

Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners

Physician Assistant Advisory Committee

Meeting Summary

June 16, 2021

Dr. Gregory Ayers called to order the regular meeting of the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee at 4:00 p.m. on June 16, 2021, in person with other members of the committee attending via videoconference.

The following committee members were present: Gregory Ayers, M.D., and William Suggs, M.D. The following committee members were present via videoconference: Sheryll Coleman, P.A., Paul Harrelson, P.A., Bradley Cantley, P.A., and Katie Beckham, P.A. The following staff members were present: Kimie Buley, Burke Britton McMahan, Wilson Hunter, and Carla Kruger. The following staff member was present via videoconference: Effie Hawthorne.

The committee members approved the minutes from the Tuesday, January 16, 2021, meeting without objection.

Dr. Ayers called upon Ms. Buley for an update regarding the August 2021 annual conference of the Alabama Society of Physician Assistants at which Dr. Ayers and Dr. Suggs will serve as speakers.

Ms. Buley also provided an update regarding the committee's recommendation for PAs to inject Botulinum Toxin for hyperhidrosis. At its November 19, 2020, meeting, the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners ("Board") approved the recommendation, and on January 19, 2021, the Joint Committee for Advanced Practice Nursing considered the matter and recommended that the Board approve Botulinum Toxin injections for hyperhidrosis for advanced practice nurses.

Dr. Ayers then called upon Ms. Buley for any updates on the Modified PA Rules and Core Duties and Scope of Practice that took effect on January 14, 2021. There was no further information considered or discussed by the committee on this item.

The committee considered the application of Erica Hutchens, P.A., for an Alabama Physician Assistant Service Program scholarship. The scholarship is administered by the Alabama Board of Medical Scholarship Awards and is available to physician assistants interested in working in rural areas with a critical need for patient care.

A motion was made by Mr. Harrelson and seconded by Mr. Cantley to recommend that the scholarship be awarded to Ms. Hutchens. The motion was adopted without objection.

Proposed amendments to Chapter 540-X-7, Assistants to Physicians, were presented to the committee. A motion was made by Ms. Coleman and seconded by Mr. Harrelson to recommend to the Board that the rule amendments be approved for publication. The motion was adopted without objection.

Mr. Harrelson provided the committee with information on the American Academy of PA's House of Delegates' vote to change the profession title to "Physician Associate" and the effects this would have on various institutions regarding the implementation of the new title.

Dr. Gregory Ayers adjourned the meeting at 4:41 p.m.