

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
FORMAL ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING
MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

**Department of Health Professions
Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive
Henrico, Virginia 23233**

CALL TO ORDER: The formal hearing of the Board was called to order at 10:07 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Szasz Palmer, MLS, Chair
Melissa Fox, PT, DPT
Elizabeth Locke, PT, PhD
Srilekha Palle, PT, DPT, MBA
Megan Bureau, PT, DPT

BOARD COUNSEL: Jim Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

DHP STAFF PRESENT: Corie Tillman Wolf, Executive Director
Annette Kelley, Deputy Executive Director
Florence Venable, Discipline and Operations Manager

COURT REPORTER: Julissa Jackson, County Court Reporters

PARTIES ON BEHALF OF COMMONWEALTH: Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

COMMONWEALTH'S WITNESS: Marissa Snyder, Senior Investigator, DHP

MATTER: Sara Martin, PT, Reinstatement Applicant
License No.: 2305-211793
Case Numbers: 229462

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: With five (5) members present, a quorum was established.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Martin appeared before the Board in accordance with the Board's notice dated July 8, 2024, and was not represented by an attorney.

The Board received evidence and sworn testimony from witnesses called by the parties and Ms. Martin regarding the allegations in the Notice.

The Board heard arguments on behalf of the parties.

CLOSED SESSION:

Upon a motion by Dr. Fox, and duly seconded by Dr. Bureau, the Board voted to convene a closed meeting, pursuant to §2.2-3711.A (27) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Sara Martin, PT, Reinstatement Applicant.

Additionally, Dr. Fox moved that Mr. Rutkowski, Ms. Tillman Wolf, and Ms. Kelley attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberations.

RECONVENE:

Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-3712 of the Code, the Board reconvened in open session.

DECISION:

Upon a motion by Dr. Fox, and duly seconded by Dr. Locke, the Board voted to issue an order to continue Ms. Martin's license on indefinite suspension, with said suspension stayed contingent upon Ms. Martin's entry into and compliance with the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program.

The motion carried.

VOTE:

The vote was unanimous. (5-0)

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board adjourned the hearing at 11:40 a.m.

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CALL TO ORDER: The formal hearing of the Board was called to order at 11:50 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mira Mariano, PT, PhD, Chair
Susan Szasz Palmer, MLS
Melissa Fox, PT, DPT
Elizabeth Locke, PT, PhD
Srilekha Palle, PT, DPT, MBA
Megan Bureau, PT, DPT

BOARD COUNSEL: Jim Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

DHP STAFF PRESENT: Corie Tillman Wolf, Executive Director
Annette Kelley, Deputy Executive Director
Florence Venable, Discipline and Operations Manager

COURT REPORTER: Julissa Jackson, County Court Reporters

PARTIES ON BEHALF OF COMMONWEALTH: Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

COMMONWEALTH'S WITNESS: Robin Carroll, Senior Investigator, DHP

MATTER: **Steven Mark Wheeler, PTA**
License No.: 2306-001378
Case Numbers: 234870

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: With six (6) members present, a quorum was established.

DISCUSSION: Steven Mark Wheeler, PTA, did not appear before the Board in accordance with the Notice of Formal Hearing dated July 18, 2024, nor was he represented by counsel at the Formal Hearing.

The Board received evidence and sworn testimony on behalf of the Commonwealth regarding the allegations in the Notice.

CLOSED SESSION:

Upon a motion by Ms. Szasz Palmer, and duly seconded by Dr. Palle, the Board voted to convene a closed meeting, pursuant to §2.2-3711.A (27) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Steven Wheeler PTA.

Additionally, Ms. Szasz Palmer moved that Mr. Rutkowski, Ms. Tillman Wolf, Ms. Kelley, and Ms. Venable attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberations.

RECONVENE:

Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-3712 of the Code, the Board reconvened in open session.

DECISION:

Upon a motion by Ms. Szasz Palmer, and duly seconded by Dr. Palle, the Board voted to issue an order to indefinitely suspend the license of Steven Wheeler, PTA, for a period of not less than twenty-four (24) months.

The motion carried.

VOTE:

The vote was unanimous. (6-0)

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

For the Board:



Corie Tillman Wolf, Jr., Executive Director

November 13, 2024

Date

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
SPECIAL SESSION - MINUTES**

August 13, 2024

**Department of Health Professions
Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive
Henrico, Virginia 23233**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Board of Physical Therapy convened on August 13, 2024, at 1:15 p.m. to consider whether the practitioners' ability to practice physical therapy constituted a substantial danger to the public health and safety pursuant to Va. Code §54.1-2408.1. With six (6) members of the Board present, a quorum was established, with Dr. Mira Mariano, PT, PhD, presiding as Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mira Mariano, PT, PhD, Chair
Melissa Fox, PT, DPT
Susan Szasz Palmer, MLS, Citizen Member
Megan Bureau, PT, DPT
Elizabeth Locke, PT, PhD
Shrilekha Palle, PT, DPT, MBA

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rebecca Duff, PTA, DHSc

DHP STAFF PRESENT:

Corie Tillman Wolf, Executive Director
Annette Kelley, Deputy Executive Director
Florence Venable, Discipline Operations Manager

**PARTIES ON BEHALF OF
THE COMMONWEALTH:**

Sean J. Murphy, Assistant Attorney General
David Robinson, Assistant Attorney General
Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist

BOARD COUNSEL:

Jim Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

MATTER:

**Stephen Scott, PT
License #2305-006816
Case Number 236057**

DISCUSSION:

The Board received information from Assistant Attorney General Sean Murphy in order to determine whether Stephen Scott's ability to practice as a Physical Therapist constituted a substantial danger to public health and safety. Sean Murphy provided details of the case to the Board for its consideration.

CLOSED SESSION: Upon a motion by Ms. Szasz Palmer, duly seconded by Dr. Bureau, the Board voted to convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711.A (27) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Stephen Scott, PT. Additionally, she moved that Mr. Rutkowski, Ms. Tillman Wolf, Ms. Kelley, and Ms. Venable attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberation.

RECONVENE: Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-3712 of the Code, the Board re-convened in open session.

DECISION: Upon a motion by Ms. Szasz Palmer and duly seconded by Dr. Palle, the Board determined that the continued practice of Stephen Scott constitutes a substantial danger to the public health and safety. The board voted to summarily suspend his license to practice as a Physical Therapist, simultaneous with the institution of proceedings for a formal administrative hearing pursuant to §54.1- 2408.1 of the Code of Virginia.

VOTE: The vote was unanimous (6-0).



MATTER: John Cody Bradshaw, PTA
License #2306-604339
Case Number 238018

DISCUSSION: The Board received information from Assistant Attorney General David Robinson in order to determine whether John Bradshaw’s ability to practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant constituted a substantial danger to public health and safety. David Robinson provided details of the case to the Board for its consideration.

DECISION: Upon a motion by Ms. Szasz Palmer, duly seconded by Dr. Fox, the Board determined that the continued practice of John Bradshaw constitutes a substantial danger to the public health and safety. The board voted to summarily suspend his license to practice as a Physical Therapy Assistant, and to offer a consent order in lieu of a formal hearing, simultaneous with the institution of proceedings

for a formal administrative hearing pursuant to §54.1-2408.1 of the Code of Virginia.

VOTE: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

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MATTER: Kevin M. Hesse, PT
License #2305-210751
Case Number 218354

DISCUSSION: The Board received information from Assistant Attorney General David Robinson in order to determine whether Kevin Hesse's ability to practice as a Physical Therapist constituted a substantial danger to public health and safety. David Robinson provided details of the case to the Board for its consideration.

CLOSED SESSION: Upon a motion by Ms. Szasz Palmer, duly seconded by Dr. Fox, the Board voted to convene a closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711.A (27) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Kevin Hesse, PT. Additionally, she moved that Mr. Rutkowski, Ms. Tillman Wolf, Ms. Kelley, and Ms. Venable attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberation.

RECONVENE: Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-3712 of the Code, the Board re-convened in open session.

DECISION: Upon a motion by Ms. Szasz Palmer, duly seconded by Dr. Palle, the Board determined that the continued practice of Kevin Hesse constitutes a substantial danger to the public health and safety. The board voted to summarily suspend his license to practice as a Physical Therapist, simultaneous with the institution of proceedings for a formal administrative hearing pursuant to §54.1-2408.1 of the Code of Virginia.

VOTE: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

ADJOURNMENT: The Board adjourned at 2:06 p.m.



Corie Tillman Wolf, JD, Executive Director

November 13, 2024

Date

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