



Meeting Minutes



Meeting Title:	Mississippi Council of Advisors in Occupational Therapy Meeting	
Meeting Location:	CC/PL Conference Room – 143B LeFleurs Square, Jackson, MS 39211	
Meeting Date:	January 23, 2019	
Time:	1:00 P.M.	
Called to Order:	1:18 PM by Mr. Scott Cockroft, Quorum was established.	
Next Meeting Date/Time/Location:	22 January 2020 1:00 P.M. CC/PL Conference Room / 143B LeFleurs Square, Jackson, MS 39211	
Meeting Adjourned	2:52 P.M.	
Attendees:	<u>Council Members Present</u> Scott Cockroft Megan Ladner Michelle Pierce	<u>Council Members Absent</u> Tina Melton
	<u>MSDH Staff Present</u> Festus Simkins Amirah Saleem Yolanda Morrow Cassandra Walter	
	<u>Attending Via Phone Conference</u>	
	<u>Members of the Public Present</u>	



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	New Business	NOTES
1.	Approval of January 24, 2018 minutes	A motion was made by Ms. Pierce and seconded by Ms. Ladner to approve the minutes of January 24, 2018 meetings. The motion passed.
2.	Election of Chair and Vice-chair	The Council elected Scott Cockroft as chair and Tina Melton as secretary for the 2020 term.
3.	Mr. Simkins discussed the Occupational Board Compliance Act of 2017	Mr. Simkins informed the Council that the Act placed sunset provisions on various sections of the laws governing multiple professions. The repealers are set for July 1, 2020. He stated that the Department will continue to monitor and no action has been taken as of this date. The Council wanted to know which sections of the law were affected. Ms. Morrow will email the sections in question after the meeting.
4.	Update on LARS	Mr. Simkins provided the status update on the Department's new licensure database (LARS). He stated that the ITS Department is short staffed, therefore; they are behind schedule in their production.
5.	MSOTA's FAQs	Ms. Ladner presented MSOTA's frequently asked questions that will be discussed at next month's MSOTA Conference. Mr. Cockroft asked if the number of occupational therapy assistants supervised by occupational therapists should be changed to reflect that the occupational therapist may supervisor no more than two (2) occupational therapy assistants at any time. After the Council discussed making the change, they decided to keep it as currently written until a new position statement can be issued.
6.	MSOTA Conference	Ms. Ladner informed the Council that MSOTA would have a panel discussion with the members of the advisory council answering questions pertaining to the <i>Regulations Governing the Licensure of Occupational Therapist and Occupational Therapy Assistants</i> . Members of the Council who will be present are Ms. Ladner, Mr. Cockroft, Ms. Pierce, and Tina Melton.
7.	2018 Renewal Update	Ms. Saleem provided an update on the 2018 renewals for occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants. The Department renewed a total of 1127 occupational therapists and 657 occupational therapy assistants.
8.	Expiration status of current Council members	Ms. Morrow informed the Council that Dr. Barry, Ms. Pierce, and Mr. Cockroft terms expire on December 31, 2019. Ms. Pierce and Mr. Cockroft are eligible to serve another term, and both are willing to serve. Dr. Barry retired at the end of 2018. The Department will need new nominations to replace her. Ms. Ladner emailed MSOTA's replacement nomination to Ms. Morrow. Ms. Morrow will submit the nomination for the next Board of Health meeting.



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	Old Business	NOTES
1.	Dry Needling as an Occupational Therapy modality	Ms. Ladner and Mr. Cockroft discussed their research on occupational therapists using dry needling as a modality. Currently, AOTA does not have a position concerning occupational therapists performing dry needling but stated that the licensing states may make the determination concerning this scope of practice. Mr. Cockroft presented information from the position of other states concerning this matter. Ms. Pierce stated that if it will be a practice that is allowed, there will need to be a clause concerning the number of years of experience an occupational therapist has before they may practice this modality. Ms. Walter stated that the most secure way to add this modality to the occupational therapist's scope of practice would be to place it in the law. Ms. Ladner stated that the AOTA is revisiting this issue and is expected to issue another position statement. Mr. Cockroft asked if a position statement created by the Council could be used while waiting AOTA's position. Ms. Walter answered yes. The Council will draft a statement and submit it for a vote.
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	Public Comments	NOTES
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	Other Business	NOTES
1.	Mr. Cockroft questioned the number of times a limited permit may be issued.	Mr. Cockroft inquired if a limited permit must be renewal after a licensee fails the exam. Ms. Morrow and Mr. Simkins explained that unless there are extenuating circumstances the renewal would be issued. After the one time renewal, the limited permit is closed/voided.
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Scott Cockroft, ORK

Council Chairperson

Joseph D. Simkins

MSDH Representative

22 Jan 20

Date