# Board of Registration of Podiatry Minutes of the June 09, 2020 Public Meeting Held by Video and Telephone Conference

# **Board Members Present by Phone/Video:**

LeRoy Kelley, DPM Chair Raymond Murano, DPM Secretary Bruce Bonnell, MD Member Felix Martinez, PhD Public Member

# Admin. Staff Present by Phone/Video:

Michael Hawley, Executive Director Sheila York, Board Counsel Thomas F. Burke, Associate Exec. Director

### **Board Members not Present:**

Kenneth Leavitt, DPM Member

#### Members of the Public Present by Phone/Video:

Tyler Silverman. DPM Mark Molloy

# I. Housekeeping Matters and Evacuation Procedures

Dr. Kelley, the Board Chair, observing a quorum of board members to be present via phone, opened the meeting at 10:02 am.

Evacuation procedures not required since meeting was held remotely.

### **II.** Vote on Minutes:

• May 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes:

Dr. Bonnell moved to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2020 Board Meeting. Dr. Murano seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote: Dr. Bonnell – "Yes"; Dr. Murano – "Yes"; Dr. Kelley – "Yes"; Dr. Martinez – "Yes"

#### **III.** New Items:

a. Board Chair

Nothing to report.

### b. Executive director, Michael Hawley's report to the board:

i. Mr. Hawley reported to the Board that limited licensure applications were beginning to be submitted and that board staff was working to ensure that applicants were able to begin their residency programs on schedule.

#### c. Board counsel, Sheila York's report to the board:

i. Update on legal matters: Ms. York reported on ongoing agency efforts to review and update board regulations.

#### d. Discussion:

- i. **Impacts of COVID-19:** 
  - 1. Telehealth Policy Ms. York presented the Telehealth policy that she drafted pursuant to the direction provided by the Board at its May 12 meeting. The language of the policy was as follows:

#### POLICY ON TELEHEALTH BY PODIATRISTS

The practice of podiatry shall not require a face-to-face encounter between the podiatrist and the patient prior to health care delivery via telehealth. The standard of care applicable to the podiatrist is the same whether the patient is seen in-person or through telehealth. A podiatrist providing telehealth services shall comply with all applicable federal and state statutes and regulations, including but not limited to those governing medication management and prescribing services.

Dr. Murano moved to adopt the policy as written as a permanent policy, not bounded by the COVID-19 state of emergency. Dr. Kelley seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Dr. Bonnell – "Yes"; Dr. Murano – "Yes"; Dr. Kelley – "Yes"; Dr. Martinez – "Yes"

- Jurisprudence Exam Availability: Mr. Hawley reported that more test centers have been opening and that applicants have been able to take the Jurisprudence exam. The option of conditional licensure will remain available for applicants experiencing delays related to closures.
- 3. National Exam availability: No discussion.
- 4. Other impacts: No further discussion.
- e. Open session for topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of meeting. Dr. Bonnell announced that this would be his final board meeting due to his relocation to another state. The Board expressed regrets at his departure and thanked him for his service.

# Complaints [Closed Session pursuant M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C]

At 10:20 am, Dr. Murano moved to adjourn the public meeting and enter investigative session [Closed Session pursuant M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C] to review the following new case: 2020-000209-it-enf. Dr. Bonnell seconded. The motion passed by roll call vote: Dr. Bonnell – "Yes"; Dr. Murano – "Yes"; Dr. Kelley – "Yes"; Dr. Martinez – "Yes"

During the closed session, the board took the following actions:

• PD 2020-000209-it-enf

Dismissed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Hawley, Executive Director

### **List of Documents Used at the Public Meeting:**

- 1. Agenda dated June 9, 2020
- 2. Draft of minutes from May 12, 2020 Podiatry Board meeting.
- 3. Podiatry Board Policy on Telehealth