

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, April 9, 2015
9:30 a.m.**

**239 Causeway Street ~ 4th Floor ~ Room 417 A/B
Boston, Massachusetts 02114**

AGENDA

Time	Item #	Item	Documents	Staff Contact
9:30 a.m.	I.	Call to Order Determination of Quorum		
	II.	Approval of Agenda	Draft Agenda	
	III.	Approval of Minutes A. March 12, 2015 Regularly Scheduled Meeting	Draft Minutes	
	IV.	Advisory Ruling A. CEUs requirements for newly licensed licensees	Draft of Advisory Ruling	MS

	V.	Policies A. <u>Discussion</u> : development of Policies for staff action on pending investigation	Board of Registration in Nursing, Policy 99-03	MS
	VI.	Inquiries A. Inquiry related to PA training for ICU and ability to take inhouse calls for ICU B. Inquiry related to Owning a professional limited liability company	Email Inquiries	
	VII.	Other Business/Announcements A. Board Members' state email B. <u>Discussion</u> : Review of Current Regulation	None	MP
	VIII.	Flex Session A. Topic for next agenda		

10:00 a.m.	IX.	<p>Executive Session 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.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the <u>Good Moral Character</u> provision of an application or applications as required for registration. 2. Specifically, the Board will discuss complaints or charges brought against a Licensee or Licensees. 3. Specifically, the Board will discuss pending litigation: <i>Cushman vs. Board of Registration of Physician Assistants</i>, Suffolk Superior Court, C.A. No. 2014-03496-A. 4. 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. <p>The Board will not reconvene in public session subsequent to the executive session.</p>	Closed Session	
11:00 am	X.	Adjudicatory Session (Closed Session)	Closed Session	

11:30 am	XI.	M.G.L.c. 112 § 65C Session	Closed Session	
12:00 p.m.	XII.	Adjournment		

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS
BOARD MEETING

April 9, 2015
239 Causeway Street, Room 417
Boston, MA 02114

MINUTES

Board Members
Present: Dipu Patel-Junankar, PA-C, Physician Assistant 1, Chair
Miguel Valdez, PA-C, Physician Assistant 3, Vice-Chair
Laura Hilf, RN, MS, Public Member 1
Nicole Meregian, PA-C, Physician Assistant 2
Paul Crehan, PA-C, Physician Assistant 4

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

Staff Present: Mary Phillips, Executive Director, DHPL
Rebecca Ferullo, Office Support Specialist, DHPL
Vita Berg, Chief Board Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, DPH
Mary Strachan, Board Counsel, Office of General Counsel, DPH
Marjorie Campbell, Investigator Supervisor, Office of Public
Protection, DHPL
Philip Beattie, Board Investigator, Office of Public Protection, DHPL

I. Call to Order – Determination of Quorum
A quorum of the Board was present. The Board Chair, Ms. Patel-Junankar, called the meeting to order at 9:29 a.m.

II. Approval of the Agenda
The Meeting Agenda was reviewed.

DISCUSSION: Item V, Policies, will be deferred until the next meeting.

ACTION: Ms. Hilf made a motion to approve the agenda as amended; Ms. Meregian seconded the motion. The motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor unanimously.

Document: April 9, 2015 Board Meeting Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes
Minutes of the March 12, 2015 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting were reviewed.

DISCUSSION: None

ACTION: Ms. Hilf made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Crehan seconded the motion. The motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor unanimously.

Document: March 12, 2015 Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting Minutes

IV. Advisory Ruling

A. CEU requirements for newly licensed licensees

DISCUSSION: Ms. Strachan reviewed the Advisory Ruling draft with the Board.

ACTION: Mr. Crehan made a motion to approve the draft Advisory Ruling; Ms. Meregian seconded the motion. The motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor unanimously.

Document: Draft of Advisory Ruling

V. Inquiries

A. Inquiry related to PA training for ICU and ability to take in-house calls for ICU

DISCUSSION: Physician Assistant's do not require certain training courses for ICU, but do require a Supervising Physician in the field and have procedures delineated in their contract/practice guidelines. Supervising Physician is not required to be present; that is left to the facility to decide. The Board does suggest having a "back up" physician present. Regarding part 2 of the inquiry, the Board would like Staff to respond and clarify if the PA is solely responsible for the ICU, or will another physician be present, and return with answer.

ACTION: None

Document: Email Inquiry

9:47am Break

9:50am Return

B. Inquiry related to Owning a professional limited liability company

DISCUSSION: The Board's jurisdiction extends to the practice of a physician assistant, and the Board cannot offer advice related to business practices. The inquiring PA should be directed to the Secretary of the Commonwealth's office and an Attorney. A copy of a PA's license *may* be sufficient for Secretary of the Commonwealth's office purposes. It is beyond the purview of the Board to provide advice or recommendations to licensees with regard to owning a practice other than to remind PAs that it is all PAs obligation to be aware of and comply with all of the Board's regulations governing physician assistant practice.

ACTION: None

Document: Email Inquiry

VI. Other Business/Announcements

A. Board Members' state emails

DISCUSSION: Ms. Ferullo will send email addresses and instructions for use to each Board member.

ACTION: None

Document: None

B. Discussion: Review of Current Regulation

DISCUSSION: The Board considered reviewing the regulations via an advisory group. A subcommittee could be created to involve other PAs and interested parties. Ms. Strachan will check the process for who can be on the subcommittee, and return with information on subcommittee member guidelines. It was suggested that the Board reach out to MAPA. Board members should start considering which regulations they would like to look at first.

ACTION: None

VII. Flex Session
Topics for next agenda

DISCUSSION: The Board will consider what regulations to review and discuss at next meeting.

ACTION: The topic will be added to the May 14, 2015 meeting agenda.

VIII. Executive Session (closed session)

At 10:04 a.m., Ms. Dipu Patel-Junankar announced that the Board will meet in Executive Session as authorized pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) for the purpose 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, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.

5. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the Good Moral Character as required for registration for pending applicants.
6. Specifically, the Board will discuss and evaluate the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of licensees relevant to their petitions for license status change.
7. Approval of prior executive session minutes in accordance with M.G.L. ch.30A, § 22(f) for sessions held during the June 12, 2014.

Ms. Patel-Junankar made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 10:04 a.m.; Mr. Valdez seconded the motion; Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote with Board members present and voting in favor: Ms. Dipu Patel-Junankar: yes; Mr. Miguel Valdez: yes, Ms. Laura Hilf: yes; Ms. Nicole Meregian: yes; and Mr. Paul Crehan: yes; Opposed: None Abstained: None Recused: None

IX. Adjudicatory Session (closed session)
None

X. M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C Session (closed session)
None

XI. Adjourn
There being no other business before the Board, Ms. Patel-Junankar made a motion to adjourn the Meeting; Mr. Crehan seconded the motion. The motion passed with Board members present and voting in favor unanimously. The Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Registration of Physician Assistants will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. at 239 Causeway Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted:

Dipu Patel-Junankar, PA-C, Chair

Date