

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

THIS AGENDA CONSTITUTES NOTICE OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED  
MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS  
IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING LAW, M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20

Thursday, February 14, 2019  
9:00 a.m.

Northeastern University Campus, Curry Student Center Ballroom  
360 Huntington Ave, Boston, Massachusetts 02115

AGENDA

Time	Item #	Item	Documents	Staff Contact
9:00 a.m.	I	<b>Call to Order</b> <b>Determination of Quorum</b> <b>Notice of Electronic Recording</b>		Board Chair
	II	<b>Approval of Agenda</b> <b>Conflict of Interest</b>	Draft Agenda	Board Chair
	III	<b>Approval of Minutes</b> A. Regularly Scheduled Meeting: December 13, 2018	Draft Minutes	Board Chair
	IV	<b>Inquiries</b> A. PA Practice Guidelines From: Caroline M. Hewitt	Inquiry	MS
	V	<b>Board Education</b> A. Overview of Board's Creation & Authority	Presentation	MS
	VI	<b>Staff Action Policy</b> A. Licensing Retirement	Draft Policy	MS
	VII	<b>Investigations: N/A</b>  <i>Triage: None</i> <i>Staff Assignment(s): None</i> <i>Complaint(s): None</i>	Investigative Report	LS

	<b>VIII</b>	<b>Flex Session</b> A. Announcements B. Topics for next agenda C. Mock Board Meeting: Post Adjournment	Verbal	ED
	<b>IX</b>	<b>Executive Session: Mock Meeting</b> The Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purposes of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against an individual.  1. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the necessity of modifying probation conditions for a Licensee.  2. Specifically, the Board will discuss complaints or charges brought against a Licensee or Licensees.  3. Finally, the Board will consider approving prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. ch.30A, § 22(a) for previous executive sessions of the Board.  <b>The Board will not reconvene in public session subsequent to the closed session(s).</b>		Board Chair
	<b>X</b>	<b>65C Session: N/A</b>	N/A	Board Counsel
	<b>XI</b>	<b>Adjudicatory Session: N/A</b>	N/A	Board Counsel
12:00 p.m.	<b>XII</b>	<b>Adjournment</b> - next Board meeting scheduled for March 14, 2019.		

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

**BOARD MEETING**

**December 13, 2018**  
**239 Causeway Street**  
**Boston, Massachusetts 02114**

**MINUTES**

Board Members Present: Dipu Patel-Junankar, PA-C, Physician Assistant 1, Chair  
Alithia C. Monroe, PA-C, Physician Assistant 3  
Robert Baginski, MD, Physician  
Mary Kuzmeski, PA-C, Physician Assistant  
Paul Crehan, PA-C, Physician Assistant 4

Board Members Not Present: Shannon Sheridan-Geldart, PA-C, Physician Assistant, Educator  
Richard Baum, MD, Massachusetts Medical Society

Staff Present: Roberlyne Cherfils, Executive Director, MultiBoard, BHPL  
Mary Strachan, Board Counsel, Office of General Counsel, DPH  
Lisa Seeley-Murphy, Investigations, MultiBoard, BHPL  
Jonane Nicolas, Office Support Specialist, DPH  
Emily Dure, Office Support Specialist, DPH

Guests: Jennifer Saari  
Supervisor: Stacy Rosano

I. Call to Order- Determination of Quorum

A quorum of the Board was present. The Board Chair, Ms. Patel-Junankar, called the Regular Session meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

II. Conflict of Interest/Approval of the General Session Agenda

The meeting agenda was reviewed. There were no conflicts of interest.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Cherfils withdrew Item IV from the agenda.

ACTION: Mr. Crehan made a motion to approve agenda with the changes. Dr. Baginski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Document: December 13, 2018 Board Meeting Agenda

### III. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the October 11, 2018 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting were reviewed.

DISCUSSION: The Board Chair asked for any edits. The following edits were requested: (1) on page 1 in item II, last paragraph, Ms. Strachan proposed changing “in” to “and.”; (2) Ms. Monroe proposed changing Item IX, on page 5 from “January 10” to “December 13.” To reflect the correct date.

ACTION: Mr. Crehan made a motion to approve the October minutes with edits. Ms. Monroe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Document: October 11, 2018 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting Minutes

### IV. Inquiries

A. DO Agreements  
Mary Kuzmeski, PA99

DISCUSSION: None

ACTION: None

Document: Inquiries

### V. Investigations

Complaint(s)

A. PA-2018 -004: Jennifer Saari, (PA 1374)  
School: Lemoyne College, NY  
Employer: New England Geriatrics  
Attorney: N/A

Ms. Seeley-Murphy presented this investigation to the Board by providing a summary of the investigative report. On November 29, 2017 the Board received a letter from the licensee in which she stated that in 2006, when her NCCPA Certification was up for renewal at her place of employment, she elected to non-renew as the NCCPA Certification was no longer mandatory. She decided not to take the PANRE. The licensee thought that her CMEs were required for NCCPA certification, but she was unaware they were also required for her Physician Assistant license. During a conversation with a colleague, she became aware of the requirement and immediately notified her supervisor, who then notified the Vice President of the Operations. The licensee contacted the legal department and it was decided that she was

able to continue to work and that she was required to self-report to the Board of Registration of Physician Assistants her noncompliance of continuing education.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Patel-Junankar clarified that NCCPA must be renewed in order to maintain certification. (100 CMEs 40 Cat 1 and 60 Cat II). Ms. Saari has not been taking her CMEs since 2006. Ms. Saari acknowledged the mistake and apologized as she thought the requirements for NCCPA mirror that of her PA License. Dr. Baginski inquired about the PANRE exam and whether any applicant must take that exam before they have been issued a license and if so, do they have to take it again? Ms. Cherfils answered that the PANRE exam is a one-time exam. Ms. Patel-Junankar was concerned about risk the employer took by not requiring NCCPA certification and the risk at which it placed the employees in being non-compliant. Ms. Petal-Junankar also inquired if the NCCPA had been in contact with Ms. Saari. She answered “no.” Ms. Monroe asked Ms. Saari about her thoughts and her understanding of the renewal questions. Ms. Saari responded that it was not her intent to mislead the Board by signing her name to the attestation. As her employer no longer mandated NCCPA certification, her assumption was that the continuing education portion was not applicable to her.

Ms. Saari’s supervisor Ms. Rosano made a statement about how Ms. Saari was a very strong employee and passionate about her job. Ms. Saari was often requested by customers due to her competency in her role.

Ms. Cherfils inquired if Ms. Rosano reviewed with other PAs at the facility to ensure they were current. Ms. Rosano said “yes.” The facility offered CMEs classes to make sure all the PAs are in compliance with the Board.

Ms. Strachan reviewed the following statute and regulations applicable to Ms. Saari’s conduct.

M.G.L.c. 112 section 61, M.G.L.c. 112 section 9H (b), 263 CMR 5.08 and 5.09, 263 CMR 6.0, 263 CMR 6.

The Board members decided to offer to resolve the matter with discipline in the form of a Consent Agreement for Probation for a 4 year period; terms of probation include 25 category 1 CMEs every quarter; for at least 2 cycles which is 4 years (2022); quarterly employer evaluations; CME in Risk Management and Elder Abuse, and Alzheimer’s Disease.

ACTION: Mr. Crehan made a motion to offer a Consent Agreement Probation for a 4 year period with stipulations outlined. Dr. Baginski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Document: Memo

## VI. FLEX SESSION:

### A. Announcement

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Patel-Junankar provided an update on the mock board meeting scheduled for February 14, 2019 at Northeastern University. She inquired if the Board knew anyone who may be interested in acting for the three cases. She confirmed that several schools accepted the invitation and she anticipates an attendance of about 200 with four schools represented. She also confirmed that while the faculty is aware that the Executive Session will be mock, the students are not and this will hopefully encourage students to engage in discussions during Q&A. Ms. Cherfils informed the Board members that the Massachusetts Controlled Substance Registration (MCSR) system is moving to an online system starting December 28, 2018 at 2pm through Monday January 7, 2019 at 10am. During that time, licensees will not be able to apply for a renewal of BHPL Board licenses. Ms. Patel-Junankar stated that most of the students took this message as spam; she also suggested sending an email to the licensees. Ms. Cherfils clarified a mass email was already sent to different organizations to notify every one of the changes. She also proposed a new goal of transition migration to the cloud therefore; there will be a second scheduled maintenance in April of 2019.

Ms. Cherfils provided the Board members several operational updates:

- 1) Attestations page added to the PA applications which allow PAs to enroll into Mass Health for provider or non-billing under M.G.L chapter 112 section 9F, and utilize MassPAT when prescribing under M.G.L 94C section 24A and two mandatory trainings of Domestic Sexual Violence and Pain Management. Everyone who has an incomplete application is required to complete this attestation page in order to process their application.
- 2) New Law chapter 220 of the acts of 2018 requires Physicians, Physician Assistants, Register Nurses, License Practical Nurses that serve adults to complete a one-time training in education under Alzheimer's Disease Research and Treatment related to Dementia.
- 3) Criminal Justice Bill (Chapter 69 of the acts of 2018)-became effective on April 13, 2018. State and political subdivision licensing authorities shall provide the licensing requirements for specific criminal convictions that are directly related to the duties and responsibilities for the licensed occupation that may disqualify an applicant from eligibility for a license.
- 4) The annual meeting with the Massachusetts Association of Physician Assistants (MAPA) is in the process of being scheduled.

ACTION: None

Document: verbal update

B. Topics for next agenda

Board Education

VII. Executive Session

At 10:50 a.m. Ms. Patel-Junankar announced that the Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1) for the purposes of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against an individual.

1. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the necessity of modifying probation conditions for a Licensee.
2. Specifically, the Board will discuss complaints or charges brought against a Licensee or licensees.
3. Finally, the Board will consider approving prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. ch.30A, § 22(a) for previous executive sessions of the Board.

IX Adjourn

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

**The next meeting of the Board of Registration of Physician Assistants will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. at Northeastern University Boston, Curry Student Center Ballroom.**

Respectfully submitted:

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Dipu Patel-Junankar, PA-C, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shannon Sheridan-Geldart, PA-C, Vice-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Crehan, PA-C, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date