

MINUTES October 31, 2014

Orlando, Florida



Kevin Fogarty, D.C., F.I.C.A.(hon) *Chair* 

Danita Heagy, D.C. *Vice-Chair* 

Adrienne Rodgers, BSN, JD Executive Director

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The meeting was called to order by Dr. Fogarty, Chair, at approximately 8:33 a.m. Those present for all or part of the meeting included the following:

**STAFF PRESENT:** 

Adrienne Rodgers, Executive Director

Towanda Burnett, Compliance Officer

Michele Jackson, Regulatory Supervisor/Consultant

### General Board Business started: 8:33 a.m.

### I. Call to Order

# **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Kevin Fogarty, D.C., F.I.C.A.(hon.), Chair

Ken Dougherty, D.C.

Christopher Fox, D.C., A.T.C.

Danita Heagy, D.C., Vice Chair

Julie Hunt, D.C.

David Colter, Consumer Member

Ruth Pelaez, Consumer Member

# **BOARD COUNSEL:**

Deborah Bartholow Loucks, Assistant Attorney General

Office of Attorney General

# PROSECUTION COUNSEL:

Tari Rossitto-Van Winkle, Assistant General Counsel

Octavio Simones-Ponce, Assistant General Counsel

Department of Health, Office of the General Counsel

### **COURT REPORTER:**

American Court Reporting

(407) 896-1813

Please note the minutes reflect the actual order agenda items were discussed and may differ from the agenda outline. AUDIO from this meeting can be found online:

http://floridaschiropracticmedicine.gov/meeting-information/

General Board Business started at 8:33 a.m. Section I started at 8:33 a.m.

## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the August 22, 2014 General Business Meeting were reviewed.

Dr. Heagy and Dr. Dougherty noted the following corrections to the minutes:

Page 1: Dr. Heagy should be listed as Vice Chair

Dr. Fogarty noted the following correction to the minutes:

Page 15, line 5: Peter A. Martin, D.C. was not present and did not make a presentation

Motion made to accept the minutes as amended.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Section II concluded at 8:36 a.m.

Section IV commenced at 8:36 a.m.

## IV. SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR ATTORNEY FEES

Paul K. Christian, D.C. DOH Case No. 2007-37566 DOAH Case No. 11-0722PL

Petitioner was not present and was represented by counsel.

Petitioner incurred attorney fees challenging and successfully defending against disciplinary action initiated by the Board and the Department of Health. On August 7, 2014, Petitioner made demand for attorney fees and costs under FEAJA and filed an action at the Division of Administrative Hearings (DOAH). The Department and Petitioner entered into a Settlement Agreement in which Petitioner agreed to accept \$50,000 in exchange for dismissing the litigation at DOAH.

Motion made to accept the Settlement Agreement.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Section IV concluded at 8:36 a.m. Section V commenced at 8:36 a.m.

### V. FINAL ORDER ACTIONS

1. Final Orders by Settlement Agreement

#1 Tanya R. Kahl, D.C. - Case Numbers 2011-15248, 2011-15255, 2011-15256, 2011-15257, 2011-15258, 2011-15322, 2011-15323, 2011-15356, 2011-15357, 2011-15358

Dr. Heagy was recused due to participation on the Probable Cause Panel Respondent was present and was represented by counsel, Karen Barnett-Backer.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of various sections of s. 460.413(1), and 456.072(1), Fla. Stat., by engaging in financial exploitation, upcoding PIP claims, submitting claims for services not rendered, intentionally submitting claims for services not rendered, breach of standard of care and failing to keep adequate patient records.

Ms. Rossitto-Van Winkle advised the board that the settlement agreement contained the following provisions:

- Reprimand
- Administrative fine of \$10,000.00 payable in 84 equal monthly installments of \$119.05
- Reimbursement of actual costs in the amount of \$32,256.03 payable in 84 equal monthly payments
- Continuing education: 6 hours of record keeping, documentation and coding, 1 hour risk management, 2 hours laws and rules, within 18 months after the filing of the Final Order
- Probation with Monitor for 2 years: Every month for the first 6 months, the monitor will review 10 files; then for the remainder of probation, the Monitor shall make quarterly reviews of 5 files. Respondent has the right to appear and request early termination after 1-1/2 years, contingent on the advice and consent of the Monitor

### Discussion:

Dr. Dougherty expressed concern that the violations appeared to demonstrate an intentional pattern of fiscal exploitation; he suggested adding community service or ethical boundaries.

Dr. Fogarty expressed outrage that the patient records appeared to reflect maximizing billing and not benefit to the patient. He suggested an ethics and boundaries course and community service in addition to terms of the settlement agreement. Respondent objected to the added expenses of taking an ethics and boundaries course and adding community service.

Motion made to reject the settlement agreement.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion made of counter offer to add 25 hours community service and an ethics and boundaries course to be taken within 18 months to the settlement agreement.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried Respondent accepted counter offer.

#2 Olivio O. Blanco, D.C. - Case Numbers 2011-15047, 2011-15123, 2011-15199, 2011-15200

No Board member was recused due to participation on the Probable Cause Panel

Respondent was present and was represented by counsel, Karen Barnett-Backer.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of various sections of 460.413(1), and 456.072(1), Fla. Stat., by engaging in financial exploitation, violating the standard of care, and failing to keep adequate patient records.

Ms. Rossitto-Van Winkle advised the board that the settlement agreement contained the following provisions:

- Reprimand
- Administrative fine of \$4,000.00 payable in 36 equal monthly installments of \$112.00
- Reimbursement of costs in the amount of \$18,640.13 payable in 60 equal monthly installments
- Continuing education: 6 hours of record keeping, documentation and coding, 1 hour risk management, 2 hours laws and rules, 3 hours Medical Errors and Recognition of Serious Complications within 18 months after the filing of the Final Order
- Probation with Monitor for 2 years: Every month for the first 6 months, the monitor will review 10 files; then for the remainder of probation, the Monitor shall make quarterly reviews of 5 files. Respondent has the right to appear and request early termination after 1-1/2 years, contingent on the advice and consent of the Monitor

### Discussion:

Dr. Dougherty stated the violations are basically the same as the last case.

Dr. Heagy agreed and stated she felt there are likely more patient cases given the pattern seen in the cases now before the Board. She believes the Respondent's practice was exploitive and she asked that community service be added to rehabilitate the "black-eye" given the profession.

Respondent testified he reduced the number of modalities billed, now documents interpretation of the examination results and progress of the patient, and overall has better documentation.

Dr. Hunt suggested ethics and boundaries and community service be added.

Dr. Fogarty stated that maximizing the fiscal return was good but the practitioner still must consider the patient needs.

Motion made to reject the settlement agreement.

Vote: 6 yeas / 1 opposed; motion carried

Motion made of counter offer made to add the ethics and boundaries examination, and 25 hours community service in the chiropractic field over 18 months, in addition to terms of settlement agreement

Vote: 6 yeas / 1 opposed; motion carried Respondent accepted the counter offer

# #3 Ronald Woodley, D.C. – case numbers 2013-17273 and 2013-17435

Dr. Heagy was recused due to participation on the Probable Cause Panel Respondent was present and was not represented by counsel.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of sections 456.072(1)(c) and 456.072(1)(x), Fla. Stat., by being convicted of and failing to report a crime related to practice, *i.e.* operating an unlicensed healthcare clinic.

Ms. Rossitto-Van Winkle advised the board that the settlement agreement contained the following provisions:

- Reprimand
- Administrative fine of \$8,500.00 payable in 48 equal monthly installments of \$177.09 beginning 6 months after the filing of the Final Order
- Reimbursement of costs in the amount of \$3,331.32 payable in 48 equal monthly installments beginning 6 months after the filing of the Final Order
- Practice restriction as stated in the Settlement Agreement
- Florida laws and rules examination within one year of the filing of the Final Order
- Attendance at two Board meetings within two years of the filing of the Final Order

### Discussion

Respondent testified that he failed to audit files of other employees, and failed to audit outsourced "bookkeeping/billing." Respondent stated he was paid his correct percentage according to what he actually submitted for billing and never considered that additional charges were billed. Respondent stated he recognized he was responsible even though he had hired out the billing. Respondent stated he hired persons who spoke the local languages and hired out billing; the billing clerk was contracted to be paid 10% of Respondent's submitted billing.

Motion made to reject the settlement agreement.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion made of counter offer to reduce the fine to \$3,000, remove the practice restriction; add ethics and boundaries examination within one year; continuing education as in the settlement agreement, attend one board meeting within one year.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Respondent accepted the counter offer.

### #4 Kristy M. Kottwitz, D.C.

Dr. Heagy was recused due to participation on the Probable Cause Panel Respondent was present and was represented by counsel, Benjamin Newman.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of sections 460.413(1)(m), (ff) and (r), Fla. Stat., by engaging in gross malpractice and failure to keep adequate patient records.

Ms. Rossitto-Van Winkle advised the board that the settlement agreement contained the following provisions:

- Reprimand
- Administrative fine of \$2,000.00 payable in 24 equal monthly installments of \$84.00
- Reimbursement of costs in the amount of \$2,639.00 payable in 24 equal monthly installments
- Continuing education: 12 hours in diagnostic radiology and radiological pathology within one year of the date of the Final Order
- A one year radiographic studies review period. Respondent has the right to appear and request early termination after 6 months, contingent on the advice and consent of the Monitor

### Discussion:

Dr. Fox reminded the audience that it is the responsibility of the practitioner to determine whether every report needs to be read before a routine visit.

Dr. Fogarty stated that while Respondent didn't read the first x-ray, when she saw the second, she took immediate action.

He stated he thought Respondent did everything proper even though she didn't read the x-ray, only the report.

Respondent stated if dismissed, would waive fees and costs

Motion made to reject the settlement agreement.

Vote: unanimous: motion carried

Motion made to dismiss.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Dr. Heagy stated she has seen radiologists miss pathology. She suggested to the audience that chiropractors should read their own radiographs and not just rely on the radiologist report.

# #5 Monica Kim, D.C. - case number 2013-13102

Dr. Heagy was recused due to participation on the Probable Cause Panel Respondent was present and was represented by counsel, Phillip Crowley.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of sections 460.413(1)(m), (r) and(ff), Fla. Stat., by failing to keep adequate patient records and engaging in gross malpractice.

Ms. Rossitto-Van Winkle advised the board that the settlement agreement contained the following provisions:

- Reprimand
- Administrative fine of \$2,000.00 payable in 24 equal monthly installments of \$84.00
- Reimbursement of costs in the amount of \$2,901.32 payable in 24 equal monthly installments
- Continuing education: 12 hours in diagnostic radiology and radiological pathology within one year of the date of the Final Order

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• A one year radiographic studies review period. Respondent has the right to appear and request early termination after 6 months, contingent on the advice and consent of the Monitor

#### Discussion:

Dr. Dougherty stated he was satisfied with settlement agreement. Respondent exposed the radiograph and therefore she should have read it. It is fortunate that there was no harm to the patient.

Mr. Colter clarified that the distinction between this case and the previous one is who took the radiograph.

Motion made to adopt the settlement agreement.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

## 9:59 a.m. break; recalled to order 10:21 am

### #6 Gustavo Acosta, D.C. – case numbers 2014-07132 and 2010-05983

Dr. Heagy was recused due to participation on the Probable Cause Panel Respondent was present and was represented by counsel, Louis V. Martinez.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of sections 456.072(1)(q) and 460.413(1)(i) and(ff), Fla. Stat., by engaging in chiropractic medicine in a clinic not owned by a licensed chiropractor and failure to comply with Final Orders entered in prior discipline.

Ms. Rossitto-Van Winkle advised the board that the settlement agreement contained the following provisions:

- Reprimand
- Administrative fine of \$1.00 due in 30 days after the filing of the Final Order
- Reimbursement of costs in the amount of \$4,996.43 payable in 60 equal monthly installments of \$83.28 beginning 6 months after the filing of the Final Order
- Payment of fines and/or costs imposed in Final Order DOH-12-1451-S-MQ
- Suspension until monitoring reports due February and May 2014, which is moot since Respondent was not practicing
- Upon the conclusion of the period of suspension, Respondent shall complete the suspension imposed in Final Order DOH-12-1451-S-MQ. Respondent has the right to appear and request early termination after 6 months, contingent on the advice and consent of the Monitor
- Attendance at four consecutive Board meetings beginning immediately after the filing of the Final Order

### Discussion:

Dr. Fogarty asked whether Respondent had notified the Compliance Officer that he was not practicing, and asked if notification would have stopped the clock on compliance.

Ms. Burnett stated that compliance is tolled when the Respondent is not practicing. However, Respondent failed to notify his Compliance Officer that he was not working.

Dr. Fogarty expressed concern that Respondent did not attempt to attend board meetings timely. However, it appears that the time was tolled due to this complaint being filed.

Motion made to adopt the settlement agreement.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

# #7 Maritza P. Fernandez, D.C. – case number 2011-18229

No Board member was recused due to participation on the Probable Cause Panel Respondent was present and stated she was no longer represented by counsel, Robert Pelier.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of sections 460.413(1)(i) and (ff), Fla. Stat., by being employed by a corporation not wholly owned by a licensed chiropractic physician and not exempt under Chapter 400, F.S.

Ms. Rossitto-Van Winkle advised the board that the settlement agreement contained the following provisions:

- Reprimand
- Administrative fine of \$5,000.00 payable in 24 equal monthly installments of \$209.00
- Reimbursement of costs in the amount of \$2,281.36 payable in 24 equal monthly installments

• Continuing education: 1 hour in risk management, 2 hours in laws and rules within one year of the date of the Final Order

### Discussion:

Respondent presented mitigating factors and emphasized the financial burden of compliance with the terms of the settlement agreement.

Dr. Heagy stated Respondent did her due diligence prior to signing on with the clinic.

Dr. Dougherty also sees due diligence, no intent, she made a mistake; he suggested reducing the fine to \$1,000 payable over 24 months.

Motion made to reject the settlement agreement.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion made of counter offer to include all terms of the settlement agreement except reduce the fine to \$1,000.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

# #8 Norlan A. Torres, D.C. - case number 2013-06052

No Board member was recused due to participation on the Probable Cause Panel Respondent was present and was represented by counsel, Edwin A. Bayo.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of sections 460.413(1)(k), (m) and (n), Fla. Stat., by failing to keep adequate patient records, exploitation for financial gain, and making misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations. After negotiations and evaluation of the case, the Department agreed to dismiss the counts related to exploitation for financial gain, and making misleading, deceptive, untrue or fraudulent representations.

Ms. Rossitto-Van Winkle advised the board that the settlement agreement contained the following provisions:

- Letter of Concern
- Administrative fine of \$3,000.00 payable in within one year of the filing of the Final Order
- Reimbursement of costs in the amount of \$3,234.19 within one year of the filing of the Final Order
- Continuing education: 6 hours in recordkeeping, documentation and coding within one year of the date of the Final Order
- Probation for one year with Monitor reviewing 5 patient files in the first month, then quarterly thereafter for a total of 4 reviews

### Discussion:

Mr. Bayo stated the expert opinion of Respondent's expert was not provided to the Board.

Dr. Heagy stated she believed the changes Respondent made to his practice adequately protected the public.

Motion made to adopt the settlement agreement.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

## 11:06 AM concluded settlement agreements

# 2. Petitioner's Motion for Determination of Waiver and Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Facts

# a. Tanya Maria Hlinka, D.C. - Case Number 2013-20158

Dr. Heagy was recused due to participation on the probable cause panel. Respondent was present and was represented by counsel, Edwin A. Bayo.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of sections 460.413(1)(v), Fla. Stat., by failing to comply with Final Order DOH-13-1792-S-MQA. Respondent was served with the Administrative Complaint on August 19, 2014, and failed to file an Election of Rights within 21 days of receipt as required by law.

Motion made to accept all the investigative report and all case materials under Agenda Book 2, Item V.2.a., including all confidential and addendum materials, if any, into evidence in this proceeding.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion made to find Respondent was properly served the Administrative Complaint and waived her right to a hearing. Vote: unanimous: motion carried

Motion made that the facts as alleged in the Administrative Complaint are not in dispute and the Board adopts the allegations of fact set out in the Administrative Complaint as the Board's findings of fact for this proceeding. Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Discussion: Mr. Bayo gave the board factors that suggest the facts are not in violation of the Final Order. All continuing education requirements completed immediately after the Final Order was filed. Respondent started making payments in October and November 2013 and February and June 2014. Had financial challenges and lost home to foreclosure, but still made payments to the board. Delayed getting a monitor because she did not know if she would be working or not. She actually did stop working for health reasons. Still not working full time and still has health issues.

Dr. Fogarty stated that not contacting the Compliance Officer when issues arise makes it seem as though the Respondent believes the terms of a Final Order does not apply to them.

Motion made to adopt the conclusions of law as set forth in the Administrative Complaint as the conclusions of law of the Board.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion made to find that the facts in this case as set out in the Administrative Complaint constitute a violation of the Chiropractic Practice Act, as set forth in the Florida Administrative Code.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Department recommendation for discipline: Under the disciplinary guideline rule 64B2-16.003(1)(bb), F.A.C., reprimand; immediate suspension; until fines and costs as imposed under Final Order DOH-13-1792-S-MQA are paid; and probation is completed as imposed under Final Order DOH-13-1792-S-MQA.

Dr. Dougherty suggested staying the suspension until all fines and costs are paid but suspend Respondent if he misses a payment; give Respondent 30 days to get monitor in place.

Dr. Fogarty suggested a fine be imposed because of the time the Board members spent on this matter.

Motion made to impose the following discipline: Reprimand; Suspension stayed for 30 days and if Respondent obtains a monitor then the suspension remains stayed, but if not, then the suspension is enforced; the Board Chair can approve the monitor; all previous outstanding fines and costs in the amount of \$5,142.66, are to be paid over the next 24 months; fine in case number 2013-20158 is \$250.00; Continuing Education courses taken in satisfaction of the last final order must be reported to the Compliance Officer; monitoring as set out in final order DOH-13-1792-S-MQA.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Department recommendation for costs: Costs in case number 2013-20158 in the amount of \$224.25 to be paid by Respondent.

Motion made to assess costs in the amount of \$224.25.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

## 3. Motion for Hearing Not Involving Disputed Issues of Material Fact.

## a. Edward Tanza, D.C. - Case Number 2014-07239

Dr. Heagy was recused due to participation on the probable cause panel. Respondent was present and was represented by counsel, Edwin A. Bayo.

An Administrative Complaint filed by the Department charged Respondent with violation of section 460.413(1)(b), (c) and (ff), Fla. Stat., by being convicted of healthcare fraud under 18 U.S.C. 1347, having his license to practice chiropractic medicine revoked by the state of New York, and failing to timely report these actions to the Florida Board of Chirporactic Medicine.

Motion made to accept all the investigative report and all case materials under Agenda Book 2, Item V.3.a., including all confidential and addendum materials, if any, into evidence in this proceeding.

Vote: unanimous: motion carried

Motion made to find Respondent initially filed a timely election of rights form and requested an informal hearing not involving disputed issues of material facts before the Board.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion made that the facts as alleged in the Administrative Complaint are not in dispute and the Board adopts the allegations of fact set out in the Administrative Complaint as the Board's findings of fact for this proceeding.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Discussion: Mr. Bayo provided information that sentence was not imposed until 2010; Respondent lacked competent representation; the imposition of a \$100 assessment and no restitution is indicative that no healthcare fraud actually happened. Record of the conviction was released in 2010, prior to that the records were sealed.

Dr. Fogarty stated that not contacting the Compliance Officer when issues arise makes it seem as though the Respondent believes the terms of a Final Order does not apply to them.

Motion made to adopt the conclusions of law as set forth in the Administrative Complaint as the conclusions of law of the Board.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion made to find that the facts in this case as set out in the Administrative Complaint constitute a violation of the Chiropractic Practice Act, as set forth in the Florida Administrative Code.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Department recommendation for discipline: Revocation of license.

Motion made to impose a letter of concern; suspend Respondent's license to June 1, 2015; complete 50 hours of community service in unspecified service; complete 6 hours in recordkeeping, documentation and coding prior to lifting the suspension; impose a fine of \$7,500.00.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

12:20 a.m. break; recalled to order 12:43 p.m. Section III commenced at 12:43 p.m.

# III. PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT

# Eric A. Wiegandt, D.C. - Case Numbers 2013-07012 and 2013-14073

Respondent was present and was represented by counsel, Edwin A. Bayo.

By Final Order dated April 22, 2014, in case numbers 2013-0712 and 2013-14073, Respondent was suspended until such time as he satisfied all continuing education orders and had paid all fines and costs imposed in prior disciplinary cases. Respondent completed all of the terms of the order and requested that the suspension be lifted.

### Discussion:

Mr. Bayo informed the board that 4 more Administrative Complaint have been filed recently. Respondent intends to "get a handle" on his discipline. Asked to lift suspension to the next meeting of this board and he will make \$15,000

Ms. Burnett read the outstanding requirements, including fines and costs from prior final orders, and gave the board the balances owed. Dr. Hunt stated that not completing the CE requirements leads her to think the suspension should not be lifted.

Respondent stated that his accountant stole money from him and filed false returns; he terminated his business lease; just trying to survive. Respondent testified he did nothing to help himself by contacting the Department or the Board for assistance with his issues.

The Board expressed concern that Respondent failed to take Board's directions seriously. The Board wanted Respondent to make some commitment to compliance before agreeing to lift the suspension, such as taking the SPEC examination and paying the fine.

Motion made to deny the petition to lift the suspension.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Section III concluded at 1:10 p.m. Section V resumed at 1:10 p.m.

# 4. Motions for Final Order Accepting Voluntary Relinquishment of License a. Robert Merritt, D.C. – case number 2013-19196

a. Robert Weitht, D.C. – case number 2013-19190

Dr. Heagy was recused due to participation on the probable cause panel.

Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Motion made to accept investigative file.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion made to accept Voluntary Relinquishment of License.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

## b. Paul D. Demske, D.C. – case number 2014-11738

No Board member was recused due to participation on the probable cause panel.

Respondent was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Motion made to accept investigative report.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion made to accept Voluntary Relinquishment of License.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

### 5. PROSECUTION REPORT

Motion made to allow continuing prosecution of cases older than one year.

Vote: unanimous: motion carried

Section V ended at 1:16 p.m. Section VII started at 1:16 p.m.

# VII. APPLICANTS PRESENTED FOR BOARD REVIEW

## 1. Chiropractic Physician Applicants:

# a. Nicholas Simon Reynolds, D.C.

Applicant was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Ms. Loucks stated that the application was before the Board since Mr. Reynolds' chiropractic education was from the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences at the University of Surrey, a part of the United Kingdom. Mr. Reynolds attended the University from January 29, 2001 - February 5, 2004 and was awarded a Master of Science degree in Chiropractic. Mr. Reynolds has not submitted proof satisfactory to the department that he earned a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from a university accredited through the Council of Chiropractic Education, or its predecessor agency, as outlined in Chapter 460.406, Florida Statutes.

Discussion:

Mr. Colter provided handouts about CCEI and asked the Board to look at other countries and their degrees. He asked if CCEI accrediting requirements could be extrapolated to include the statutorily required CCE. He stated that he spoke to CCE

regarding a 1995 bilateral agreement amongst the 4 agencies, which was rescinded some years later. Mr. Colter asked Board Counsel if "or" can be read as alternative to "predecessor agency."

Ms. Loucks stated the law is clear that the status must be equivalent. She stated the Board does not have authority to license foreign graduates.

Dr. Fogarty informed the Board that CCEI is not the European accrediting body, ECCE is the accrediting body. He asked if the Board could talk with the national boards to determine whether there is an interest for development of a test for equivalency as the first step to licensure. He suggested that Dr. LaRusso may be the best contact.

Mr. Lambert of FCA stated "status" in the statute meant, prior to CCE being formed, accreditation was achieved and the interim period between filing for accreditation and full accreditation. The term was kept in the statute because CCE replaced the prior accrediting agency. The FCA is very open to foreign graduates with equivalent education becoming licensed in Florida. Statutory change is simple compared to the issue of equivalency.

Motion made to deny the application for licensure as a chiropractic physician and to allow applicant to withdraw his application within 30 days to avoid having a denial on record.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried.

# 2. Certified Chiropractic Physician Assistant Applicants:

### a. Myrleine Paul

Applicant was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Ms. Loucks stated that the application was before the Board to approve the CCPA moving to the supervision of a new chiropractor and due to Dr. Dougherty's recommendation for denial based on her involvement of a doctor arrested for fraud. Ms. Loucks stated that the chiropractor's case has not been adjudicated. Dr. Dougherty passed out a better copy of his report. He stated applicant was evasive on the phone as to who signed the paychecks, and finally admitted she ran the practice and signed her checks. Dr. Dougherty believed this was one of the clinics "busted for fraud" in Dr. McKenzie's case. Dr. Harrison was also on the phone during the interview.

## Discussion:

Denial would leave her under supervision of the current chiropractor.

Motion made to deny the application for licensure as a certified chiropractic physician assistant based on her connection with the chiropractor arrested for fraud and her association with one of the clinics that was part of the fraud, her interview was unsatisfactory in that she was elusive.

Vote: 6 yeas / 1 opposed; motion carried

# 3. Registered Chiropractic Assistant Applicants:

### a. Juan Castaneda

Applicant was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Ms. Loucks stated that the application was before the Board due to prior order requiring his appearance. Applicant has one more chance to appear in January 2015.

Discussion: Table to next meeting.

# b. Brigitte E. Cordoba

Applicant was present and was not represented by counsel.

Ms. Loucks stated that the application was before the Board due to criminal violation of Chapter 893, Fla. Stat. and by statute there must be 5 years between end of probation and licensure. Therefore April 2015 would be the first chance for licensure. Applicant could withdraw her application; or the Board could approve conditionally allowing registration when the 5 years pass.

Discussion:

Ms. Loucks determined that the probation was related to violation of a restraining order, and not related to a criminal violation listed in s. 893, F.S. Therefore the prohibition would not preclude the board from issuing a registration today.

Motion made to approve the application for licensure as a registered chiropractic assistant.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

### c. Claudine Dorvil

Applicant was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Ms. Loucks stated that the application was before the Board due to an affirmative answer to personal history regarding admission to a mental health facility.

Motion made to approve the application for licensure as a registered chiropractic assistant.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

### d. Elizabeth M. Weiss

Applicant was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Ms. Loucks stated that the application was before the Board due to an affirmative answer to personal history and criminal history questions.

Discussion:

Dr. Dougherty expressed concern that the arrest for cocaine was only 2 years ago and there was a DUI arrest one year ago.

Motion made to deny the application for licensure as a registered chiropractic assistant based on the criminal and drug issues. Vote: 6 yeas / 1 opposed; motion carried

## e. Rishard Williams

Applicant was not present and was not represented by counsel.

Ms. Loucks stated that the application was before the Board due to a final order taking disciplinary action against his massage therapist license.

Motion made to deny the application for licensure as a registered chiropractic assistant due to misrepresentation on the application and discipline by another board.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

### f. Sarah E. Young

Applicant was not present and was not represented by counsel..

Ms. Loucks stated that the application was before the Board due to an affirmative answer to criminal history for DUI and having her driver's license suspended.

Motion made to deny the application for licensure as a registered chiropractic assistant based criminal history.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Section VII ended at 2:03 p.m. Section VIII began at 2:03 p.m.

# VIII. RATIFICATION OF LICENSURE

1. Chiropractic Physicians – CH 11261 through CH 11322

Motion made to ratify issuance of Chiropractic Physicians license numbers CH 11261 through CH 11322.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

2. Certified Chiropractic Physician Assistants – CI 13170 through CI 13401

Motion made to ratify issuance of Certified Chiropractic Physician Assistants license numbers CI 13170 through CI 13401. Vote: unanimous; motion carried

3. Registered Chiropractic Assistants – RCA 766 through RCA 774

Motion made to ratify issuance of Registered Chiropractic Assistants RCA 766 through RCA 774.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Section VIII ended at 2:04 p.m. Section IX began at 2:04 p.m.

## IX. CHAIR/VICE CHAIR REPORT

1. FCLB District III and V Meeting – All licensed Board members attended. FCLB is looking at Project Passport regarding licensing of foreign trained chiropractors. Motion made to authorize two Board members to attend the next meeting in New Orleans. Motion made to approve Dr. Fogarty and Dr. Heagy to attend that meeting.

Section IX ended at 2:05 p.m. Section X began at 2:05 p.m.

# X. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – not presented

Break 2:05 p.m.; Meeting resumed at 3:02 p.m. Section XII began at 3:02 p.m.

# XII. Committee Reports

5. Disciplinary Compliance Last Appearance:

# Marie Nadine Dorcely, D.C.

Dr. Dorsey was present and appeared with her monitor, James Antos, D.C.

Ms. Loucks stated this is Dr. Dorcely's last required Board appearance and she asked to terminate her probation. Ms. Burnett stated that Dr. Dorsey was in compliance and everything is completed. The Monitor stated Dr. Dorsey has done very well under probation. Dr. Dorsey complemented the Monitor and stated she had helped put in place many safeguards, and the practice had benefitted.

Motion made to terminate probation Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Section XII ended 3:03 p.m. Section VI began 3:03 p.m.

# VI. PETITION FOR VARIANCE/WAIVER:

a. **Robert Michael Manestar, D.C.** - Petition for variance/waiver of rules 64B2-11.013, FAC and 64B2-17.003, FAC Petitioner was present but not represented.

Petitioner gave a summary of the law in 1994 regarding acupuncture certification. He believed the Board licensed him under the rule of restrictive practice, which was not in force when he was licensed. He has been certified in acupuncture in Missouri for many years.

Ms. Loucks read the 1995 statute regarding licensure under section 460.406, F.S., which provides that acupuncture certification was required when he was licensed. Ms. Loucks suggested Petitioner had not met the requirements because he

had not taken the exam. Ms. Loucks then advised the Board that it could grant his petition based on an exemption in 1995 allowing him to not take the exam, which she is not sure exists. The problem is that the law in effect today must be applied.

Dr. Fogarty described tiered licensure, which included acupuncture, which was later repealed. He asked Petitioner if he could not take the test in Florida. Petitioner stated that he had taken the Missouri test and that test was the basis for the test administered in Florida; he did not want to take another test. He stated he kept up his continuing education since Missouri requires it.

Dr. Heagy asked why ask now for acupuncture? Petitioner stated he has been working on getting the certification for 8 years. Dr. Fox asked if Petitioner hadn't been practicing acupuncture for 13 years, how had he kept up the skills? Petitioner stated that acupuncture is a philosophy and an art, combining that with pain control and spinal manipulation is the key.

Motion made to call the question.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Motion to deny the petition to waive the requirements of rules 64B2-11.013, FAC and 64B2-17.003, FAC due to did not satisfy the requirements of the statute by other means, enforcing the rule as to this applicant would not create an undue hardship.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

b. **Deborah Leveen, D.C.** – petition for variance/waiver of rule requiring continuing education Petitioner was not present and not represented by counsel.

Petitioner completed 12 hours continuing education presented by Team CME. The course was not listed in CEBroker for the date she took the course, but was listed there for other dates.

Motion made to grant the petition for variance/waiver finding this is the same course as that given at a chiropractic meeting one month later, Petitioner satisfied the requirements of the statute by other means, and enforcing the rule as to this applicant would not create an undue hardship.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Section VI ended at 3:24 p.m. Section XI began at 3:24 p.m.

## XI. BOARD COUNSEL'S REPORT

- 1. Rules Status Report provided by Ms. Loucks.
- 2. Rule 64B2-16.006, Florida Administrative Code Ms. Loucks presented JAPC comments. Board asked that Board Counsel look into whether there is another statutory provision that would allow the change.
- 3. Rule 64B2-15.001, Florida Administrative Code language added to include ICPA to give Diplomates the ability to use the initials after their name. H and D

Section XI ended at 3:27 p.m. Section XII began at 3:27 p.m.

### XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Budget Mr. Colter no report
- 2. CCPA Dr. Dougherty no report
- 3. Continuing Education Drs. Hunt/Heagy, asked to make sure ICPA may administer its own test.

Motion made to add ICPA to 64B2-15.001(2)(e), Florida Administrative Code Vote: unanimous; motion carried

Discussion of economic impact and impact on regulatory cost.

Motion made that there is no economic impact or impact on regulatory cost and no SERC is required.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

- a. PACE Coffee Break discussed at the FCLB. No need for additional national review of courses.
- b. Providers & Courses approved by the Continuing Education Committee

Motion made to ratify committee approvals.

Vote: unanimous; motion carried

- 4. Credentials Dr. Fogarty no report
- 5. Disciplinary Compliance Dr. Fogarty. The Board complemented Ms. Burnett on the compliance packet available to attendees and Respondent. The Board agreed that monitor must be onsite and pick his/her own files except on case by case basis.

# **Early Termination of Probation:**

Eduardo Ramierez, D.C.

Dr. Ramierez was present and represented by counsel, Louis V. Martinez.

Ms. Burnett stated a balance of \$213.96 was due on January 16, 2015. Balance is still due even if probation is terminated Dr. Ramierez completed an additional year of probation because of a complaint for which no probable cause was found.

Motion made to terminate probation.

Vote: unanimous: motion carried

- 6. Examinations Dr. Heagy no report
- 7. Healthiest Weight Dr. Hunt
- 8. Legislative Dr. Heagy asked for direction on addressing issues with FCS and FCA. Ms. Loucks suggested getting a committee together that can meet by telephone, after being advertised as a public meeting. There are several statutes that could be "cleaned up." Mr. Colter and Dr. Heagy assigned to the committee, all other Board members and the public can participate. Notice for meeting to be sent by the Board office. Mr. Colter asked for "mile markers" for getting things done.
- 9. Probable Cause Drs. Dougherty/Fox/Heagy no report
- 10. Rules Dr. Hunt no report
- 11. Unlicensed Activity Ms. Pelaez reported on current cases. Massage establishment rule changed and if therapist is strictly providing establishment license, then no license. If seeing other than chiropractor's patients, then need license.
- 12. New business:
  - a. The Board created a new continuing committee for determining the recipient of the annual outstanding chiropractor award Dr. Heagy will chair.
  - b. Election of Officers for 2015
    - Nomination of Dr. Fogarty for Chair was made. Motion made to close the nominations.
       Vote: unanimous; motion carried
    - ii. Nomination of Dr. Heagy for Vice Chair was made. Motion made to close the nominations. Vote: unanimous; motion carried

# XIII. NEXT MEETING DATE: January 9, 2015

General Board Business concluded at 3:39 p.m.

# XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.