

Minutes of the May 23, 2023 Board of Occupational Therapy Video Conference Meeting

1. ROLL CALL

Mary Walsh-Sterup, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Board of Occupational Therapy to order at 9:14 a.m. on May 23, 2023, in the Goldenrod conference room at the Nebraska State Office Building located at 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Board members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS website at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>, and posted in the Licensure Unit on May 3, 2023.

Walsh-Sterup announced that this is an open meeting, and the Open Meetings Act is posted.

Members Present: The following members answered roll call:

Mary Walsh-Sterup, Chairperson (via Webex)
Dr. Marcus Doughty, Vice-Chairperson (via Webex)
Nancy Peetz, Member (via telephone)

Members Absent:

Dr. Alfred Bracciano, Secretary

Others Present:

T.J. O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General
Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager
Amy Blinston, Health Licensing Coordinator

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Doughty moved, seconded by Peetz to adopt the agenda. Voting aye: Peetz, Doughty, and Walsh-Sterup. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

3. REAFFIRMATION OF MAIL BALLOT

Covert-ByBee indicated there has been one mail ballot since the last Board meeting. The Board reaffirmed the mail ballot approving the 1.31.2023 meeting minutes. Bracciano, Peetz, and Doughty voted to approve the minutes as written. The minutes were approved by a quorum of votes on 2.8.2023.

These minutes were approved by the Board of Occupational Therapy via mail ballot on 6.5.2023.

4. INVESTIGATIONAL & CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION/REPORTS – CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: Peetz moved, seconded by Doughty to move into closed session at 9:16 a.m. to hear discussions regarding confidential information and to protect the reputation of individuals named or referenced in such discussions. Voting aye: Doughty, Walsh-Sterup, and Peetz. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

5. BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS ON APPLICATIONS – OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 9:35 a.m.

MOTION: Doughty moved, seconded by Peetz to recommend that the Department issue a probationary Occupational Therapy Assistant license to Sarah J. Vrana, with the same terms and conditions as the Board previously recommended at the 1.31.2023 meeting, with the addition of a required substance abuse evaluation within the first 60 days and to comply with any treatment recommendations based upon her conviction history and substance abuse diagnosis history. Voting Aye: Doughty, Walsh-Sterup, and Peetz. Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

16. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Marcus Doughty, Vice-Chairperson