**STAFF** **PRESENT(at various times)**

Lisa Guglietta, Board Executive Director

Eboni Lewis, Board Associate Executive Director

Sheila York, Esq., Board Counsel

Ellen D’Agostino, DOL Investigations

Molly McCourt, DOL Investigations

Andrew Bridges, DOL Investigations

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Dr. Jolly called for nominations for Chair of the Board. Dr. Grosso nominated Dr. Jolly, seconded by Dr. O’Malley and VOTED (roll call);

*in-favor: Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O’Malley, Denaro*

*opposed: none*

A nomination for Vice Chair was made by Dr. O’Malley. She nominated Dr. Grosso, seconded by Dr. Jolly, and VOTED (roll call);

*in-favor: Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O’Malley, Denaro*

*opposed: none*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Ms. Guglietta stated the Massachusetts Chiropractor Board will fall under the Department of Public Health (DPH) starting September 26, 2022. Board members will no longer use their private emails. Emails @mass.gov will be assigned to each Board member. Ms. Guglietta reported that there will be a new licensing system at DPH. Licensed chiropractic facilities will receive a notice about the change to DPH with their facility license renewal notices. Facility renewals are due by October 31st and licensees are encouraged to renew as soon as possible.

**OCTOBER BOARD MEETING DATE**

Ms. Guglietta stated that the law allowing for virtual meetings has been extended to March 31, 2023. The Board will likely be able to choose whether to schedule virtual or in-person meetings. Due to the transition to DPH, the October board meeting will be moved from October 6th to October 13th at 10:00AM.

**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.

We will continue to be remote for September and October meetings.

**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

The Board discussed the draft public meeting minutes of 06/02/22.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. O’Malley, seconded by Dr. Grosso and VOTED (roll call);

**to approve the public meeting minutes of June 2, 2022.**

*in-favor: Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O’Malley, Denaro*

*opposed: none*

**DISCUSSION**

**Executive Order No. 600: Protecting Access to Reproductive Health Care Services in the Commonwealth**

Atty. York updated the Board on E.O. No. 600 and its potential impact on the Board, applicants and licensees. DOL will be reaching out to all of the boards of registration to implement policies which ensure that no one is denied a license or disciplined due to provision of reproductive health care services that are covered under the E.O.

**Draft Guide on Practice Monitors and Audits**

Dr. Grosso shared his draft on updates to the practice monitors and audits compliance guide. Discussion was had about making the wording clearer and more concise. Tracey Lane, a representative of the Massachusetts Chiropractic Society (MCS) observing the meeting, commented that the MCS has a list of experienced doctors who are interested in providing peer review for chiropractors in need of help with choosing monitors. Ms. Lane requested that the Board consult with the Massachusetts Chiropractic Society on potential new policies. Dr. Grosso decided to withdraw his draft guide to make further edits and will present it to the Board again at a later date.

**Dry Needling – Licensee Questions**

A licensee had questions on requirements for chiropractors in Massachusetts regarding qualifications and course hours necessary to perform dry needling. Atty York directed the Board’s attention to the 2019 dry needling document written by the Board with agency cover letter. The Board members stated they were in agreement with the prior Board document. The Board directed staff to respond to the licensee by informing the licensee that the Board is continuing to work on requirements for dry needling and that dry needling is within the scope of practice of Massachusetts Chiropractors.

**CE Credit Approval Request**

Dr. Cami Cleaveland requested CE approval of “Integrated Clinical Dry Needling Total Body – 3 Day Course” sponsored by Revolution Human Physical Therapy and Education. The Board discussed the course and reviewed the statements in the Board’s Policy Guideline on Continuing Education regarding programs offered by sponsors that do not have an accrediting authority known to the Board.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. O’Malley, seconded by Dr. Grosso and VOTED (roll call);

**To approve the CE request.**

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

opposed: none

**Requirement that New Licensees attend a Board Orientation/Interview Prior to Licensure**

The Board discussed the need for the new licensee orientation as a requirement for MA licensure. It was noted that the lengthy processing time for licensure may prevent chiropractors from coming to the Commonwealth, especially those just out of chiropractic school looking to start practices.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Grosso, seconded by Dr. Debs and VOTED (roll call);

**To remove the new licensee Board Orientation/Interview as a requirement for licensure and instead have PCS send the orientation presentation to applicants who are approved to take the jurisprudence exam.**

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

opposed: none

**COMPLIANCE MONITORING**

**Dr. Anthony Moncton – 1st Monitoring Report**

After discussing the report and terms of the Consent Agreement, the Board decided that based on the report received, there was no need for a corrective action report from the licensee.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Denaro, seconded by Dr. Grosso and VOTED (roll call);

**To accept the monitor’s report with no corrective action report**.

*in-favor: Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O’Malley, Denaro*

*opposed: none*

*Dr. Jolly recused herself from the meeting.*

**Dr. Kimberly Flaherty – Monitoring Report and Corrective Action Report**

After discussing the reports, a motion was made by Dr. Denaro, seconded by Dr. O’Malley and VOTED (roll call);

**To accept Dr. Storozuk’s report and Dr. Flaherty’s corrective action report.**

*in-favor; Debs, Bush, Grosso, O’Malley, Denaro*

*opposed: none*

*recused: Jolly*

*Dr. Jolly joined the meeting again.*

**Dr. Kevin Harrington – Proposed Monitors**

The Board discussed three proposed monitors. It was noted that only one submitted a Curriculum Vitae.

Thereafter a motion was made by Dr. Denaro, seconded by Dr. O’Malley and VOTED (roll call);

**To approve Dr. Jeffrey Robichaud as monitor.**

*in-favor; Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O’Malley, Denaro*

*opposed: none*

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tracey Lane from the Massachusetts Chiropractic Society (MCS) asked that the Board consult with MCS on newly proposed policies. She stated that MCS has an experienced and active board of directors, which is willing to help.

**CLOSED SESSION**

At 11:56 a.m. a motion was made by Dr. Jolly **to end the public session and, after a 10-minute break, go into Executive Session pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purpose of discussing an applicant’s good moral character rather than professional competence.**

**The Executive Session will be followed by a Closed Session per G.L. c. 112, § 65C for the purpose of reviewing cases in investigative conference**, seconded by Dr. Denaro and VOTED (roll call). The motion passed as follows:

*In favor: Jolly, Debs, Bush, Grosso, O’Malley, Denaro*

*Opposed: none*

*The Chair announced that public session would not resume after the Executive and closed sessions.*

**NEW AND OPEN CASES**

The Board took the following actions during closed session:

**Investigative Case Conference:** **[Closed Session: G.L. c. 112, § 65C]**

* 2021-001159-IT-ENF Dismissed
* 2021-001161-IT-ENF Dismissed
* 2022-000134-IT-ENF Tabled to September Meeting
* 2022-000296-IT-ENF Tabled to September Meeting
* AIB Investigation Tabled to September Meeting

**NEW LICENSEE INTERVIEWS**

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

* Dr. Caroline Miller (NH)
* Dr. Joseph Thurston (MA)
* Dr. Angelina Hyatt (NH)
* Dr. Shivani Patel (AL)
* Dr. Landon Hale (KY)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at the conclusion of closed session at 2:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jaclyn Debs, D.C., Secretary

Board of Registration of Chiropractors

**Documents used by the Board during open session:**

* *Posted agenda 8/4/22*
* *Draft public meeting minutes of 6/2/22*
* *Executive Order No. 600: Protecting Access to Reproductive Health Care Services in the Commonwealth*
* *Draft Guide on Practice Monitors and Audits, J. Grosso*
* *Email from Licensee with Dry Needling Questions*
* *“Integrated Clinical Dry Needling Total Body – 3 Day Course” agenda*
* *New Licensee Board Orientation Presentation document*
* *Compliance Monitoring documentation*
* *Monitoring Report and supporting documents, A. Moncton*
* *Monitoring Report and Corrective Action Report, K. Flaherty*
* *Proposed monitor applications, K. Harrington*