

ADVISORY BOARD ON PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

Minutes

September 22, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Justin Hepner, PA
Erin Myers, PA-C
Tracy Dunn - Citizen Member
Lucy Treene, PA-C

MEMBERS ABSENT: Frazier W. Frantz, MD

STAFF PRESENT: William L. Harp, MD - Executive Director
Michael Sobowale, LLM - Deputy Director for Licensure
Erin Barrett, JD - DHP Senior Policy Analyst
Colanthia M. Opher - Deputy Director for Administration
ShaRon Clanton - Licensing Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT: Robert Glasson, VAPA
Kathleen Scarbali, PA-C
Clark Barrineau - MSV
Jonathan Williams - VAPA
Ben Traynham, JD - MSV

Call to Order

Dr. Harp called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. He asked members present, 3 of whom were newly-appointed, to introduce themselves.

Emergency Egress Procedures

Dr. Harp provided the emergency egress instructions.

Roll Call

Roll was called; a quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

Justin Hepner moved to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2022 meeting. Lucy Treene seconded. The motion passed.

Adoption of Agenda

Erin Myer moved to adopt the meeting agenda as presented. Justin Hepner seconded. The motion passed.

Public Comments:

Old Business

1. Update on the Physician Assistant Licensure Compact

Kathleen Scarbalis, immediate past Chair of the Advisory Board, commented on the progress of the physician assistant licensure compact. She explained that the development of the physician assistant compact is being spearheaded by the Council of State Governments (CSG) and currently modeled after the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. Draft legislation is currently being written that will simultaneously be distributed to all the states when it is ready. The goal is to get Virginia to be one of the first seven (7) states to participate.

2. VAPA Legislative Proposal

Jonathan Williams commented that VAPA hopes to introduce the legislative proposal to eliminate practice agreements in certain institutional settings where credentialing and privileging provide oversight. Also sought will be elimination of the 1:6 ratio of a patient care team physician to physician assistants in the 2023 legislative session.

New Business

1. Periodic Review of Regulations Governing the Practice of Physician Assistants

Mrs. Barrett discussed the mandatory four-year review of Chapter 18 VAC 85-50 to determine whether this regulation should be repealed, amended or retained in its current form, without impacting public safety. The review of the regulations will be guided by the principles in Executive Order 14 as amended July 16, 2018. There was one public comment received seeking to edit and reflect the correct title, "Physician Assistant" in the listing of table of contents on page 4 of the regulations. There was also a request to remove the reference to supervision in Part B of 18VAC85-50-115 to read, "...collaborate or consult with [his] physician assistant...". The changes sought will be

incorporated into the entire changes recommended by the Advisory Board from a review of the entire regulations.

Ms. Barrett then presented her recommendations to amend or delete current language provisions in 18VAC85-50-10(B), 18VAC85-50-30, 18VAC85-50-35(2), 18VAC85-50-40, 18VAC85-50-59(4), 18VAC85-50-61(D), 18VAC85-50-101(A), 18VAC85-50-115(B), 18VAC85-50-116, 18VAC85-50-178, 18VAC85-50-180, 18VAC85-50-181, and 18VAC85-50-182. Some of these provisions are in the law, and it is unnecessary to repeat them in regulation.

Justin Hepner moved that the Advisory Board recommend to the full Board to retain and amend Chapter 50 with suggested changes as discussed. Lucy Treene seconded. The motion passed.

2. Review of Bylaws for Advisory Boards

Erin Barrett presented the uniform Bylaws for all Advisory Boards that the full Board approved at its June meeting. Since the Bylaws are slated to become effective on September 29, 2022, this was for information only.

3. Approval of 2023 Meeting Calendar

Erin Myers moved to approve the 2023 meeting calendar. Lucy Treene seconded. The motion passed.

4. Election of Officers

Tracy Dunn nominated Justin Hepner as Chair. Lucy Treene seconded. The motion passed. Erin Myers self-nominated as Vice-Chair. Lucy Treene seconded. The motion passed.

Announcements

License Statistics

ShaRon Clanton provided the licensing report. The Board has issued a total of 574 physician assistant licenses in 2022. There are currently a total of 5,724 licensees with 4,049 current active in Virginia and 19 inactive. There are 1,618 current active out-of-state with 38 are inactive out-of-state.

Next Scheduled Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is February 9, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

With no other business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

William L. Harp, M.D., Executive Director