

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT COMMITTEE  
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING MINUTES**

January 12, 2018

**ROLL CALL**

The meeting of the Physician Assistant Committee was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Tamara Dolphens, PA-C, Chairperson, in Lighthouse Room, Country Inn & Suites, located at 5353 North 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska and via conference call. The Agenda was sent to the Board members and other interested parties prior to the meeting. The following members answered the roll call:

Tamara Dolphens, PA-C, Chairman  
Tom Bassett, Secretary  
David Hoelting, MD, Vice-Chair  
Michael Bittles, MD  
Katherine Tonkin, PA-C

Absent: none

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened. Present from the Department was Kathie Lueke, Program Manager; Vonda Apking, Health Licensing Coordinator, Janis Gadenken-Harris, Health Licensing Coordinator; Ami Huff, Assistant Attorney General; Kathleen Krueger, Investigator, Department of Investigations via telephone.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Hoelting moved, seconded by Bassett, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voting aye: Bassett, Dolphens, Tonkin, Bittles and Hoelting. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Bassett moved, seconded by Hoelting, to approve the meeting minutes of November 30, 2017 as written. Voting aye: Hoelting, Bassett, Tonkin, Bittles and Dolphens. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

**DESIGNATION OF THE METHOD BY WHICH THIS BODY WILL GIVE PUBLIC NOTICE OF ITS MEETINGS**

Apking explained that the Board needs to inform the public each year the method by which the Board will provide notice of their meetings. In the past, the Board had chosen to post meeting agendas at the Nebraska State Office Building, to e-mail agendas to the interested parties list, and to post agendas on the Department's website. Hoelting moved, seconded by Dolphens, to continue the same method that the Department has been using to provide public notice of this Board's meetings by posting meeting agendas at the Nebraska State Office Building, by e-mailing agendas to the interested parties list, and by posting agendas on the Department's website. Voting aye: Hoelting, Bassett, Tonkin, Bittles and Dolphens. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

**INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS – CLOSED SESSION**

Hoelting moved, seconded by Bassett, to go into closed session at 2:06 p.m. for the purpose of review and discussion of investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Voting aye: Hoelting, Bassett, Tonkin, Bittles and Dolphens. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Tonkin moved, seconded by Hoelting to return to open session at 2:23 p.m. Voting aye: Hoelting, Bassett, Tonkin, Bittles and Dolphens. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT APPLICATION(S)**

ZOTOGLO, KOSSI - application for a Physician Assistant License: Bassett moved, seconded by Hoelting to recommend issuing Mr. Zotoglo a license to practice as a physician assistant license. Voting aye: Hoelting, Bassett, Tonkin, Bittles and Dolphens. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

**2018 LEGISLATION**

**LB 701 - Provide for telehealth practice by physicians and physician assistants**

The Committee members chose to monitor this bill.

LB 788 - Require continuing education for health care professionals regarding opiate prescriptions

The Committee members chose to monitor this bill.

LB 834 – Provide for waiver of certain occupational and licensing fees as prescribed

The Committee members chose to monitor this bill.

LB 836 – Provide for minors' consent to certain mental health services as prescribed

Hoelting moved, seconded by Bassett, to draft letter of opposition for LB 836. Voting aye: Hoelting, Bassett, Tonkin, and Dolphens. Voting nay: Bittles. Absent: none. Motion carried.

LB 897 – Change medical providers' duties under offense of failure to report injury or violence

The Committee members chose to monitor this bill.

LB 931 – Provide requirements for opiate prescriptions

The Committee members chose to monitor this bill.

LB 934 - Require identification prior to receipt of dispensed opiates

The Committee members chose to monitor this bill.

LB 933 - Require identification prior to receipt of dispensed opiates

The Committee members chose to monitor this bill.

LB 979 – Authorize physician assistants and nurse practitioners to render expert opinions

The Committee members chose to monitor this bill.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Hoelting moved, seconded by Tonkin, to keep the officers the same. Voting aye: Hoelting, Bassett, Tonkin, Bittles and Dolphens. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Bassett moved, seconded by Hoelting, to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 p.m. Voting aye: Hoelting, Bassett, Tonkin, Bittles and Dolphens. Voting nay: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

\*signature available upon request\*

Tom Bassett, Secretary  
Physician Assistant Committee