

**Oregon OT Licensing Board**  
**Special Board Meeting – July 19, 2024**  
Portland State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon St., Portland, OR 97232

**PUBLIC Board Minutes**

The Oregon Occupational Therapy Licensing Board held a SPECIAL Board Meeting on **Friday, July 19, 2024**, via Video Conference. Board members: Board Chair Whitney Hooker, OTR/L, CLT, public member Ellen Stauder, public member Elise Dorris, Heather McCarthy, OTR/L, Nancy Schuberg, Executive Director and Angela Hunt, AAG were present. New NBCOT Ambassador Brianne Salvati, also joined the meeting.

Vice Chair Kari Hill, COTA/L had an excused absence.

With a quorum present, Board Chair Whitney Hooker called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** In accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (L) which allows the Board to meet in Executive Session on matters to consider information obtained as part of complaints and disciplinary investigations.

**1. Disciplinary/Investigations/Complaints:**

The following cases were considered:

- **2024-13**            **New**
- **2024-14**            **New**
- **2024-15**            **New**

**PUBLIC SESSION:** The Executive session was adjourned, and the meeting was brought back to public session. All votes were taken in public session.

**3. Motions from Executive Session and Ratify List of Licensees:**

**2024-13** A MOTION WAS MADE BY Ellen Stauder AND SECONDED BY Elise Dorris TO offer a **probationary license with conditions**. THE MOTION PASSED WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**2024-14** A MOTION WAS MADE BY Ellen Stauder AND SECONDED BY Elise Dorris TO **dismiss the case**. THE MOTION PASSED WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**2024-15** A MOTION WAS MADE BY Ellen Stauder AND SECONDED BY Elise Dorris TO **dismiss the case**. THE MOTION PASSED WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**3. Rule Making:** For rule, 339-010-0005 Definitions Section (6)(c)(L), the proposed rule change revises the verbiage from “Management of feeding and eating to enable swallowing performance” to, **“Management of feeding, eating and swallowing to enable eating and feeding performance.”** This is in line with the AOTA 2022 Practice Act. At the May 3, 2024 board meeting the board voted to file notice of the proposed rule. The board filed notice on May 17, 2024 to the legislature, OTA0, interested parties and all licensees. There were no comments.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Heather McCarthy AND SECONDED BY Elise Dorris TO **file the permanent rule.** THE MOTION PASSED WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**4. 2025-2027 Agency Request Budget:** Due to increases in fees and the cuts the board made in the previous biennia, the 25-27 budget does not require any adjustments.

	<b>23-25 - Actuals+projected (current budget) per April Cash flow sheet</b>	<b>23-25 LAB</b>	<b>25-27 w/(CSL)</b>	<b>ARB</b>
Beginning Balance	359,171	328,601	359,171	359,171
+Revenues	698,460	758,700	755,040	755,040
Total Rev.	<b>1,057,631</b>	<b>1,087,301</b>	<b>1,114,211</b>	<b>1,114,211</b>
-Personal Services	515,751	531,480	566,526	566,526
-Services & Supplies	189,553	224,468	244,344	244,344
Total Expenditures	<b>705,304</b>	<b>755,948</b>	<b>810,870</b>	<b>810,870</b>
Ending Balance	<b>352,327</b>	<b>331,353</b>	<b>303,141</b>	<b>303,141 (8.98 mos Ending balance</b>

LAB = Legislatively Approved Budget

ARB = Agency Request Budget

CSL = Current Service Level (inflationary costs added to adjusted base budget).

The OT board needs approx. 9 months of ending balance at the end of the biennia. No adjustments are necessary with the CSL. The CSL Budget Detail sheet was reviewed in person with board member Elise Dorris on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Ellen Stauder AND SECONDED BY Elise Dorris TO **approve the 25-27 Agency Request Budget.** THE MOTION PASSED WITH ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

**5. Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

**6. Elimination of the PPS Feeding Team:** The Board was provided information of a current issue that have OTs working in the PPS district very concerned, PPS’ elimination of the feeding team. The feeding team was made up of 1 SLP, 1 OT and a half time nurse, and the positions have been eliminated. The team’s focus was training and assessment and was the point of contact with medical personnel at OSHU.

PPS is changing their model for budgetary reasons and pushing out services to the neighborhood schools and intends build the skills of the providers. They intend to bargain with PAT to provide an extended responsibility payment to 2 SLPs and 2 OTs to provide consultation, training and assessment when there are complex situations that require expertise that the nurse is unable to support.

OTs have stated that “Extended responsibility” is like overtime, and would be in addition to the therapist full-time work duties. The OTs have stated this is not adequate support. OTs working in the PPS district sent a joint letter to PPS outlining their concerns.

OTs also stated that individual schools do not have the trained experts. They worry about therapists who are scared and do not have the experience to know what they don’t know. They stressed the importance of having a team that can critically think about recommendations from medical staff, not just regurgitate points. OT’s also stressed that students will not receive the education and individual plans provided under IDEA laws if students are not able to safely eat at school.

The Board’s role is not whether or not to endorse a service delivery model, (the board does not have jurisdiction over the school district) but by law ORS 675.320, Powers of the Board, includes... to enforce the provisions of our rules and statutes and to “generally supervise the practice of occupational therapy in this state.”

The Board decided it was appropriate to send a letter PPS with a list of statutes and rules that apply to the situation and explain that licensees are tasked to self-assess their own competence level and emphasize that dysphagia management is an advanced OT practice and OTs are in violation of the rules of unprofessional conduct if they engaged in any professional activities that they are not qualified. Therapists also have a duty to report any licensee that is violating state statutes and rules.

**7. Adjournment:** The Board adjourned at 4:57 pm.

Nancy Schuberg, Executive Director. June 12, 2024