

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Athletic Trainers  
December 7, 2021  
Briarwood Christian School, Birmingham, Alabama**

**Members Present**

Robert Agee, MD  
Chris King  
Eric Law, MD  
Wes Richardson  
James Robinson, MD  
Kyle Southall  
Ciara Taylor

**Members Absent**

Stephen Guthrie  
Clarke Jackson  
Lydia Thurston

**Others Present**

Matt Hart  
R. T. Floyd  
Leah Taylor, Executive Secretary

Chairman King declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and apologized for the late start due to the previous meeting running longer than expected. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He introduced Matt Hart and reported he was joining us as the Attorney for the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners to explain and answer questions regarding the draft rules being presented for approval regarding physician supervision of athletic trainers.

*A motion was made by Dr. Eric Law and seconded by Dr. James Robinson to take the agenda out of order to make the ABAT/ABME Advisory Council Report the first order of business. The motion carried unanimously.*

Chairman King explained that the Advisory Council of the Board of Medical Examiners and Athletic Trainers Board had met immediately preceding the Board Meeting to consider the latest draft of rules covering physician supervision of athletic trainers (Attachment 1) and requested Mr. Matt Hart walk us through the rules and the changes that were made. Before turning it over to Mr. Hart, he encouraged each Board Member to ask as many questions as they needed to feel totally comfortable and not to feel they were being rushed to take a vote, emphasizing that getting it right is more important than rushing to get something adopted. Mr. Hart gave a general overview, pointing out changes resulting from the last review on July 27, 2021, as well as changes just made and approved during the ABAT/ABME Advisory Council meeting. Inviting questions and feedback, he proceeded to explain the changes in supervisory physician qualifications and implementation timing just approved by the Advisory Council. Discussion followed covering several points, and it was agreed that 540-X-28-.03 Protocols (2) should be changed to read "There may be a standard specialty practice protocol for each of the following areas of practice for athletic trainers: ..." to prevent any hardship in meeting the implementation date of January 1, 2023.

***Dr. Eric Law made a motion to accept the recommendation of the ABAT/ABME Advisory Council to adopt the proposed rules as presented and incorporating the approved changes concerning supervisory physician qualifications and relaxing the specialty practice protocol requirement. Wes Richardson provided the second to the motion, and it passed unanimously.***

Mr. Hart indicated that the draft rules would be updated with the changes approved tonight and presented to the ABME Board for approval at their December 15, 2021, Board Meeting with any changes they approve being communicated back to our Board. A brief discussion followed regarding procedures. ***Dr. Eric Law moved that the rules as approved by ABME be submitted by ABAT for publication through Legislative Services Agency to begin the administrative rulemaking process. Dr. James Robinson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.***

Chairman Chris King then called for a review of the minutes from the July 27, 2021, meeting of the ABME-ABAT Advisory Council. (Attachment2) He stated the minutes has been approved by the ABAT-ABME Advisory Council during their earlier meeting. Discussion followed. ***Dr. Eric Law moved that the minutes be accepted as written, and Kyle Southall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*** Chairman King thanked Mr. Hart for staying and making himself available to our Board Members.

Returning to the regular order of business, Chairman King called for consideration of the minutes of the July 27, 2021, meeting of the Athletic Trainers Board contained in the meeting folder and called for discussion or corrections. (Attachment 3) ***A motion was made by Kyle Southall to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2021, meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Dr. James Robinson and was unanimously approved.***

Chairman King called on Leah Taylor to present the Financial Report. (Attachment 4) There was a brief discussion. ***A motion was made by Dr. Eric Law and seconded by Kyle Southall to accept the Financial Report as submitted. Motion was approved unanimously.***

Chairman King then reported on the status of a contract for Board Services. He explained that, due to circumstances beyond our control, the process for bidding the contract had again been delayed. He reported that Matt Bledsoe, Assistant AG, had recommended that we submit a new Emergency Contract Request letter (Attachment 5) since the existing contract expires January 31, 2022. Discussion followed and it was agreed that we should attempt to get an emergency contract to avoid an interruption of Board services. ***Dr. Eric Law made a motion to submit the Emergency Contract Request letter as presented to the Purchasing Department. Ciara Taylor provided the second, and it carried unanimously.***

Chairman King suggested we have a backup plan in place in the event the emergency contract is not approved. Discussion followed and it was agreed that the Board have

pre-approved bid specs ready in order to expedite the process should it become necessary to bid at a later date and before the next Board Meeting. Newly revised bid specs (Attachment 6) were presented and discussed. ***Ciara Taylor made a motion to accept the bid specs as presented to be utilized for the purchasing process for contracting for the Board's management services if an emergency contract is not granted by State Purchasing. Dr. Robert Agee provided the second to the motion, and it carried unanimously.***

Additional discussion followed regarding the possible need to make certain changes to the specs once the Purchasing Department is involved, and it was agreed that for the sake of time the Board should authorize its designees as liaisons with State Purchasing to make such changes and interface with the Purchasing Department throughout the process. ***Wes Richardson moved that the Board authorize the Board's attorney, the Board's Chairman, and/or the Board's Vice-Chair to act on its behalf with the State Purchasing Department as needed to advertise the bid specs for Board services and to alter the bid specs if necessary. Dr. Eric Law provided the second to the motion, and it carried unanimously.***

Chairman King recognized Leah Taylor to bring a report on the 2022 License Renewal process. She provided a brief summary of the number of licensees eligible to renew, the number of applications for renewal received to date, and the number received on time. She reported that the on-line renewal platform had been performing well and that few problems had been reported thus far in the process. She presented a listing of 683 renewed licenses needing Board ratification, a list of whom is attached hereto and made a part hereof. (Attachment 7) Following discussion, Chairman King called for a motion. ***Dr. James Robinson moved that the Board ratify the renewed licenses of all 683 licensees presented. Dr. Eric Law provided the second to the motion, and it carried unanimously.***

Chairman King then presented the names of 39 new licensees for license confirmation/ratification, a list of whom is attached hereto and made a part hereof. (Attachment 8) ***Kyle Southall moved that the Board ratify the licenses of all 39 licensees presented. Ciara Taylor provided the second to the motion, and it carried unanimously.***

Reporting on Board Member status, Chairman Chris King indicated that Ciara Taylor and Lydia Thurston will be serving an additional four-year term beginning January 1, 2022, and that Clarke Jackson and Dr. Robert Agee have terms ending December 31, 2022. Both are eligible to serve another four-year term, with Clarke Jackson's seat to be determined by an election held by ALATA and Dr. Agee's seat by MASA appointment.

Chairman Chris King recapped the Board's current officers filling the positions of Chairman, Vice-Chair, and Secretary and indicated that officers for 2022 are to be elected. Discussion followed and the following nominations were made and accepted: Chris King was

nominated for Chairman by Ciara Taylor, Ciara Taylor was nominated for Vice-Chair by Dr. Robert Agee, and Lydia Thurston was nominated for Secretary by Chris King. ***Dr. Eric Law moved and Kyle Southall seconded that the nominations be closed and that for 2022 Chris King serve as Board Chairman, Ciara Taylor serve a Board Vice-Chair, and Lydia Thurston service as Board Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.***

Chairman King recognized Kyle Southall to bring the ALATA report. He reported on having several meetings with a small group of physical therapists from APTA-Alabama in an effort to promote better relationships between the two professions, new ALATA leadership, the development of a new member orientation program including an introduction to the process, and ways ALATA can assist and support new athletic trainers. Discussion followed.

Chairman King called for any other business. There being none, he set the next meeting date as February 15, at 6:30 p.m., at Briarwood Christian School in Birmingham.

There being no further business ***Dr. Eric Law moved and Kyle Southall seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.*** The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Chris King, Chairman



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Lydia Thurston, Secretary