

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MINUTES

August 15, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sue Elcik, Mary Woodbury, Shelley Rau, Julie Kadnar and Sherlee Keough

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Diane Staples, Board Clerk; Penny Vaillancourt, Administrator; Judy Peters, AAG

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Sue Elcik at 9:15 a.m.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mary Woodbury and seconded by Sherlee Keough to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2003 meeting with corrections. Motion passed unanimously.

LICENSE APPROVALS

A motion was made by Sherlee Keough and seconded by Shelley Rau to approve 3 occupational therapists and 2 temporary occupational therapy assistants since the last meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATORS COMMENTARY

Buddy Murray, Commissioner, came in to introduce himself to the board. The Board introduced themselves and gave a brief description of their jobs and how long they have been on the Board. Sherlee Keough asked about the renewal of her appointment. The Board explained the Occupational Therapy Practice and the commissioner let the Board know that his door is open if they have any questions or concerns.

Penny informed the Board that one member of the public attended the public hearing regarding the continuing education audit and that she would have more information regarding this to present at the next meeting.

Penny had completed some research work regarding the definition of the word "clinical". She had completed much work in respect to other states websites and there are a variety of definitions of clinical. The Board discussed that the aspects of clinical include the knowledge and techniques that are used for treatment. Penny will continue to research.

COMPLAINT OFFICERS REPORT

OT-015: This was a complaint submitted by a visiting nurses agency from the employer that the licensee billed for times that she had not seen clients. The licensee initially denied the accusation of fraud and then later sent a letter of admission. The complaint committee recommended a consent agreement with an admission of fraud which is a violation of the Board's law and the Ethics section of the rules 5 E and 6 D, a reprimand, admission of 3 violations, a \$3000 fine and 3 months suspension. Mary Woodbury moved to accept the recommendation and Julie Kadnar seconded. Motion passed with 4 in favor and 1 abstention (Sue Elcik).

OT-016: This was a complaint by a visiting nurses agency that the licensee billed for missed visits. The licensee has admitted to one missed visit. The clients say she missed 5 visits around Christmas time. Shelley Rau moved and Sherlee Keough seconded to offer a consent agreement with admission of violations of ethics and unprofessional conduct in section 5E and 6 D, reprimand, \$1000 fine, and 2 weeks suspension. Motion passed with 3 in favor, 1 opposed (Mary Woodbury) and 1 abstention (Sue Elcik).

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received several pieces of correspondence from NBCOT including a letter that they are looking for a liaison to the examination certification development committee, vacancies on the state regulatory advisory counsel, and the NBCOT mission statement.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Board received two questions from MEOTA and responded to them as follows:

1. What is the best way of insuring that I receive CEU's for unusual or non-traditional types of educational experiences? When you send in your CEU's submit a brief explanation of how this course/educational experience content relates to your daily provision of OT services. If you provide the Board this information when you first submit your CEU's you are less likely to get them back asking for an explanation.
2. Is it to my benefit to submit more CEU hours than are necessary to ensure that I have adequate support for renewing by license? Yes, absolutely without question. The Board makes every effort to approve license renewal applications. When we review the Ceu packets that are sent in, we first look to see if there are 3.6 CEU's (36 contact hours) that meet the criteria. Hours submitted above the minimum required allow the Board member to use alternative hours if there are questionable hours on the form. If there are 3.6 acceptable CEU's on the form then the CEU form is approved and the questionable hours are not an issue. Providing extra hours above the minimum required allows the Board "wiggle room" to approve CEU submissions. We appreciate the extra hours.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2003 at 9:15 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane L. Staples, Board Clerk