

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 20, 2020**

**ROLL CALL**

The meeting of the Physician Assistant Committee was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Tamara Dolphens, PA-C, Chairperson in the Licensure Unit LU 1 Meeting Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Nebraska State Office Building, located at 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was held by WebEx. The Agenda was sent to the Committee members and other interested parties and was posted on the bulletin board on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the NSOB prior to the meeting. The following members answered the initial roll call:

Tamara Dolphens, PA-C, Chairperson  
Kathleen Tonkin, PA-C, Vice-Chairperson  
Merle Henkenius, Secretary (via WebEx)  
Corrigan McBride, MD (via WebEx)  
John Massey, MD (via WebEx)

Absent: None

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened. Present from the Department was Jesse Cushman, Program Manager (via WebEx) and Vonda Apking, Health Licensing Coordinator; Mindy Lester, Assistant Attorney General, Kathleen Kruger, Investigator (via WebEx) with the Investigation Unit and Anna Harrison, Compliance Monitor (via WebEx), from Licensing and Investigations.

Dolphens announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Tonkin moved, seconded by Massey, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius, Massey, McBride and Tonkin. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Tonkin moved, seconded by Henkenius, to approve the meeting minutes of August 28, 2020 as written. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius, Massey, McBride and Tonkin. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

**2020 LEGISLATION UPDATES**

Dolphens explained that LB 755 was passed and approved and the Nebraska Academy of Physician Assistants notified physician assistants.

**REGULATIONS UPDATE**

Mr. Cushman explained that changes that were made to the regulations after the passing of LB 755.

Tonkin moved, seconded by Massey, to approve the updated regulations. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius, Massey, McBride and Tonkin. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

## **INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS – CLOSED SESSION**

Massey moved, seconded by McBride, to go into closed session at 2:16 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: Dolphens, Henkenius, Massey, McBride and Tonkin. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Henkenius moved, seconded by Tonkin, to open the session at 2:46 p.m. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius, Massey, McBride and Tonkin. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

## **REGULATIONS UPDATE CONT'D**

McBride moved, seconded by Tonkin, to approve the Department's responses on the hearing summary. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius, Massey, McBride and Tonkin. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

## **APPLICATION(S) REVIEW – OPEN SESSION**

No applications to review at this time.

## **COVID-19 DISCUSSION**

Mr. Cushman explained that vaccine distribution is being handle by another Unit within the Department. There is a special website available. If anyone receives calls regarding this, please pass them on to Mr. Cushman and he can direct them to the information.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business Tonkin moved, seconded by Massey, to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 p.m. Voting aye: Dolphens, Henkenius, Massey, McBride and Tonkin. Voting nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

\*signature available upon request\*

Merle Henkenius, Secretary  
Physician Assistant Committee