

MINUTES

**UTAH
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
LICENSING BOARD
MEETING**

October 6, 2009

**Room 474 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, Utah**

CONVENED: 9:10 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 9:50 A.M.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:

Rich Oborn
Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

M. Carol O’Meara, Chairperson
Eunice Zee-Chen
Mary Heigert

Board Members Absent:

Shari Bloom, PA-C

Division Member Present:

Mark B. Steinagel

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Swear in Mary Heigert as a new Board member

Ms. Heigert was sworn in as a new member of the Board.

Read and approve the Minutes.

Ms. Zee-Chen motioned to approve the minutes of June 3, 2008 with changes, seconded by Ms. Heigert. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Proposed changes to the Occupational Therapy Practice Act Rule

Mr. Oborn reviewed the proposed changes to the Occupational Therapy Practice Act Rules. The Board discussed the changes in detail. Ms. O’Meara motioned to accept the changes as proposed, seconded by Ms. Heigert. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Oborn noted that the association representative stated that the association is in support of the proposed changes. Mr. Oborn advised the

Board that the proposed changes will need to go through the Division's internal review and will then be posted for the thirty (30) day public comment period. Mr. Steinagel stated these changes could become effective in December 2009 or January 2010.

Scope of practice of an Occupational Therapy Aids

Mr. Oborn noted that the occupational therapy aides are not required to hold a professional license. Mr. Oborn inquired about the scope of practice for an occupational therapist aide. The Board stated that the occupational therapy aides are used mostly in school. The occupational therapist staff trains them. The school districts are required to follow the licensure act and decide what the aids are able to do. The Board reviewed the Occupational and Therapy Practice Act Rules, 58-42a-304, Exemption from licensure. The Board also discussed the possibility of using aides being over used. The Board noted that because of federal guidelines, this has not been a problem in the past.

Licensing statistic report

Mr. Oborn reviewed the licensing statistics with the Board. Mr. Oborn noted that there are currently 517 licensed occupational therapists and 205 occupational therapist assistants licensed in Utah.

NBCOT Newsletter

Mr. Oborn reviewed the NBCOT newsletter with the Board.

Annual NBCOT Conference on Occupational Therapy State Regulation

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the 15th annual convention will be held in October 2009. Mr. Oborn stated that at this time most state employees are currently under a travel freeze. The Division hopes to be able to send someone to the future conventions in the future.

Governor's Ethics Policy for Executive Branch Employees

Mr. Oborn reviewed the Governor's Ethics policy handout with the Board.

Not on the agenda:

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that Ms. Bonnie Held has resigned from the Board. A name has been submitted for approval. The Division hopes to have this vacancy filled by the next Board meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for:

February 16, 2010

2010 Board meetings have been tentatively scheduled:

February 16, June 15, October 19

MEETING ADJOURNED AT:

9: 50 A.M.

Date Approved

(ss)
M. Carol O'Meara, Chairperson, Utah Occupational
Therapy Licensing Board

Date Approved

(ss)
Richard Oborn, Bureau Manager, Division of
Occupational & Professional Licensing

Awaiting Formal Approval