



TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS'

Committee on Acupuncture

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners' Committee on Acupuncture (hereinafter, "the Committee") was held in the Poplar Conference Room at 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee on August 15, 2017 at 11:00 am (Central).

Members Present: Alexa Hulsey
 Jill Kelly
 Jian Yan
 Charmaine Jamieson

Personnel Present: Steven Delk, Administrator
 Stacy Tarr, Administrative Director
 Maegan Martin, Esq., Executive Director
 Rene Saunders, MD, Medical Consultant
 Jamie Formont, Esq., Assistant General Counsel

Ms. Jill Kelly, Committee Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. The Chairperson determined that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Charmaine Jamieson made a motion to approve the February 2017 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Yan and passed unanimously.

Applicant Interviews

Renwick Malone – Mr. Malone was invited to the Committee meeting to address his fairly extensive criminal history as well as his history of substance abuse. Mr. Malone spoke candidly regarding his history and stated that his life is on the right track and he is passionate about helping others. Dr. Jane Abraham spoke on Mr. Malone's behalf and confirmed that his life has been transformed and that he has been a valuable asset to the Hart Center, where he works, for some time now.

Ms. Charmaine Jamieson made a motion to approve Mr. Malone's application on probation; however, the motion was not seconded. The Committee discussed whether a probationary period was appropriate in light of the fact that his criminal probation is set to end in September 2017. After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Hulsey made a motion to approve Mr. Malone's license without restriction. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jamieson and passed unanimously.

Ms. Martin spoke referred to communications she had had with Dr. Abraham regarding the acupuncture rules. An issue arose during the processing of Mr. Malone's application regarding how to interpret Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0880-12-.05(1)(e) which provides:

“Have submitted directly from the training program to the Administrative Office documentation of successful completion of a board-approved training program in auricular detoxification acupuncture. To become board-approved, the training program must meet or exceeds standards of training set by NADA.”

Specifically, Ms. Martin asked, how does a training program demonstrate to administrative staff that their standards meet the standards set by NADA? Is the only thing required proof of a NADA certified instructor? Ms. Kelly explained the answer to this question with four bullet points.

- Properly credentialed instructor
- Certification with clean needle technique
- Certain Number of hours of training
- Certain number of hours of needling patients as a student

More research will be done on this subject and will be brought to the board at the February meeting.

Approvals of New Licensees

A motion was made by Jain Yan, and seconded by Charmaine Jamieson to approve all initially-approved applicants. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Office of Investigations

Dorsey Luther of the Office of Investigations reported that in 2017 to date: 4 new complaints have been opened; Investigations is currently investigating 5 complaints; and 1 practitioner is being monitored. Ms. Martin notified the Committee that the investigative consultant had resigned and that a person within the profession or on the Committee would need to be appointed. A motion was made by Charmaine Jamieson to appoint Jill Kelly and Serena Scott. The motion was seconded by Alexa Hulsey and passed unanimously.

Office of General Counsel Report

Jamie Formont, Esq. of the Office of General Counsel reported that there are no open files in the Office of General Counsel and no consent orders to be presented. The Committee had a rulemaking hearing on February 6, 2017. Those rules were filed with the Tennessee Secretary of State's Office on June 20, 2017 and will be discussed at the government operations review meeting. If there are no issues at this meeting the rules will go into effect on September 5, 2017. There is no known legislation pending concerning the acupuncture profession or Committee.

Financial Reports

Noranda French of the financial office discusses actual expenditures and projections.

Legislative report

Jim Lehman, Legislative Liaison for the Department of Health, gave an update on new legislation passed in the most recent legislative session.

Scheduled meeting dates for 2018 were circulated to the Committee.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned.