



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH  
LANSING

JANET OLSZEWSKI  
DIRECTOR

## MICHIGAN BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2007

### APPROVED MINUTES

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, 1976, PA 267, as amended, the Michigan Board of Occupational Therapy met in regular session on November 6, 2007, at the Ottawa Building, 611 W. Ottawa, Conference Room 2, Upper Level Parking, Lansing, Michigan.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Catherine Edwards Nezwek, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** John Miller, Public Member  
Diane Andert, O.T.R.  
William Sisco, O.T.R.  
Gerry Conti, O.T.R.  
Catherine Edwards Nezwek, O.T.R., Chairperson

**Members Absent:** Robert C. Ferguson, O.T.R.

**Staff Present:** Bonnie Curtis, Secretary  
Karen Carpenter, Analyst, Complaint Section  
Rae Ramsdell, Director, Licensing Division  
Timothy Andrews, Manager, Licensing Division

**Others Present:** Yvonne Davis

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion** by Conti, seconded by Andert, to approve the minutes of the October 31, 2006, meeting as presented.

*MOTION PREVAILED*

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion** by Conti, seconded by Andert, to approve the agenda as presented.

*MOTION PREVAILED*

## **REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Nezwek reported that her term has expired and she will not be seeking reappointment. She stated that this will be the last meeting she attends.

**Motion** by Andert, seconded by Miller, to elect Conti as chairperson.

*MOTION PREVAILED*

Conti was elected chairperson.

**Motion** by Conti, seconded by Miller, to elect Andert as vice-chairperson.

*MOTION PREVAILED*

Andert was elected vice-chairperson.

Nezwek stated that Conti will no longer be able to serve on the disciplinary subcommittee (DSC) so that will leave only two (2) professional members to serve on the DSC and expressed the need for more board members, especially public members.

Ramsdell stated that the Bureau has submitted to the Governor's appointment office all of the board vacancies in order of priority and that those boards who have an extreme urgency for public members are at the top of the list. Board members should contact their associations to get the word out for association members to apply for appointment. She also restated the need for public member nominations.

**HEALTH PROFESSIONAL RECOVERY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE –  
JO ANNE CRAIN, PH.D., O.T.R.**

**Motion** by Andert, seconded by Conti, to approve the reappointment of Jo Anne Crain, Ph.D., O.T.R. as the board representative to the Health Professional Recovery Committee.

*MOTION PREVAILED*

**O.T.'S IN NON-COMPLIANCE OF REGISTRATION**

Conti stated that students in field work do not understand the need to be registered and that small facilities are confused on the difference between national certification and state registration.

Ramsdell stated that occupational therapists can work in the field without being registered but cannot call themselves occupational therapists.

Andert stated that insurance companies will not reimburse occupational therapists if they are not registered.

Sisco suggested contacting schools to inform students of the need to be registered.

Discussion followed.

**REVIEW OF RE-REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

Nezwek stated that the Public Health Code states that if a registration is lapsed for more than three (3) years, the national exam must be retaken and that the national exam is changing to require a master's degree which will cause major problems for applicants. In order to hold the NBCOT certification, an individual must complete continued professional development activities which has been in place since 2002.

Ramsdell reported that the Bureau has been enforcing the rule that the national exam must be taken again if a registration has been lapsed more than three (3) years. She stated that she has consulted the Attorney General's office and inquired if a registrant can document that they are still certified through the NBCOT will that be sufficient to re-register a lapsed registration or should we continue to require the national exam be retaken.

**Motion** by Sisco, seconded by Andert, to accept current certification in NBCOT as substantially equivalent to retaking the examination for people whose registrations have lapsed for more than three (3) years.

*MOTION PREVAILED*

**PUBLIC MEMBER APPOINTEES**

This topic was covered after election of officers.

**DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Ramsdell reported that the budget has been resolved but that the Bureau is still on restrictions regarding travel and refreshments at board meetings.

Ramsdell reported that Diane Lewis will be retiring in December.

Nezwek stated that it has been a pleasure to serve on the board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Davis thanked Ramsdell for her patience and help when she realized that she had unknowingly let her registration lapse.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held February 5, 2008 at the Ottawa Building, 611 W. Ottawa, Conference Room 1, Upper Level Parking, Lansing, Michigan.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** by Conti, seconded by Andert, to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

*For* *Jerry Conti PhD OTR*  
Catherine Edwards Nezwek, OTR, Chairperson

2-5-08  
Date Minutes Approved

*Bonnie Curtis*  
Bonnie Curtis, Secretary

11-6-07  
Date Minutes Prepared