

**INDIANA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT COMMITTEE
INDIANA GOVERNMENT CENTER SOUTH
402 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
CONFERENCE CENTER, ROOM 2
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204**

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

Steven Jacobs, P.A., Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and a quorum was declared in accordance with IC § 25-27.5-3-5.

Members Present: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Chairman
Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Member – via teleconference
Bret Cornn, P.A., Vice Chairman
Timothy Hawkins, Consumer Member

Members Absent: Joseph Fox, M.D., Member

Staff Present: Darren R. Covington, Committee Director
Professional Licensing Agency

Kimberly A. Letko, Assistant Committee Director
Professional Licensing Agency

Stephanie Mullaney, Deputy Attorney General
Attorney General's Office

The Committee voted to adopt the agenda.

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Beecher/Hawkins, 4/0/0
Ayes: Jacobs, Beecher, Hawkins, Cornn
Motion carries

The Committee voted to approve the minutes of June 14, 2018.

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Beecher/Hawkins, 4/0/0
Ayes: Jacobs, Beecher, Hawkins, Cornn
Motion carries

HEA 1245

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

The Committee reviewed the list of crimes for possible inclusion on a list of disqualifying crimes in an emergency rulemaking action pursuant to HEA 1245.

After discussion, the Committee APPROVED their recommended rule to the Medical Licensing Board of Indiana.

Jacobs/Beecher, 4/0/0
Ayes: Jacobs, Beecher, Hawkins, Cornn
Motion carries

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

David Andrews, P.A., License No. 10001641A, Cause Number 2017 PAC 0001

Respondent failed to appear in person or with counsel regarding a Notice of Proposed Default scheduled before the Committee. The State of Indiana was represented by Ryan Eldridge and the court report sworn in for this matter was Sherri Rutledge with Rutledge Independent Reporting.

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

At the June 8, 2017 Committee meeting, the Committee voted to renew Mr. Andrews' license on INDEFINITE PROBATION for a minimum of two (2) years with terms and conditions, including an annual personal appearance and submission of employer reports.

Respondent contacted the Committee via letter and stated that he was currently employed in Wisconsin and stated that he would not be attending his scheduled probationary appearance due to his employment obligations.

After discussion, the Committee decided to reschedule the hearing for December 13, 2018 meeting.

Jacobs/Beecher, 4/0/0
Ayes: Jacobs, Beecher, Hawkins, Cornn
Motion carries

John M. Chapman, P.A., License No. 10000654A, Cause Number 2013 PAC 0003

Respondent appeared in person regarding a Petition to Reinstate License scheduled before the Committee. The State of Indiana was represented by Ryan Eldridge and the court report sworn in for this matter was Sherri Rutledge with Rutledge Independent Reporting.

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Respondent appeared before the Board to petition to have his license reinstated. License was revoked in Texas. Respondent still resides in Texas.

In 2014 Respondent entered into a voluntary agreement with the State of Indiana stating that he would not petition for reinstatement of his Indiana license until his Texas license was restored and unencumbered.

Respondent is not able to restore his Texas license due to new requirement that applicants must possess a Master's degree. Respondent has a bachelor's degree. In order to get his Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies he must possess a Physician Assistant License. He does not have a valid NCCPA certificate, nor has he maintained his continuing education courses.

Respondent's Exhibits:

Exhibit 1: Letter from Texas Physician Assistant Board to Respondent.

After discussion, the Board moved to DENY Respondent's PETITION.

Jacobs/Cornn, 4/0/0
Ayes: Cornn, Jacobs, Hawkins, Beecher
Motion carries

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Daniel Balcerak, P.A. – 10001437A – Renewal – Positive response

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Mr. Balcerak answered yes to the following question on his renewal application:

“Since you last renewed, and except for minor violations of traffic laws resulting in fines and arrests or convictions that have been expunged by a court, have you been arrested, entered into a diversion agreement, been convicted of, pled guilty to, or pled nolo contendere to any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state?”

On February 16, 2018, Mr. Balcerak was arrested for Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated. Mr. Balcerak pled guilty to the charge, was placed on probation by the Porter Superior Court in Valparaiso, Indiana and ordered to complete a substance abuse evaluation and participate in therapy as a condition of his probation.

Mr. Balcerak has completed court ordered conditions and is due to complete his 180 days of probation in December.

After discussion, the Committee moved to APPROVE Mr. Balcerak's LICENSE on PROBATION, with the ability to petition the Committee to withdraw probation once criminal probation is completed and he has provided the Committee with proof of completion and a letter from employer that shows he is in good standing.

Jacobs/Beecher, 4/0/0
Ayes: Jacobs, Beecher, Hawkins, Cornn
Motion carries

Katherine Boone, P.A. – 1000100A – Renewal – Positive response

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Ms. Boone appeared before the Committee with counsel, Jennifer Lukemeyer, regarding a positive response on her renewal application.

Ms. Boone answered yes to the following question on her renewal application:

“Since you last renewed, and except for minor violations of traffic laws resulting in fines and arrests or convictions that have been expunged by a court, have you been arrested, entered into a diversion agreement, been convicted of, pled guilty to, or pled nolo contendere to any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state?”

Ms. Boone was arrested on August 31, 2017 for Operating a Vehicle while Intoxicated with Endangerment. Ms. Boone pled guilty to this charge and underwent a substance abuse evaluation. Ms. Boone was placed on probation until January of 2019. Ms. Boone has complied with all stipulations of her probation.

Ms. Boone presented a letter from her supervising physician, Jonathan Mandelbaum, M.D. and a letter from Brenda Gardner, BSADC, LCAC, DUI Consultant to the Committee.

After discussion, the Committee moved to APPROVE Ms. Boone's LICENSE on PROBATION, with the ability to petition the Board for withdraw of probation once her criminal probation has been completed.

Jacobs/Cornn, 4/0/0
Ayes: Jacobs, Beecher, Hawkins, Cornn
Motion carries

Timothy Held, P.A. – 10001048A – Renewal – Positive response

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Mr. Held answered yes to the following questions on his renewal application:

“Since you last renewed, have you been treated for or received a diagnosis for drug or alcohol abuse or addiction?”

“Since you last renewed, and except for minor violations of traffic laws resulting in fines and arrests or convictions that have been expunged by a court, have you been arrested, entered into a diversion agreement, been convicted of, pled guilty to, or pled nolo contendere to any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state?”

Mr. Held was arrested for Operating a Vehicle while Intoxicated on January 2, 2018. Mr. Held’s plea agreement was accepted on May 1, 2018 and his probation will not be completed until May 1, 2019.

Mr. Held completed a 12 week basic outpatient adult substance abuse treatment through Aspire Indiana in Hamilton County.

After discussion, the Committee moved to APPROVE Mr. Held’s LICENSE on PROBATION with the ability to petition the Committee for withdraw of probation once court ordered probation is completed and he supplies a copy of the substance abuse evaluation and letter of completion of court ordered probation to the Committee.

Hawkins/Jacobs, 4/0/0
Ayes: Jacobs, Beecher, Hawkins, Cornn
Motion carries

Theodore Hicks, P.A. – 10001034A – Renewal – Positive response

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Mr. Hicks appeared with Yasemin Altuglu, Direct Supervisor, Medical Director, Med Express Urgent Care.

Mr. Hicks answered yes to the following questions on his renewal application:

“Since you last renewed, have you been treated for or received a diagnosis for drug or alcohol abuse or addiction?”

“Since you last renewed, and except for minor violations of traffic laws resulting in fines and arrests or convictions that have been expunged by a court, have you been arrested,

entered into a diversion agreement, been convicted of, pled guilty to, or pled nolo contendere to any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state?"

Mr. Hicks was convicted of Public Intoxication on February 21, 2018. Mr. Hicks completed 20 hours of formal outpatient alcohol abuse training and was released from probation by the Tipton Circuit Court.

Mr. Hicks presented to the Committee the following documents:

1. Certificate of Completion of alcohol abuse training from Proactive Resources.
2. Letter from Department of Probation from Tipton, Indiana
3. Early Release Order from Tipton Circuit Court.

After discussion, the Committee moved to APPROVE Mr. Hicks' LICENSE RENEWAL.

Hawkins/Beecher, 4/0/0
Ayes: Hawkins, Beecher, Cornn, Jacobs
Motion carries

Ann Morris, P.A. – 10000949A – Lapse in NCCPA certification renewal

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Ms. Morris appeared with counsel, Ronald Mingus.

On August 8, 2018 Ms. Morris self-reported to the Committee that she had a lapse in her NCCPA certification renewal and does not currently have a valid NCCPA certification.

Ms. Morris stated that her last recertification by the NCCPA was in 2010 and she renewed her Indiana Physician Assistant license in 2016 with a valid NCCPA certification at that time. However, in November of 2016 she failed the NCCPA exam yet continued to work as a Physician Assistant until June 28, 2018.

Ms. Morris took the NCCPA exam again on July 13, 2018 and failed the exam.

Ms. Morris stated she is currently working towards retaking the NCCPA exam.

After discussion, the Committee moved to DENY Ms. Morris' LICENSE RENEWAL.

Jacobs/Cornn, 4/0/0
Ayes: Jacobs, Corn, Beecher, Hawkins
Motion carries

Kimberly Swigert, P.A. – 10000685A – Positive Response

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Ms. Swigert answered yes to the following question on her online renewal application:

“Since you last renewed, have you been disciplined or terminated by your employer while practicing as a physician assistant, denied staff membership or privileges in any health care facility, have staff privileges been revoked, suspended, or subject to any restriction, probation, or have you resigned in lieu of discipline or termination?”

In November of 2016, a personal photo of Ms. Swigert, in her lab coat, was uploaded to her husband’s social media account without her knowledge or consent, with the IUH logo blurred out. She was informed of this by her employer on May 8, 2017. After consulting her attorney, it was agreed that she would voluntarily resign from her position and from her medical staff privileges in lieu of a hearing regarding the social media policy violation.

Ms. Swigert now works for the Low T Center.

After discussion, the Committee moved to APPROVE the RENEWAL of Ms. Swigert’s LICENSE.

Hawkins/Beecher, 4/0/0
Ayes: Hawkins, Beecher, Cornn, Jacobs
Motion carries

Nicholas Vance, P.A. – 10001617A – Positive Response

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Mr. Vance answered yes to the following question on his online renewal application:

“Since you last renewed, and except for minor violations of traffic laws resulting in fines and arrests or convictions that have been expunged by a court, have you been arrested, entered into a diversion agreement, been convicted of, pled guilty to, or pled nolo contendere to any offense, misdemeanor, or felony in any state?”

Mr. Vance was arrested for a DUI in 2016. The charges were ultimately reduced to reckless driving. Mr. Vance was sentenced to five (5) days home confinement and he paid a \$100.00 fine.

Mr. Vance produced documents showing that he complied with all of the terms and conditions of his sentence.

After discussion, the Committee moved to APPROVE Mr. Vance's RENEWAL of his LICENSE.

Kristin Villa, P.A. – 1002037A – Positive Response

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

Ms. Villa appeared with counsel, Matt Schappa.

Ms. Villa answered yes to the following question on her online renewal application:

“Since you last renewed, have you been treated for or received a diagnosis for drug or alcohol abuse or addiction?”

Ms. Villa voluntarily sought treatment for alcohol abuse, anxiety and depression in February of 2017. There were no legal or professional obligations that caused her to do this.

Ms. Villa submitted a letter to the Committee from her Therapist, Eileen Chamberlin, LMSW, who stated that Ms. Villa voluntarily entered the Community Living Program at West Brook Recovery Center for issues with alcohol, anxiety, and depression on February 10, 2017. Ms. Chamberlin also stated in the letter that Ms. Villa completed all requirements for successful discharge, including her treatment plan and after care plan and that Ms. Villa was successfully discharged from the Community Living Program at West Brook Recovery Center on March 9, 2017.

Ms. Villa currently goes to regular Alcoholics Anonymous meetings and works with a sponsor.

After discussion, the Committee APPROVED Ms. Villa's RENEWAL of her LICENSE.

Hawkins/Beecher, 4/0/0
Ayes: Beecher, Cornn, Hawkins, Jacobs
Motion carries

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

Participating Committee Members: Steven Jacobs, P.A., Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Bret Cornn, P.A., Timothy Hawkins

The Committee reviewed and approved all applications below for initial licensure, prescriptive authority, controlled substance registrations, change and/or addition, and positive response.

Paul Amriott, P.A.
Johna Bott, P.A.
Alexander Chrzan, P.A.
John Dougherty P.A.
Amy Hemmelgarn, P.A.
Karin Henderson, P.A.
Brenna Lee, P.A.
Jennifer Locklear, P.A.
Michelle Marten, P.A.
Kathleen Marion, P.A.
Elizabeth Peck, P.A.
Kacie Piedmonte, P.A.
Adam Reisert, P.A.
Molly Roberson, P.A.
Brittany Sizelove, P.A.
Kendall Smith, P.A.
Amelia Turner, P.A.
Margaret Voelker, P.A.

The Committee requested additional information for the following applicant.

William Johnson, P.A.

Stevens/Hawkins, 4/0/0
Ayes: Jacobs, Beecher, Hawkins, Cornn
Motion carries

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Steven Jacobs, P.A., Chairman

Jo Ann Beecher, P.A., Vice Chairman