



**Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners’  
Committee on Acupuncturist  
Regular Board Meeting**

**Monday, February 11, 2019**

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**MINUTES**

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The regular meeting of the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners’ Committee on Acupuncturist (hereinafter, “the Committee”) was called to order at 11:10 a.m. in the Poplar Room, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243.

Members Present: Jain Yan, Acupuncturist  
Karman Gossett, Acupuncturist  
Alexa Hulsey, Acupuncturist  
Shelia Berry-Sanders, Acudetox Specialist

Staff Present: Angela Lawrence, Director  
Megan Gottschall, Office of General Counsel  
Stacy Tarr, Administrative Director  
Candyce Wilson, Administrative Director  
Brandi Allocco, Board Administrator

**Election of Officers**

Ms. Karman Gossett made a motion to elect Ms. Alexa Hulsey as Chair. Mr. Jain Yan seconded. The motion passed. Ms. Hulsey made a motion to elect Ms. Gossett as Co-Chair. Ms. Shelia Berry-Sanders seconded. The motion passed.

**Approval of Minutes**

Members reviewed the minutes from the August 13, 2018 meeting. Ms. Gossett made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Berry-Sanders seconded. The motion passed.

## **Re-entry Discussion**

This discussion pertains to applicants applying for initial licensure or reinstatement of an expired license and have been out of clinical practice for some time. It was noted that two (2) to four (4) years was the common trigger for most states that had a re-entry policy and fifteen (15) hours of continuing education for each year out of practice was a common theme. Ms. Gossett also mentioned that in the Acupuncture profession not many things change as it relates to patient care. The Committee felt that two (2) years was a suitable trigger and agreed on fifteen (15) hours continuing education for each year out of practice after the two (2) year trigger. The continuing education hours must be NCCAOM approved and hours submitted would need to be obtained since the trigger point. There will be a clause included allowing the Committee discretion to request an interview and review these applicants on a case by case basis. Ms. Gossett made a motion to move forward with policy as discussed and have attorney Megan Gottschall present a draft at the next meeting. Ms. Berry-Sanders seconded. The motion passed.

*\*It was noted that until this policy is drafted and approved by the Committee that applicants out of clinical practice would need to appear before the Committee.*

## **Applicant Interviews**

### **Allison Musick**

Ms. Musick appeared without counsel. Ms. Musick appeared before the Committee for being out of practice since 2012. Ms. Musick has maintained NCCAOM diplomate status, which is up for renewal in 2020, and required CEUs. Ms. Musick was licensed in 2004 and practiced for eight (8) years and holds an active New York acupuncture license. Ms. Gossett made a motion to approve applicant for licensure upon verification of sixty (60) CEUs. Mr. Yan seconded. The motion passed.

### **Sonee Newman**

Ms. Newman appeared without counsel. Ms. Newman appeared before the Committee for being out of practice since 2014. Ms. Newman held a South Carolina license which expired in 2017 and had practiced for two (2) years prior to the expiration. Ms. Newman is a NCCAOM diplomate, which is up for renewal in 2021, and has maintained required CEUs. Ms. Gossett made a motion to approve the applicant for licensure upon verification of fifteen (15) CEUs. Ms. Berry-Sanders seconded. The motion passed.

### **Karen Pan**

Ms. Pan appeared without counsel. Ms. Pan appeared before the Committee for being out of practice since 2015. Ms. Pan has an inactive license in California and Massachusetts and is a NCCAOM diplomate and has maintained her CEUs. Ms. Pan has been teaching in the masters and doctoral program at P-Com. Ms. Gossett made a motion to approve the applicant for licensure upon verification of fifteen (15) CEUs. Mr. Yan seconded. The motion passed.

### **David Walter**

Mr. Walter appeared without counsel. Mr. Walter is a reinstatement applicant and appeared before the Committee for being out of practice since March 2016. Mr. Walter practiced acupuncture from 2005 to

2011 then moved to Tennessee and is currently a NCCAOM diplomate and is up for recertification December 2020. Ms. Gossett made a motion to approve the applicant for licensure upon verification of fifteen (15) CEUs. Mr. Yan seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Pamela Whitaker**

Ms. Whitaker appeared without counsel. Ms. Whitaker is a reinstatement applicant and appeared before the Committee for practicing on a lapsed license and not in accordance with the Rules and Statutes. Ms. Whitaker has practiced acudetox at Holistic Healthcare Options which is not a hospital, clinic or treatment facility that provides alcohol and substances abuse counseling. It was discussed and agreed that this is not in accordance with the rules governing Acupuncturist. Ms. Whitaker chose to withdraw her application.

### **Conduct New Business**

#### **Ratification of License**

The Committee reviewed the list of new licensees and reinstatement. Ms. Gossett made a motion to approve the ratification list. Ms. Berry-Sanders seconded. The motion passed.

#### **Redlines on Fee Rule Change**

Initial licensing fee was reduced by reducing the application fee from five hundred (500) dollars to two hundred fifty (250) dollars. Ms. Gossett made a motion to approve redlines. Mr. Yan seconded. The motion passed.

#### **Managers' Report presented by Ms. Stacy Tarr**

Activities that have transpired between August 1, 2018 and January 31, 2019:

- New Applications Received - Acupuncture 13
- New Applications Received – ADS 5
- Total New Licenses Issued – Acupuncture 14
- Total New License Issued – ADS 5
- Total Number of Acupuncture Reinstatements 2
- Total Number of ADS Reinstatements 1
- Total number of active Acupuncturists as of January 31, 2019 is 175.
- Total number of active ADS as of January 31, 2019 is 52.

#### **Office of Investigations Report presented by Ms. Lori Leonard**

- Six (6) new open complaints-two (2) unlicensed practice; four (4) unprofessional conduct
- Closed three (3) complaints
- Currently nine (9) open complaints
- One (1) currently monitored practitioner

**Office of General Counsel Report presented by Ms. Megan Gottschall**

- No open files
- No consent orders to be presented
- Internal review process will begin regarding rule change to Rule 0880-12-.06
- No known legislation regarding the Committee at this time

Ms. Gossett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Yan seconded. The motion passed.

**The meeting was adjourned at 12:36 pm**