



PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS (AD-HOC) COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 8, 2024

**2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Ste. 205
 Sacramento, CA 95833
 via WebEx Webinar**

Board Members Present:

Mr. Hill, PT Member, Chair
 Ms. Moore, PT Member

Staff Present:

Ms. Yamaguchi, Executive Officer
 Mr. Ito, Assistant Executive Officer
 Dr. Judith McLeod, Acting Supervising Nursing Education Consultant
 Ms. Wood, Chief, Enforcement Division
 Ms. Brown, Licensing Manager
 Mr. Prouty, Discipline Manager
 Mr. Weiler, Administration Manager (moderator)
 Ms. Vierra, Probation Manager
 Ms. Gomez, Nursing Education Consultant
 Dr. Fairchild, Nursing Education Consultant
 Dr. Thomson, Nursing Education Consultant
 Ms. Silverman, Nursing Education Consultant
 Ms. Maracino, Education Analyst
 Mr. Gonzales, Education Analyst

DCA Staff Present:

Mr. Swenson, Attorney III, Board General Counsel

1. Call to Order & Committee Roll Call – Mr. Hill, Chair.

Mr. Hill called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Committee members introduced themselves.

2. Introduction of Staff and Counsel – Ms. Yamaguchi, Executive Officer.

Ms. Yamaguchi introduced board staff. Mr. Swenson introduced himself.

3. Topics for consideration, discussion, or possible action – Abraham Hill, Chair.

Mr. Hill reported that he performed online research of psych tech jobs and employers and reached out to a few hospitals to see if they employ psych techs. He also attended a meeting last week with the Department of Education regarding a project to reach out to regional occupation programs throughout the state for adult education and secondary school children to discuss the possibility of internships to expose and attract people into the profession.

Ms. Yamaguchi shared that the Education Division continues to build relationships with vocational nursing and psych tech programs. She believes that understanding the scope and role of psych techs is either unknown or misunderstood amongst legislators and desired the development of educational resources. Referencing external stakeholder feedback in the upcoming strategic plan discussion, Mr. Hill welcomed greater communication outreach via social media or periodical publications. Ms. Wood suggested adding the types of communication desired by Mr. Hill be added to the Board's Outreach Plan. She shared information about a Caltrans program which places under-privileged youth on college campuses and believed a similar type of program may be applicable with our board. Ms. Wood suggested looking into a dual licensing psych tech model with other states. Ms. Wood suggested creating a joint public service announcement video in partnership with state hospitals and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation similar in style to a recruiting video. Mr. Ito updated his work on restarting the Board's newsletter project and will provide a future update to the board members. Dr. McLeod suggested asking psych tech schools what their ideas were and based on that making a public service announcement type video.

Mr. Hill inquired about the logistics of sending out a survey on psych techs to gather information. Mr. Gonzales shared the Education Division is currently working with DCA's Office of Professional Examination Services on a project to collect psych tech data for occupational analysis. Dr. McLeod further explained the project seeks to collect demographic data and conduct interviews on a wide range of experience levels of psych techs for the purpose of updating the test plan.

Committee Discussion:

Ms. Moore shared she spoke with committee members for breast cancer awareness and to a battered women's facility about the scope and role of psych techs and what those positions can offer. Ms. Moore also confirmed the California Association of Psychiatric Technicians (CAPT) still publishes magazines. Ms. Moore shared she has an upcoming appointment with the president of CAPT.

Mr. Swenson advised it would be best practice for both Mr. Hill and Ms. Moore to meet with the president of CAPT since board members operating individually are not authorized to act on their own. Mr. Swenson also cautioned there is a fine line between a committee member or board member fact gathering versus representing the committee or board as a body. Mr. Swenson advised he forwarded to Ms. Yamaguchi a summary from the Bureau of Labor Statistics regarding psych tech

occupational analysis. Mr. Swenson advised the preferred method of administering a survey is to direct staff to send out the survey based on the questions and content desired by the committee members. Ms. Moore and Mr. Hill expressed their appreciation to Mr. Swenson for providing the clarification.

4. What's next? – Ms. Yamaguchi.

Ms. Yamaguchi shared an overview of the strategic planning process and provided information on the upcoming Board Meeting's board member strategic planning session.

For next steps, Mr. Hill reiterated he would like to work with Ms. Moore to further the survey idea. Mr. Hill stated additional inquiry should be made into forming alliances such as the groups Ms. Moore mentioned earlier or partnering with other state agencies as suggested by Ms. Wood. Ms. Yamaguchi suggested reaching out to the National Association of Social Workers. Ms. Yamaguchi asked staff and members to email her the contact information of the agencies/programs discussed today so she can begin to compile a contact list.

5. Suggestion for Future Agenda Items.

Ms. Yamaguchi advised this topic was covered in the prior topic's discussion.

6. Schedule Next Psychiatric Technician Ad Hoc Committee Meeting.

Mr. Hill and Ms. Yamaguchi agreed mid-September would be best in order to work on the items discussed today.

7. Adjournment.

Mr. Hill adjourned this meeting at 2:58 p.m.

PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS (AD-HOC) COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 30, 2024

**2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Ste. 205
Sacramento, CA 95833
via Webex Webinar**

**Board Members
Present:**

Mr. Hill, PT Member, Chair
Ms. Moore, PT Member

Staff Present:

Ms. Yamaguchi, Executive Officer
Mr. Ito, Assistant Executive Officer
Dr. Judith McLeod, Acting Supervising Nursing Education
Consultant
Ms. Wood, Chief, Enforcement Division
Ms. Brown, Licensing Manager
Ms. Arreola Supervising Program Technician II
Mr. Hall Supervising Program Technician II
Mr. Prouty, Discipline Manager
Mr. Weiler, Administration Manager (Moderator)
Ms. Brady Administration Analyst (Co-Moderator)
Ms. Vierra, Probation Manager
Ms. Gomez, Nursing Education Consultant
Dr. Fairchild, Nursing Education Consultant
Dr. Thomson, Nursing Education Consultant
Ms. Silverman, Nursing Education Consultant
Ms. Maracino, Education Analyst
Mr. Gonzales, Education Analyst

DCA Staff Present:

Ms. Schieldge, Attorney IV, Board Regulations Counsel

1. Call to Order & Committee Roll Call – Mr. Hill, Chair.

Mr. Hill called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Committee members introduced themselves.

2. Introduction of Staff and Counsel – Ms. Yamaguchi, Executive Officer.

Ms. Yamaguchi introduced board staff. Ms. Schieldge introduced herself.

3. Topics for consideration, discussion, or possible action – Abraham Hill, Chair.

Mr. Hill stated that Ms. Moore was trying to reach out to the California Association of Psychiatric Technicians (CAPT) to schedule a meeting with them as discussed in previous committee meetings since CAPT is the largest union representing Psychiatric Technicians in California. Mr. Hill stated he believed they had a meeting scheduled the next day with the union president, in preparation for the survey project.

Mr. Hill thanked Nicholas Gonzalez for connecting him with the Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) from DCA. OPES has begun work on a new occupational analysis and have conducted interviews. Only 24% of actively licensed Psychiatric Technicians were polled. The information of the demographics were work location, worker data, and the focus of their services. Mr. Hill opined this was a great way for us to be able to reach out with Psychiatric Technicians. Mr. Jason Underwood from OPES spoke to Mr. Hill for an hour interview. Mr. Hill advised the questions asked were probative, and he advised he has a copy of the 2020 occupational analysis and would like to share it.

Ms. Yamaguchi said the analysis is a public document which Mr. Hill could share. The analysis was conducted around the beginning of the pandemic. Ms. Yamaguchi advised she is looking forward to sending out this year's analysis and possibly comparing the two where we were four years ago and where we are now.

Mr. Hill stated he hoped BVNPT can influence or have some input on some of the questions that would be asked. Mr. Hill advised he brought up the considerations for a title change for Psychiatric Technicians.

Mr. Hill discussed possible outreach via the CAPT news magazine and BVNPT's social media and possibly some work with the schools. He wanted to have input on the survey questions, including the possibility of a psychiatric technician title change. Mr. Hill advised he spoke to Dr. Thomson last week and recapped the few regional occupational programs in California offering low-cost nursing programs for their students. Mr. Hill mentioned the need to find places where employers traditionally have not utilized Psychiatric Technicians so new employment possibilities can be explored. Mr. Hill thinks there can be positive feedback if Psychiatric Technicians are present in schools to handle students' anxiety and stress with the proper supervision. Further, sites such as juvenile detention facilities, law enforcement settings, and dispatch offices would also be places to have conversations about employing Psychiatric Technicians. It was recommended that a brainstorming session will be added to the next meeting agenda on this topic.

Mr. Hill advised he would like to get the list of contacts updated and added to the next agenda meeting.

4. What's next? – Ms. Yamaguchi.

Ms. Yamaguchi reported that a draft of the strategic plan has not been delivered by SOLID yet. Ms. Yamaguchi stated she appreciated the board members' participation at the August board member training day.

Mr. Hill reiterated he will be following up with Mr. Underwood at OPES regarding the occupational analysis interview.

Mr. Yamaguchi stated additional work should be made toward forming alliances with psychiatric technician groups and will look into partnering with other state agencies as previously suggested by Ms. Wood in the prior committee meeting.

5. Suggestion for Future Agenda Items.

Ms. Yamaguchi advised this topic was covered in the prior topic's discussion.

6. Schedule Next Psychiatric Technician Ad Hoc Committee Meeting.

The next committee meeting was scheduled for October 28, 2024.

7. Adjournment.

Mr. Hill adjourned this meeting at 3:02 p.m.