

**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, January 13, 2022
9:30 a.m.

General Session is open to the public and will be held via Webex at:
<https://eohhs.webex.com/eohhs/j.php?MTID=maaff32644c3f5c553510c04315308d0d>

Call-In Telephone number 1-866-692-3580 (toll-free)

Meeting Number/Access Code: 2536 673 1251

Meeting Password: EyQC4i4h9pm

AGENDA

All Votes Must Be Via Roll Call

Time	Item #	Item	Documents	Staff Contact
9:30 a.m.	I	Call to Order Determination of Quorum Notice of Electronic Recording		Board Chair
	II	Approval of Agenda Conflict of Interest	Draft Agenda	Board Chair
	III	Approval of Minutes M.G.L.c. 30A § 21 A. December 9, 2021 General Session Meeting Minutes	Draft Minutes	Board Chair
	IV	Investigations: <u>Triage: N/A</u> <u>Staff Assignment(s): N/A</u> <u>Complaint(s):</u> A. PA-2021-002: Pippi, Eric, PA5269 School: Chatham University Attorney: N/A COI:	Complaint	Board Investigator

If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, contact the DPH ADA Coordinator Kevin Lovaincy, phone: 617-909-5085 in advance of the meeting. While the Board will do its best to accommodate you, certain accommodations may require distinctive requests or the hiring of outside contractors and may not be available if requested immediately before the meeting.

	V	Flex Session A. Announcements B. Topics for future agenda		ED
	VI	Executive Session: 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. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specifically, 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. 2. Specifically, the Board will discuss complaints or charges brought against a Licensee or Licensees. 3. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the necessity of modifying probation conditions for a Licensee. <p>The Board will not reconvene in public session subsequent to the closed session(s).</p>		Board Chair
	VII	65C Session: N/A	Agenda	
	VIII	Adjudicatory Session: N/A	N/A	
12:00 p.m.	IX	Adjournment - Next Board meeting scheduled for February 10, 2022.		

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**Commonwealth Of Massachusetts
Department Of Public Health
Bureau of Health Professions Licensure
Board of Registration of Physician Assistants**

**MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
(OPEN SESSION)**

**January 13, 2022
Via WebEx**

Board Members

Present:

Paul Crehan, PA-C, Physician Assistant 4, Secretary
Shannon Sheridan-Geldart, PA-C, Physician Assistant Educator,
Vice-Chair
Robert Baginski, MD, Physician
Mary Kuzmeski PA-C, Physician Assistant 2
Hannah Nolan, MPAS PA-C, Physician Assistant 3

Board Members

Not Present:

Dipu Patel, PA-C, Physician Assistant 1, Chair
Richard Baum, MD, Massachusetts Medical Society

Staff Present:

Steven Joubert, Executive Director, Multi-Boards
Karen Geoghegan, Assistant Executive Director, Multi-Boards
Mary Strachan, Board Counsel, Office of the General Counsel

Staff Not Present:

Eleanor Montgomery, Office Support Specialist, DHPL

I. Call to Order | Determination of Quorum | Notice of Electronic Recording

Ms. Shannon Sheridan-Geldart, Board Chair, called the Regular Session meeting of the Board of Registration of Physician Assistants to order at 9:33 A.M. and announced that the meeting was being recorded.

Board members stated their names for the record. A quorum of the Board was determined with Board members present via WebEx: Robert Baginski: Present; Paul Crehan: Present; Mary Kuzmeski: Present; Hannah Nolan: Present; Shannon Sheridan-Geldart: Present.
Absent: Dipu Patel, Richard Baum.

II. Conflict of Interest | Approval of Agenda

The regular meeting agenda for January 13, 2022 was reviewed for approval. Board members were asked to disclose any conflicts of interest with the present agenda; there were no conflicts of interest.

Discussion:

Regarding item IV-A, Ms. Sheridan-Geldart explained that she worked with the Licensee's supervising physician but that she did not know the Licensee himself.

Action:

Motion by Ms. Sheridan-Geldart to approve the regular meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Paul Crehan and passed unanimously by roll call vote as follows: Robert Baginski: Present; Paul Crehan: Present; Mary Kuzmeski: Present; Hannah Nolan: Present; Shannon Sheridan-Geldart: Present. Absent: Dipu Patel, Richard Baum. Recused: None; Oppose: None

Document: January 13, 2022, Physician Assistant Regular Session Meeting Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

Board members reviewed the December 9, 2021 Physician Assistant Regular Session Meeting Minutes for approval.

Discussion:

None.

Action:

Motion by Mr. Crehan to approve the December 9, 2021 minutes as presented, seconded by Dr. Baginski and passed unanimously by roll call vote as follows: Robert Baginski: Present; Paul Crehan: Present; Mary Kuzmeski: Present; Hannah Nolan: Present; Shannon Sheridan-Geldart: Present. Absent: Dipu Patel, Richard Baum. Recused: None; Opposed: None

Document: December 9, 2021, Physician Assistant Regular Session Draft Meeting Minutes

IV. Investigations:

Triage: N/A

Staff Assignment(s): N/A

Complaint(s):

- a. PA-2021-002: Pippi, Eric, PA5269
School: Chatham University
Attorney: N/A
COI: None.

Mr. Joubert welcomed the Licensee into the meeting and Board Counsel, Ms. Mary Strachan explained his rights. Board Investigator, Ms. Lisa Seeley-Murphy presented the

case to the Board. The allegations are discipline in another jurisdiction (Oklahoma) regarding CMEs. On renewal of his Massachusetts license, the Licensee self-disclosed discipline on his Oklahoma license.

DISCUSSION:

In his opening statement, Mr. Pippi explained that he misinterpreted the Oklahoma regulations. Their regulations require 20 Category I CMEs every calendar year, while Mr. Pippi believed that satisfying 50 Category I CMEs every other calendar year, as required by the NCCPA, would be sufficient.

Ms. Strachan explained that Massachusetts Boards have the authority to take reciprocal discipline against a Licensee whose license has been disciplined in another state, provided that the Massachusetts Board would take disciplinary action for the same thing. Ms. Strachan did not find evidence that Massachusetts has disciplined a Physician Assistant for insufficient CMEs.

Mr. Crehan stated that he would move to dismiss as the Licensee was in compliance with his CMEs per Massachusetts regulation. Ms. Mary Kuzmeski and Ms. Sheridan-Geldart verbalized their agreement.

ACTION:

Motion by Mr. Crehan to dismiss due to no evidence of a violation, seconded by Ms. Kuzmeski and passed unanimously by roll call vote as follows: Robert Baginski: Present; Paul Crehan: Present; Mary Kuzmeski: Present; Hannah Nolan: Present; Shannon Sheridan-Geldart: Present. Absent: Dipu Patel, Richard Baum. Recused: None; Opposed: None

V. Flex Session:

1. Announcements:

- i. The Board reviewed the 2022 Board meeting dates.
- ii. Mr. Joubert brought up an issue that Board staff has received a lot of feedback about. On the application for licensure, the Board has elected to provide a few options of free courses that satisfy the requirements for Prescribers pursuant to M.G.L. c. 94C §18(e). These courses are hosted by a third party and one of the courses has expired, which has led to confusion among applicants. Mr. Joubert asked the Board if they wished to continue providing links to the courses.

Ms. Kuzmeski explained that she was concerned about putting the burden on individual Physician Assistants to find the appropriate courses. Additionally, there is always the possibility that the course someone chooses doesn't cover the state regulations, in which case the Board would need to determine how they enforce the required courses. Ms. Strachan explained that she had done research for the Complaint that was heard at the meeting today and ultimately, the PA Board has not disciplined a Licensee for missing CMEs in

the last ten years.

Dr. Baginski explained that the links on the application are for convenience and that ultimately, if the links are unable to be maintained, then it becomes less convenient. Mr. Joubert noted that it is an administrative burden as there have been a significant number of inquiries regarding this issue. Ms. Nolan stated that she recently obtained her Massachusetts license and noted that it would be helpful if the verbiage explained the requirements clearly and put the onus on Applicants to find an acceptable course.

2. Topics for the Next Agenda:

N/A

VI. Executive Session

At 10:07 A.M. Ms. Sheridan-Geldart announced that the Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a) (1) and (3) 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, and to discuss strategy with respect to litigation as a public discussion may have a detrimental effect on the Board's position.

1. Specifically, 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.
2. Specifically, the Board will discuss complaints or charges brought against a Licensee or Licensees.

ACTION:

Motion to move to Executive Session by Ms. Sheridan-Geldart, seconded by Mr. Crehan and passed unanimously by roll call vote as follows: Robert Baginski: Present; Paul Crehan: Present; Mary Kuzmeski: Present; Hannah Nolan: Present; Shannon Sheridan-Geldart: Present. Absent: Dipu Patel, Richard Baum. Recused: None; Opposed: None

The Board will not reconvene in public session subsequent to the closed session(s).

The next meeting of the Board of Registration of Physician Assistants is scheduled for **Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by the Board of Registration of Physician Assistants