

I. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

The board reviewed the application and proposed a motion to grant **Mussarat Saeed Sheikh** a temp license, contingent on a Preceptorship or PLAS be put into place with a 3rd party reviewing files. And if it's permissible for her spouse may be her Preceptor. Out of practice since 2005 and file reviewed by Mr. White. Ms. Sheikh did not let her certification and CME lapse.

- **Motions:** Mr. Weathersby motioned table app for 6 months to approve the temp application with Preceptor by 3rd party, with review of file by 3rd party. Direct supervision and twelve weeks with a min. of 240 direct supervising hours. Limited license details 6 months to complete preceptorship, 100% co-signed by collaborative physician and no prescribing of controlled substances. Once Preceptorship is completed, Preceptor will send attestation of completion and once board approves, license can be converted to full license. **Friendly amendment** by Mr. White to work day-to-day with husband supervising with 3rd party review of charts. Mr. Weathersby agreed to friendly amendment and seconded by Mr. Roberts. The motion passed.
- **Outcome:** The motion passed, and Mussarat Saeed Sheikh was granted a temp license with directions to provide preceptor information to board administrators.

The board reviewed the application for **Timothy Ko** for a full license. Initial application for TN. Mr. Hull reviewed the application originally and second review by Mr. White. Previous work history in Neurosurgery and General Surgery. Moving to TN from NY for family reasons. Mr. Ko supplied context to a settlement relating to malpractice incident from 2018 Settlement.

- **Incident details:** Patient had ACDF and had issue swallowing post op. Mr. Ko stated patient was doing "well" and reported to attending. Still obtained a CT of soft tissue and there was no hematoma but transferred to ICU due to swelling of soft tissue. Neuro checks were not in the system to change. Mr. Ko spoke to nurse and asked questions, and the patient family had concerns. Mr. Ko was checking on another patient when original patient coded. No intubation due to soft tissue swelling. By the time patient was able to be intubated, patient's health deteriorated. No disciplinary action in NY or any other state.
- **Motion:** Mr. White motioned to approve license with no restriction. Seconded by Ms. Hughes. The motion passed.
- **Outcome:** The motion passed and Timothy Ko was granted full unrestricted license.

II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

The board reviewed reporting from Office of Investigations, Financial Report and Administrative Office

- **Office of Investigations:** Barbara Granum presented 2025 report. All complaints for PA, no ortho, 51 complaints were open and 49 complaints closed. Of those closed: 6 insufficient evidence; 2 referred to OCG; 35 closed with no action; 5 received letters of concern and 1 received warning. Of those that were open: 1 was action in another state; 1 malpractice negligence; 29 unprofessional conducts; 1 medical records request; 2 over prescribing; 1 criminal conviction and 16 out of office's investigative scope.
- **Financial Reports:** Presented by Interim Fiscal Director-PowerPoint presentation reviewed. Highlights: Payroll: \$140,492.97; Other expenditures \$79,183.77; total allocated expenditures \$270,902.04; total expenditures \$490,578.78. Revenue \$557,842.45 Surplus \$67,263.66; reserve

\$380,593.05. Discussed future tech upgrades and what constitutes healthy percentages for surplus budget.

- **Administrative:** Brandi Allocco presented: Activities from July 1-September 30, 2025: 136 new PA app, no temporary applications; 3 upgrades to full licenses, 6 reinstatement applications, no OPA app, 127 new licenses issued, 474 renewals and 439 were online giving 93% online renewal rating. Total active licenses as of September 30, 2025, 4,396 PA and 3,565 have TN Mailing and there are 6 active OPA licenses.

III. TENNESSEE MEDICAL FOUNDATION UPDATE:

Dr. Barron reviewed reporting survey regarding TMF and an Outcome study. Previous data was from 10+ years old. Survey was from active participants and outcome data from past participants. Data by the TN Opioid Abuse Council. Survey Stressed advocacy, Caduceus meetings and connections with accountability and determining what assistance helps participants. 87% successively completed monitoring agreements; 4% terminated and 9% were non-compliant.

Break: 10:56 AM-11:06 AM

IV. Conduct Board Business- Skipped to point V and circled back to point IV.

- Minutes from Previous Meeting:** Ms. Thornton proposed a motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on June 18, 2025. This motion was seconded by Mr. Roberts and subsequently approved by the board, none opposed.
- Suspension Summary Minutes from September 5, 2025:** Mr. Weathersby makes a motion to accept and is seconded by Ms. Bennett. All board members in favor, none opposed. Ms. Alcock asked for any questions and none asked.
- Ratification of New Licenses:** Ms. Thornton initiated a motion to approve all licenses, which was seconded by Ms. Bennett. The board approved this motion, none opposed.
- Review Current Policies:** Ms. Alcock wanted to present to board to review and ask questions, have discussion, etc. Table to next meeting or have any discussion.
 - Policy on failure to obtain Continuing Education:** Keep as is
 - High Risk prescribing:** Keep as is
 - Criminal conviction:** Keep as is
 - PA re-entry to Clinical Practice:** Need to review at next meeting. Bring discussion points to next meeting.
 - Standards to evaluate Orthopedic Programs:** Ms. Patterson points out that they can still apply. Ms. Alcock states change is needed to indicate the Board of Physician Assistant. Under Accreditation makes a notation that accreditation is not currently available. Ms. Patterson states that applicants attempt to use this policy as a loophole for foreign education that don't meet standard PA requirements. Ms. Patterson suggests just simply state that accreditation is not currently available with no qualifying statements to follow. Ms. Katherine Moffat, Executive Director, Tennessee Academy on Physician Assistants, clarifies that an OPA needs to have a license by a specific date even if an accredited program became available. Ms. Patterson states that this is no longer needed. **Motion:** Mr. Roberts makes a motion to eliminate this policy that we currently have. Second by Mr. White. Approved by board with none opposed.
 - Telemedicine:** Ms. Alcock suggests change to "Board of Physician Assistants". Ms. Patterson in favor of removing as there is not a need for a specific license. **Motion:** Mr. White makes motion to remove policy relating to specific Telemedicine license. Second by Mr. Roberts. Approved by board with none opposed.

- g. **Criminal Background Check Policy:** Add for next meeting to address the change from committee to Board of Physician Assistants.
- h. **Controlled Substances:** Mr. Roberts and Ms. Patterson ask if a Policy is needed for something that is written into law. Ms. Alcock clarifies that the legislature requests amendments to laws to vet. Ms. Patterson is in favor of removing because of redundancy with the law and the current policy does not add/clarify the law. **Motion:** Mr. Roberts makes motion to remove the policy. Second by Ms. Bennett. Approved by board with none opposed.
- i. **Lapsed License Policy:** Ms. Alcock clarifies the purpose of the policy for Ms. Patterson as to how it differs from re-entry policy. Lapsed License must deal with fines and forget to renew vs a Re-entry that deals with prolonged absence from practice. Board is fine with policy as it is but will be on agenda for next meeting to address Committee vs. Board verbiage.
- j. **1998 Policy:** Ms. Patterson does not see any value in this policy. **Motion:** Mr. Roberts makes a motion to remove nameless policy dubbed 1998. Seconded by Mr. White. Approved by board with none opposed.
- k. **E-Prescribing:** Link that does not work on TN Website and unaware of the policy states as a policy cannot be in network. Ms. Alcock suggests that board members can remove the hyperlink or put on agenda for next meeting in order to create a policy. Ms. Patterson does not think it should be needed due to current laws in place. **Motion:** Mr. Roberts makes a motion to remove the hyperlink from the website. Seconded by Mr. White. Approved by board with none opposed.
- e. **Application Review:** Ms. Allocco wanted to ask board for approval to adjust inconsistencies between paper applications and online applications.
 - a. **Employment History:** Currently asking for Employment History since high school. Ms. Patterson suggests that Employment History be considered since PA School, not high school. Ms. Allocco confirms that is the standard with other boards. Mr. Kasper states they are looking for relevant healthcare employment. Board agrees with Mr. Kasper's suggestion
 - b. **Declaration of Citizenship (DOC):** relating to question 5- "are you a foreign national living in another country". Ms. Allocco points out that most do not answer this question, and deficiencies are high on DOC because of this question. Ms. Allocco asks if this is something to continue to push back as most applicants at an either/or conjunction with question 4 "Are you a US Citizen". Ms. Patterson agrees that if Citizenship question is answered in the affirmative, an answer to question 5 is not required. Board Agrees with no objection.
 - i. Mr. White asks for clarification for Lawful Presence. Ms. Allocco clarifies that a driver's license can be used but it must be a REAL ID. Passport and Birth Certificate are most used.
 - c. **Undergraduate Education:** Does the board want to see undergraduate education or just PA specific education? Mr. Weathersby likes to see undergraduate education.
 - d. **License Verification:** BME no longer requires listing on application because we compare it to PDC. Does board just want license from other professions or all licenses listed on applications? Mr. Patterson and Mr. White agree that it's not necessary to list all licenses.
- f. **Endorsement application:** Ms. Allocco made the changes from prior meeting and needs to be reviewed by board. Mr. White asks for timeframe. Ms. Alcock states that it is dependent on the rules. Rules are currently reviewed and must go through the approval process. This can be reviewed in next meeting to review and add/change any items. Board agreed to add to next meeting agenda.

- g. CE Broker Communication to Licensees:** Ms. Moffit (TPAP) sent Ms. Stacy Tarr an email about correspondence sent from CE Broker to Physician Assistants regarding continuing education. CE Broker is a tracking organization for continuing education. It is not mandatory for PA to use CE Broker. Communicating is being sent out to PA that it is mandatory or pressured to use CE Broker. Ms. Moffit would like it to be made clear that this is an optional resource. Communication makes it sound as “official” requirement vs an option. Ms. Patterson states that NCCPA should be recognized as still accepted. If PA NCCPA is up to date, then there is no need to use CE Broker. MS. Tarr will discuss it with her supervisor and see if better revised communication can be sent.
- h. CSMD Member Replacement:** CSMD reached out to Ms. Tarr as Mr. White explained is 5/31/2025 but continues to service until replaced. Mr. White does not have an issue to continue. CSMD wants an alternative in case Mr. White does not continue to serve on the board in the future. Mr. White suggests a new member as it would be a good learning experience as they only meet once/year. Ms. Hughes volunteers to be alternate. **Motion:** Mr. Weathersby makes a motion to nominate Sarah Huges to alternate CSMD attendee in lieu of Mr. White being unable to attend. Seconded by Dr. Kasper. Approved by board with none objecting.

V. OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF DISCIPLINARY ORDERS:

- a. Consent Order-Seth Allen Dukes-PA:** Recused: Mr. White. **OCG presenting:** Ms. Alcock- Out of Cleveland, TN. Mr. Dukes working in emergency departments of April 2024. Mr. Dukes diagnosed patient with a muscular issue, pinched nerve, with no additional test, recommended OTC pain relief; Patient denied chest pain, no short of breathing, nausea, or vomiting. Later in the evening patient was discharged and next day patient was found deceased at home. Due to event secondary to a cardiac arrest. Mr. Dukes states that patient did not meet criteria for overnight monitoring. Patient medical history: 68 yr old, female, 1 cardiac event within 1 year; family history of cardiovascular disease including mother, m. grandmother and sister, prior tobacco use and high cholesterol. Heart score indicates that history should have been taken into account and patient admitted for monitoring. **Consent Order Details:** Responded neither admits nor denies allegations but consents to resolve the issue. Mr. Dukes consents to Unprofessional Conduct, Reprimand on PA license and payment of cost and take within 12-month relating to high risk or missed cardiac cases and can count toward continuing education hours. OCG requests board approve the order. **Board Response: Motion:** Mr. Weathersby proposes to approve order for Mr. Dukes. Seconded by Mr. Roberts with board approving, none opposed and Mr. White abstaining.
- b. Petition for Order Modification-Allen Tate, PA: Recused:** Ms. Patterson and Dr. Kasper. **Highlight presented by Mr. Tate’s attorney:** 2003 prescribing and documentation trial. **Order by board:** Mr. Tate was to be on probation for no less than 2 years, take courses related to prescribing documentation, undergo monitoring for 2 years and pay \$76,000 cost. There were credentialing issues relating to insurance. Mr. Tate has struggled to maintain employment due to probation. Did manage to work with National guard as a teaching role, not clinical. All orders have been complied with except for one; monitoring for 2 years. Mr. Tate cannot obtain a clinical role due to probation and cannot comply with monitoring order due to not being able to gain clinical employment. **Petition:** Order of Modification and Order of Compliance. Remove probation and modify

the monitoring order. Outside 3rd party monitoring. Review files and can send for course work at monitor's discretion. **OCG response:** Mr. Dolan does not oppose petition. Proposed order has been reviewed and seems reasonable and it is acknowledged that it is impossible to comply with 100% order, as is, and is up to board to amend order. **Board Response:** Reviewed written order proposal provided by Mr. Tate's attorney. Mr. White did ask questions relating to military service record. Mr. Weathersby defers to Mr. Dolan's expertise with OCG, and request advise from council. Ms. Alcock advises to read the order and voice any alterations. Also notes that Board of Medical Examiners will have final approval. **Motion:** Mr. Weathersby motions to accept proposed changes to the modification agreement and approve the order of modification for Allen Tate, PA. Seconded by Ms. Thorton and all approved by board. None opposed, Ms. Patterson and Dr. Kasper abstained.

- c. **Petition for Order of Compliance -Logan Martin, PA:** Megan Fraiser attorney for Mr. Martin presenting- Filed petition to lift suspension under Paragraph 14 under consent order ratified in 2023. Mr. Martin has complied with Paragraphs 12 and 13 that were modified in 2024 order of modification. **Mr. Martin's statement highlights:** Licensed in 2020 as a PA and the suspension has been over 2 years and has worked with TMF and complied with Consent order. Expresses gratitude to the Board and TMF and is eager to begin work. **OCG and TMF Response:** Ms. Alcock notes that Mr. Martin is in compliance to remove suspension to be placed on probation. OCG acknowledges Mr. Martin is in compliance with order of modification. Dr. Barron from TMF spoke on Mr. Martin's behalf and supports order of compliance. Began working with Mr. Martin since March 2023. Mr. Martin's monitoring contract with TMF expires April 30, 2027. **Board Response:** Mr. White brought up questions regarding being gainful employment while being on probation. Ms. Alcock states that the board's action is punitive in nature, not credentialing. It will be difficult; however, it is probation what is next appropriate action. Mr. Weathersby recuses due to prior relationship with Mr. Martin. **Motion:** Mr. White motions to accept consent order as-is, seconded by Mr. Roberts and all approved by board with Mr. Weathersby abstaining.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:37 CST