

Awaiting Formal Approval  
MINUTES

UTAH  
RECREATIONAL THERAPY  
BOARD MEETING

May 14, 2012

Room 464 – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor – 9:00 A.M.  
Heber Wells Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

CONVENED: 9:00 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 9:57 A.M.

Bureau Manager:  
Board Secretary:

Noël Taxin  
Karen McCall

Board Members Present:

Patrick R. Park, Chairperson  
Susan P. Call  
Shawna Peterson  
Gwen T. Nelson

Board Members Absent:

Megan Roth

Guests:

Michele Beal  
Kristina Couron  
M. Sydney Post  
Karie Swenson  
Monica Dixon

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

MINUTES:

The minutes from the April 16, 2012 Board meeting were read.

Ms. Call made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Ms. Nelson seconded the motion. **The Board vote was unanimous.**

APPOINTMENTS:

9:20 am

Proposed Rule Review

Ms. Taxin thanked Ms. Post for her time and effort to draft additional language for R156-40-302(d) of the

proposed Rules. She stated all changes recommended at the April 16, 2012 meeting were made. Ms. Taxin then reviewed each Proposed Rule section as amended since April 16, 2012 with the Board and guests:

**R156-40-102. Definitions.**

Ms. Taxin stated she and Ms. Negley clarified the language for the approved emphasis coursework for TRS licensure to ensure all licensees have the therapeutic recreation courses.

**R156-40-302a. Qualifications for Licensure – Education Requirements.**

**R156-40-302b. Qualifications for Licensure – Experience Requirements.**

**R156-40-302c. Qualifications for Licensure – Examination Requirements.**

**R156-40-302d. Time Limitation for TRT applicants.**

Ms. Taxin review the new proposed language:

“1. (a) in consecutive order: complete the required education, complete the 125 practicum hours, pass the examinations and apply for licensure;

(b) complete at a minimum 60 hours of the education prior to initiating participation in the 125 hours of practicum, then complete the remaining education, practicum, pass the examinations and apply for licensure; or

(c) complete a facility background check, 8 hours of direct face-to-face recreational therapy education by the MTRS/TRS then complete the education, practicum, pass the examinations and apply for licensure.

2. The 8 hours of recreational therapy education in Subsection (1)(b) shall include:

(a) ethics including confidentiality and patient rights;

(b) documentation and how to follow a care plan;

(c) basic outcome oriented programming;

(d) difference between recreation programming and diversional activities;

(e) laws and rules on the practice of recreational therapy; and

(f) the therapeutic recreation process.”

**The Board and guests supported the new amendments. Ms. Beal stated the Utah Healthcare Association, Dirk Anjeweerden, stated they also supported the new language.**

**Following additional discussion based on concerns of competency and supervision the Board and guests suggested two additional unprofessional conduct violations be included in the Rule as follows:**

- 1. failing as an MTRS/TRS to ensure the student TRT completes the minimum required education and experience prior to working with patients;**
- 2. failing as an MTRS/TRS to ensure the student TRT is competent to provide recreational therapy services when signing the education and experience verification.**

Discussion took place regarding the eight hours of recreation therapy education provided by the MTRS/TRS at the facilities for the student TRT. Concern was voiced about the potential for inconsistency of the content and education between facilities and the need for consistency.

Ms. Taxin suggested a curriculum be developed and shared with all MTRS/TRS supervisors to encourage and ensure consistent teachings. She stated the Division could post that curriculum on the website to assist the supervisors/educators.

**Ms. Post and Ms. Couran agreed to collaborate and submit a draft for the Board to review.**

**R156-40-302e. Qualifications for Supervision.**

**R156-40-304. Continuing Education.**

Ms. Taxin explained she included a number (5) which reads: “ If properly documented that a licensee is subject to circumstances which prevent that licensee from meeting the continuing education requirements

established under this section, the licensee may be excused from the requirement for a period of up to three years. However, it is the responsibility of the licensee to document the reasons and justify why the requirement could not be met.”

**Board member concurred with the language.**

**R156-40-502. Unprofessional Conduct.**

**Ms. Nelson made a motion to approve the Rules as they have been reviewed today with Ms. Taxin making minor revisions as the Board has requested and as she and the Attorneys determine are legally appropriate and to schedule a hearing.**

**Ms. Call seconded the motion.**

**The Board vote was unanimous.**

Ms. Taxin explained the Rules hearing process and stated she might be able to schedule the hearing by July. She stated the Board is not required to attend and there is no per diem for attendance but if she receives a lot of comments she may request the Board to attend as she prefers the Board to explain specific changes. She stated if there are an inordinate amount of comments then the Board will need to meet again to consider the comments and start the process over again. Ms. Taxin stated the final draft will be posted on the DOPL website and in the newspaper. She stated she will also email the final draft to Board and Association members and those who have given their email address.

**Ms. Couron asked if the MTRS's and TRS's who are doing the education and practicum with new students should continue to follow the guidelines in the current Rules or start following the proposed Rules.**

Ms. Taxin responded she cannot tell them what to do but believes they could start following the proposed Rules guidelines as the Law passed May 8, 2012, however, the Proposed Rules are not in effect until they have gone through the hearing and been

approved.

Ms. Taxin reminded the Board that the continuing education requirement is in effect for the 2013 renewal.

Ms. Taxin stated another meeting will not be scheduled this year unless a need arises at which time she will notify the Board. She stated the Board terms for Ms. Nelson and Ms. Peterson will end June 30, 2012 but they may continue to serve for up to six months if the Governor has not appointed a replacement. Ms. Taxin thanked Ms. Nelson and Ms. Peterson for being assets to the Board, for their input in Board meetings, their assistance in writing the TRT examination and assisting in keeping the Board balanced. She stated they will be missed. Ms. Taxin reminded Ms. Nelson and Ms. Peterson that they may serve again after they have been off the Board for a period of time.

**Ms. Swenson thanked Ms. Nelson and Ms. Peterson for their service. She stated Ms. Nelson has been a good example by going above and beyond what a TRT should be.**

**Board members and guests concurred with Ms. Taxin and Ms. Swenson.**

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:**

None Scheduled At This Time

**ADJOURN:**

The time is 9:57 am and the Board meeting is adjourned.

*Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.*

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Date Approved

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Chairperson, Utah Recreational Therapy Licensing Board

May 21, 2012  
Date Approved

(ss) Noël Taxin  
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &  
Professional Licensing

Awaiting Approval