

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY**  
**2 MLK Jr. Drive SE, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30341**  
**Minutes for February 12, 2025 Board Meeting**

**Board Members present:**

Cecil Cordle, PharmD - President  
Young Chang - Vice-President  
Michael Azzolin, PharmD  
Jim Bracewell  
Michael Brinson  
Michael Farmer  
Chuck Page  
Dean Stone

**Board Staff present:**

James Joiner, Executive Director  
Michael Karnbach, Director, GDNA,  
Alec Mathis, Deputy Director, GDNA  
Ron Acoff, Special Agent, GDNA  
Dowlin Ryals, Assistant Attorney General  
Itovia Evans, Deputy Director of Licensing  
Angela Johnson, Board Administrative  
Secretary

**Visitors:**

Amanda Kiser, Green Acres Wellness  
Ashley Hall, Wellstar  
Austin Tull, Cherokee Custom Script  
Beth Jarrett, Walmart  
Christi Hayes, Emory Healthcare  
Dan Dixon, Green Acres Wellness  
Heather Hughes, Publix  
Helen Sloat, Nelson Mullins  
Jacob Pressley, Green Acres Wellness  
Jason Strow, Encompass Health  
Jennifer Sain, Walgreens  
Jonathan Marquess, GPhA/ AIP  
Darren Evans, PharmD, Phoebe Putney Health

Kaleigh Masee, CVS Health  
Keith Mauriello, Wellstar  
Kenneth Bailey, CVM/ VTH  
Kevin Daniels  
Lauren Paul, CVS Health  
LeeAnn Williams, Talbott Recovery  
Marykate Snead, Guardian Pharmacy  
Nicholas Ehmann  
Nikhil Heys, Emory Healthcare  
Patrick Guthrie, Cardinal Health  
Robert Brennan, Parker Hudson/ Publix  
Jordan Khail, UGA

**Open Session**

President Cordle established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. He advised that Director Joiner had a meeting at the Capitol this morning and would be joining the meeting shortly.

President Cordle greeted the members of the public who were present. President Cordle reminded everyone that February is Black History month and wanted to recognize the people who made contributions to the fields of pharmacy and healthcare.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Farmer made a motion to approve the Open and Executive Session minutes from the December 18, 2024, meeting. Vice-President Chang seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Mr. Bracewell made a motion to approve the Open and Executive Session minutes from the January 15, 2025, meeting. Mr. Brinson seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Report of Licenses Issued**

Mr. Stone made a motion to ratify the list of licenses issued. Dr. Azzolin seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. The total number of licenses issued between January 15, 2025 to February 11, 2025 was 423 licenses.

## **Petitions for Rule Waiver or Variance**

### **Piedmont Healthcare Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospitals of Athens d/b/a Rehabilitation Hospital of Athens – Rule 480-11.04(3)(b)1**

This request is asking to waive the flow hood requirement. President Cordle reminded everyone that Piedmont Healthcare Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Athens had previously submitted a waiver request to waive Rule 480-13-.05(2)(b)(1), which was approved at the December 2024 meeting, but the request had not included Rule 480-11-.04(3)(b)(1) which is needed to complete the flow hood requirement waiver. The Board agreed to approve the December waiver request but advised that the facility would have to submit another request waiver of Rule 480-11-.04(3)(b)1 because it has to be posted on the Secretary of State's website for 15 days to be considered by the Board.

Mr. Stone made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Brinson seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

President Cordle paused the meeting to allow Director Joiner to join the meeting. Mr. Brinson commented that Director Joiner had a meeting before the Appropriations Health Sub-Committee and that Director Joiner did a great job representing both the Board of Pharmacy and the Board of Dentistry.

### **First Choice Primary Care Inc./ David Watson (PHRE011130) – Rule 480-10-.12(e)1**

President Cordle asked if anyone was present from First Choice Primary Care Inc. It was established that a representative was not present. This facility is requesting for waiver of the rule regarding Class A Balance or Electronic Balance. Dr. Azzolin commented that the waiver of this rule is not necessary if the pharmacy is not compounding and that the pharmacy should not be held accountable to having a Class A Balance or Electronic Balance as long as the pharmacy is not compounding.

Mr. Stone made a motion to deny the request for waiver of Rule 480-10.12(e)1 and Dr. Azzolin seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Nadege Bazile (PHTC001266) – Rule 480-26-.01**

Ms. Bazile requested the Board waive her reinstatement application fee. Mr. Brinson made a motion to deny the request to waive the reinstatement fee and Mr. Stone seconded. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Dr. Azzolin noted that Ms. Bazile cited the incorrect rule.

## **Correspondences**

### **Correspondence from CVS Health Air Support/ Lauren Paul, PharmD – Update Pursuant to Rule Amendment 480-36-.01**

President Cordle asked Mr. Page to address this correspondence. Dr. Paul's correspondence provided the Board with an update on CVS Pharmacy's "Air Support" workload balancing model that was first discussed at the Board's January 2024 meeting as it relates to the amendment to Rule 480-36-.01 which became effective January 1, 2025. CVS had petitioned the Board to waive Rule 480-36-.03(3) back at the January 2024 meeting, which was denied.

### **Rule 480-36-.01 Definitions (as amended effective January 1, 2025)**

"As used in this chapter, the following terms:

- (1) "Board" shall mean the Georgia Board of Pharmacy.
- (2) "Remote prescription drug order processing" shall mean the processing of prescription or patient information from a location other than the location from which the prescription medication is received and dispensed. It shall not include the dispensing of a drug, but may include:

- (a) Receiving the prescription order from the primary dispensing pharmacy;
  - (b) Interpreting, analyzing, or clarifying prescriptions;
  - (c) Entering prescription or patient data into a data processing system;
  - (d) Transferring prescription information;
  - (e) Performing a drug regimen review;
  - (f) Performing a drug allergy review;
  - (g) Performing therapeutic interventions; or
  - (h) Any combination of these order processing functions.
- (3) Primary dispensing pharmacy. A primary dispensing pharmacy shall be defined as the retail pharmacy located in this State from which a prescription is physically received and dispensed to the patient or the patient's caregiver.
- (4) Secondary remote entry pharmacist. A secondary remote entry pharmacist shall be defined as a pharmacist licensed in this state and located anywhere in the United States who performs remote prescription drug order processing but does not dispense the medication to the patient or the patient's caregiver.”

The Board previously amended the rule removing the requirement that there can only be one secondary remote entry pharmacist to assist the primary dispensing pharmacy with remote prescription drug order processing per prescription. CVS is updating its workload balancing model to include sharing of product verification amongst pharmacy locations beginning April 1, 2025.

Mr. Page asked Dr. Paul if CVS was suggesting that final product verification be off site with the dispensing pharmacist not being the final verification on that prescription or are they suggesting using that secondary remote for other data entry methods.

Dr. Paul responded that CVS uses a picture verification production which currently stays within the four walls of the pharmacy. The Pharmacist will verify the product off of the picture. The Air Support model would be sharing processing elements among pharmacies. The pharmacist would be in another pharmacy location which would be kept within the district of stores, which is twenty to twenty-five stores, and that product verification image is shared among the stores similar to how data entry, data entry verification and drug utilization review (DUR) is currently shared.

Mr. Page asked Dr. Paul if the dispensing pharmacist would be the one providing the final product verification of the prescription. Dr. Paul responded that there would be another remote pharmacist, in another pharmacy, who verifies the prescription before it goes to the patient. Mr. Stone asked for clarification if the final verification would be in the dispensing pharmacy. Dr. Paul responded that the final verification would not be at the location where the patient would pick up the filled prescription.

The Board had discussion about whether or not this proposed process is against the current rules. Dr. Azzolin referenced to Rule 480-10-.02(1)(a) - Retail Pharmacy Regulations.

#### **Rule 480-10-.02(1)(a)**

“(1) For the purpose of this rule, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) ***"Direct supervision" shall mean that a pharmacist is physically present, providing care at the address listed on the pharmacy license*** [emphasis added], and is in the prescription department, consultation room, vaccination room, or areas where over-the-counter drugs, devices, or durable medical equipment are displayed. The supervising pharmacist is professionally responsible and accountable for all activities performed by authorized pharmacy personnel and is available to provide assistance and direction to authorized pharmacy personnel. This shall not require a pharmacist to maintain a direct line of sight to authorized pharmacy personnel. ***The***

*supervising pharmacist shall provide a final check of prepared products and document final checks before any prescription drug is dispensed* [emphasis added].”

Dr. Azzolin referenced to Rule 480-36-.01(2)– Retail Pharmacy Requirements for Remote Prescription Drug Order Processing.

**Rule 480-36-.01(2)**

*“(2) "Remote prescription drug order processing" shall mean the processing of prescription or patient information from a location other than the location from which the prescription medication is received and dispensed. It shall not include the dispensing of a drug* [emphasis added], but may include:

- (a) Receiving the prescription order from the primary dispensing pharmacy;
- (b) Interpreting, analyzing, or clarifying prescriptions;
- (c) Entering prescription or patient data into a data processing system;
- (d) Transferring prescription information;
- (e) Performing a drug regimen review;
- (f) Performing a drug allergy review;
- (g) Performing therapeutic interventions; or
- (h) Any combination of these order processing functions.”

Dr. Azzolin referenced to Rule 480-11-.01(11).

**Rule 480-11-.01(11)**

*“(11) “Dispense” or “dispensing” means the preparation and delivery of a drug or device to a patient, patient’s caregiver, or patient’s agent pursuant to a lawful order of a practitioner in a suitable container appropriately labeled for subsequent administration to or use by a patient.”*

Mr. Page asked Director Karnbach if he had any questions or comments. Director Karnbach advised that he agreed with Dr. Azzolin’s assessment. He added that he did not think that what CVS was proposing had ever been fully contemplated by the board during his tenure with the Board.

The Board discussed how CVS’s Air Support workload balancing model is removing the dispensing pharmacist from providing that final check that they feel should be included. Mr. Page asked if the way the system setup is currently if CVS has a way to block that, so it does not happen in Georgia. Dr. Paul responded that CVS has two separate models of what they call air support working throughout the country now. The one that is operating in Georgia is referred to as air support light, which does not include private verification. She added that there is a block that does not allow it to happen in Georgia. The second model, that currently operating in 34 states, known as full air support, to include some private verification.

Mr. Brinson asked if the patients were being notified that the drug was being reviewed and processed out of state. Dr. Paul replied that CVS has signage and notification at the locations. She confirmed that CVS is following the rule for the notification required.

Mr. Bracewell asked if there is a medication error that took place how would CVS respond. Dr. Paul replied that CVS has tracking and audit trails for each step of the process. The action depends on where in the process the error occurred. If the error occurred with the pharmacist who verifies the prescription, via picture, the next step would be to go backward in the process to see what

caused the error. She commented that generally if there is an issue or error with a prescription it usually happens at the production phase where the technician is producing the prescription. She added that the responsibility for error would fall back on where that error occurred and originated from because the pharmacist is only responsible for what they are seeing.

Mr. Brinson asked what location would be on the label that the patient received. Dr. Paul responded that the label would have the pickup location on the bottle. Mr. Brinson asked should an error occur and GDNA goes to the site listed on the prescription label and it was determined the error was at the remote location what would the next steps be for the investigation. Dr. Paul replied that reviewing the audit trail would be the next step and that the system is set up to stay within what CVS calls a district or community, that is 20 to 25 stores that are geographically located close to each other.

Mr. Brinson asked Director Karnbach if he had any comments. Director Karnbach replied that the rule currently allows this but does require that the records be readily retrievable.

The Board discussed different scenarios of errors that could occur with this model and how it would be challenging for the remote pharmacist to oversee a technician in another location. Dr. Azzolin asked Dr. Paul what CVS' policy was on technician error. Dr. Paul advised that she had not seen where this has come up as an issue from the product verification standpoint, but that from CVS' perspective, it would be the pharmacist supervising the technician and not the remote pharmacist who verified the prescription. Director Karnbach commented that from an investigative standpoint should there be an error caused by the technicians and the supervising pharmacist is held responsible for the product that was verified by the remote pharmacist, that until the Board starts sanctioning the technicians this issue could be a challenging position for the Board in a hearing.

After further discussion, the Board agreed that the scenario of offsite final verification per the rule of law is not allowed and to continue to block that in Georgia. CVS Pharmacy must continue to follow the rule as is it stated today.

Mr. Page asked the Board if they had any additional questions. Mr. Page directed the Board Staff to respond to the correspondence as discussed.

#### **Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency – Director Mr. Michael Karnbach**

Director Karnbach reported that GDNA has conducted 2,234 inspections and was involved in 271 investigations for FYD. He introduced Special Agent Ron Acoff. Special Agent Acoff covers Fulton County.

Deputy Director Mathis' former position covering middle Georgia has been filled. The new hire is going through the HR process and will hopefully start on March 1, 2025.

Director Karnbach advised that in GDNA's move to a paperless system, they are looking to get rid of the paper files and maintain the records electronically. He advised that to do that the Board would need to determine what files need to be kept in paper form, what can be scanned and what can be destroyed. He spoke to the AG's office about the opioid litigation hold which has now been released. He commented that he would like to get quotes on scanning and document destruction but would need the Board to determine how to proceed. He advised that the Board's retention schedule for files is 50 years. He added that the schedule does not specify what form (electronic versus paper) the records are to be maintained. Director Joiner advised that the Board is paying a monthly storage fee for the retention of records. Director Karnbach has been in communication with the State's Department of Archives. They advised him that the State would hold the records for free if the records were considered to be indefinite records, which is not the case for the investigative files that are being held by GDNA.

Director Karnbach explained that he reviewed several State Board records retention schedules, and they have the same 50-year schedule. He commented that it is his understanding that the decision of how to retain the records is up to the Board to make the decision. He mentioned that he would like to see the Board adopt a schedule that is more in line with industry standards which has shorter timeframes. Mr. Page asked Director Karnbach what he was recommending. Director Karnbach replied that 10 years or less for paper files and something shorter than 50 years for electronic files.

The Board discussed possible scenarios to handle the current files that are being kept. Director Karnbach and Director Joiner suggested that they would come up with a possible resolution and would bring the topic back in March for the Board to review.

Mr. Stone made a motion to table the discussion for more information and Mr. Brinson seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion.

Director Karnbach advised that GDNA would like the Board to consider allowing Pharmacy Technicians, who have impairment issues, opportunities for treatment with a possible path to apply for reinstatement instead of just surrendering their license. President Cordle agreed that this is a topic that the Board should discuss. The Board agreed to table the issue until more information on possible treatment programs can be gathered and reviewed.

#### **Attorney General's Report – Mr. Dowlin Ryals**

No Report.

#### **Executive Director's Report – Mr. James Joiner**

President Cordle commented that the Board is highlighting a member of the Board's staff for recognition each month.

This month the Board chose to recognize Director Joiner, who has been executive director for the Board for a couple of months but has already made a positive impact in addressing the critical needs of the Board with the legislature.

Director Joiner advised that there is no report for continuing education.

#### **Legal Services – Mr. James Joiner**

Director Joiner advised that the new policy manual draft has been updated with changes covered at the December 18, 2024, meeting.

Mr. Brinson made a motion to post the new policy manual and Vice-President Chang seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **Discussions**

##### **Walgreens/ Walmart HIPPA Requirements**

President Cordle asked Director Karnbach if there were any updates on the new HIPPA requirements to obtain access to the Walmart/ Walgreens Pharmacies. Director Karnbach responded that GDNA has confirmed with Walmart that they will not be allowed to conduct inspections or review records without the agent signing the HIPPA form. Walgreens has blocked GDNA from obtaining records for investigations without providing the signed HIPPA form. Director Karnbach reiterated his concern with allowing the agents to sign the HIPPA forms.

Dr. Azzolin asked if GDNA has had any complaints that warrant investigation that they have not been able to address due to this issue. Director Karnbach replied that they have not come across any

patient safety issues but before that happens, they would like a path in place to handle the situation.

Mr. Page asked Mr. Ryals if this issue was being reviewed by the AG's office. Mr. Ryals replied that the AG's office is still reviewing the matter and that there is no official stance on how to proceed.

Director Joiner advised that since the last meeting, he was able to attend the NABP Executive Director's call and that this situation is nationwide. Both Director Joiner and Director Karnbach commented that this is how Walmart and Walgreens corporate attorneys have determined to handle this mandate from the Federal Government

President Cordle asked Mr. Ryals to provide an update for the next Board meeting in March.

### **Phoebe Putney Hospital – Smart Lockers**

President Cordle asked if a representative was present on behalf of Phoebe Putney Health Systems. It was established that Darren Evans, PharmD, the Vice President of Pharmacy Services for Phoebe Health Systems was present.

President Cordle reminded the Board that this topic has been discussed a couple of times at recent meetings. Phoebe Putney Hospital is requesting to implement the use of Smart Lockers as a prescription delivery method for its employees. There is no 24-hour pharmacy located within 78.5 miles of Albany, Georgia. The evening and night shift employees have limited access to retrieve their prescriptions and often have to obtain them at a higher cost due to the employee pharmacy not being available for prescription pickup after hours.

Mr. Brinson commented that several hospitals are requesting to use smart lockers to provide hospital employees with access to the employee's filled prescriptions after normal pharmacy hours. He explained that smart lockers are in a locked area that is attached to the pharmacy that is in an area where only hospital employees can gain access. The method is clinically controlled, has remote monitoring, has real-time reporting, meets prescription signature and identification requirements and allows for counseling support on prescriptions for the employees.

Mr. Page asked Mr. Evans if there are cameras that show access to the hallway where the lockers are located. Mr. Evans confirmed that there are cameras in the hallway that show access to the lockers. Mr. Page asked to clarify that the prescriptions only become available once the pharmacist has provided counseling to the patient if counseling is required. Mr. Evans confirmed that yes once the prescription is ready for pickup a message is sent to the patient that they need to contact the pharmacy for counseling. Once the counseling has been completed a code is provided to access the filled prescription.

Mr. Farmer asked Mr. Evans to discuss options for refrigeration of medicines that are waiting to be picked up. Mr. Evans replied that they are looking into purchasing cold chamber lockers to accommodate the need for refrigeration.

Mr. Farmer asked Mr. Evans about the differences between allowing for the pickup of regular prescriptions versus controlled substances. Mr. Evans explained that there is no difference. A photo and signature are captured for every pickup and the system allows for the pharmacy to keep a log of the transactions. He added that the only thing they have considered is how to handle the pharmacist releasing the controlled substance after hours since the pharmacist must verify identification and add their license number in to release the prescription. The pharmacist would receive a pop-up notification informing them that someone is requesting to pick up a controlled substance, and a scan of the individual's identification would be provided along with a real-time image of the individual

making the request. This process is used for all controlled substance pickups not just the ones for overnight.

President Cordle commented that the Board is working towards creating some rules and regulations for the use of smart lockers but advised that Phoebe Putney Hospital's request would be applied to the Board's original first draft. He added that the only thing he did not see in Mr. Evans' request that would possibly be added to the Board's rules going forward would be for a facility to provide policies and procedures to address usage for future requests for review by the Board.

Mr. Brinson made a motion to approve this request and Mr. Stone seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Farmer commented for clarification that at this time the Board has only discussed the use of the smart lockers at the hospital and has not discussed the retail phase use. The Board agreed that the approval was for hospital use.

### **Wellstar Cobb Infusion Pharmacy**

President Cordle asked if a representative was present on behalf of Wellstar. It was established that Keith Mauriello and Ashley Hall were present on behalf of Wellstar.

Wellstar is seeking guidance and clarification regarding an outpatient clinic pharmacy licensure issue for the Wellstar Cobb Infusion Pharmacy which also services the infusion treatment center at Northwest Georgia Oncology Centers Wellstar (NGOC). Wellstar is requesting confirmation that Cobb Infusion Pharmacy's current license will allow it to serve oncology patients being treated in the new NGOC clinic infusion chairs which will be located in an adjoining medical office building that will be connected via a fully enclosed hallway.

Mr. Mauriello explained that Wellstar is expanding its NGOC clinic due to the need for additional infusion chairs. Ms. Hall commented that the infusion pharmacy is licensed in the 340 building of the Cancer Center and that they are currently only servicing patients at the NGOC clinic located in the 340 Cancer Center building. She added that the clinic is an outpatient facility.

Dr. Azzolin asked if the medicine was administered by nurses. Ms. Hall confirmed that was correct. Director Karnbach asked if the infusion prescription is prepared in the pharmacy and is labeled to be patient specific and then it is transferred to a different location to be infused. Ms. Hall confirmed that was correct. Director Karnbach asked for clarification that the Pharmacy is not moving. Ms. Hall confirmed that the pharmacy was not moving. Ms. Hall explained that they have an automatic dispensing cabinet for the medications. Director Karnbach advised that storing the non-patient specific drugs in a separate place other than a pharmacy would require a permit.

The Board discussed the clinic having storage in the clinic for pre-medicines needed for the infusions and having emergency medicines at the clinic in case of a reaction. Dr. Azzolin asked if a doctor was present at the clinic. Ms. Hall confirmed that there is a doctor onsite who would take ownership of onsite drugs.

Director Karnbach suggested that GDNA do an inspection to verify that the clinic and the proposed expansion would comply with the rules. The Board agreed with Director Karnbach. Director Karnbach advised that GDNA will complete an inspection and then provide the Board with recommendations.

### **Issues with eScripts via fax**

President Cordle advised that the Board had been receiving reports from pharmacists that use



software electronic prescriptions (eScripts) that do not adhere to the requirements set forth in O.C.G.A. § 26-4-80(c)(2)(G) Requirements for valid prescriptions and Rule 480-27-.02(2)(a) Electronic transmission of prescriptions.

The Board discussed concerns with the eScripts being incomplete or non-compliant for various reasons which are leading to delays in patient care as pharmacists must get clarification of the proper orders before dispensing the medication.

The Board determined that further scrutiny is needed and asked the Board Staff to extend an invitation to the software company to appear before the Board to discuss possible resolutions to the issue.

### **Pharmacy Technicians Continuing Education (CEs)**

President Cordle reminded everyone that pharmacy technician renewals are coming up in June. As a requirement for the biennial renewal of registration, pharmacy technicians are required to complete not less than twenty (20) hours of approved continuing education.

Dr. Azzolin asked if the Board has communicated a reminder of this new requirement through the board website/ or newsletter. The December 2024 quarterly newsletter has a reminder about the requirement, and it has been posted to the Board's website.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **Green Acres Wellness Presentation**

Representatives from Green Acres Wellness (Green Acres) spoke to the Board about the programs offered by Green Acres. Green Acres is seeking to be placed on the Board's list of approved treatment facilities. Ms. Amanda Kiser, the clinical director for Green Acres, gave an overview of this facility. This location is a 25-bed detox center that is a residential small facility located in Alapha, Georgia. Alapha is in a small community in South Georgia. The facility offers individual treatment plans for all of their clients. The detox services are residential and partial hospitalization which typically lasts 30-60 days. The facility takes a holistic perspective on addiction treatment, focusing on healing the whole person, not just their addictions.

Mr. Jacob Presley, the CEO of Green Acres, advised that Green Acres has six (6) facilities in total. They recently treated a couple of pharmacists. Green Acres works with lots of different types of professionals.

Mr. Dan Dixon handles admissions for Green Acres. He commented that Green Acres works to help people put together a path for sustained long-term recovery that includes acclimation back into everyday life.

Mr. Page asked what kind of credentials Green Acres' treatment staff has to provide services. Ms. Hall responded that Green Acres has a psychiatric nurse practitioner, RNs, LPNs., therapists, counselors, social workers, VHTs and clinicians. Mr. Stone asked if they were board-certified to provide addiction services. Ms. Hall replied that they have therapists that specialize in addiction. Their therapists are either licensed professional counselors or licensed social workers who specialize in addiction treatment. Mr. Azzolin asked if Green Acres' joint commission accreditation is specific to the services they provide or more of a general accreditation. Ms. Hall responded that the accreditation is specific.

The Board tabled the request and will render a decision at a later date regarding the request to be added to the Board's approved treatment facilities list.

## **Talbott Recovery Presentation**

Ms. Lee Ann Williams spoke to the Board on the programs offered by Talbott Recovery.

The founder of the program, Dr. Talbott, is a pioneer in educating medical professionals about substance abuse and offering substance abuse treatment programs for medical professionals. Dr. Talbott created the first treatment program specifically designed to meet the requirements of healthcare professionals suffering from the disease of addiction. Since the road to substance abuse recovery can be different for every individual, Talbott Recovery offers a wide range of therapeutic techniques that include support networks, group therapy, individual therapy, procedural learning, psychoeducation groups, relapse prevention, life skills, family therapy and spirituality groups. They have a trauma psychiatrist, neuropsychologists and dual boarded addiction psychiatrists on staff who treat mental health issues. They take most health insurance except Medicaid and Medicare.

## **Wills Memorial Hospital Pharmacy Remote Order Entry Policy**

Willis Memorial Hospital Pharmacy presented a proposal for remote order entry for the Board to review. President Cordle asked if anyone was present on behalf of Wills Memorial Hospital Pharmacy. It was established that a representative was not present.

The Board reviewed the documentation provided and discussed this correspondence. It was determined that the Board and GDNA did not see any problems with the request.

Mr. Brinson made a motion to approve the request and Mr. Farmer seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion. President Cordle directed the Board Staff to respond to the correspondence as discussed.

Dr. Azzolin questioned whether this type of request could be handled administratively. The Board agreed that this topic needs further scrutiny and will bring it back for discussion at a later date.

President Cordle asked if anyone had any questions or comments. President Cordle reminded everyone that the next Board meeting will be held on March 19, 2025, at the Board's office in Atlanta. He requested that any department or member of the public that wishes to be added to an upcoming meeting must submit the information before the Wednesday before the scheduled meeting to be considered for the agenda. He thanked the public for their attendance and participation.

Mr. Stone made a motion and Mr. Brinson seconded, and the Board voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19(h) and § 43-1-2(h) to deliberate and to receive information on applications, investigative reports, and the Assistant Attorney General's report. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Michael Azzolin, PharmD, Jim Bracewell, Michael Brinson, Young Chang, Cecil Cordle, PharmD, Michael Farmer, Chuck Page, and Dean Stone.

### **Executive Session**

#### **Appearances:**

|      |      |
|------|------|
| K.B. | F.D. |
|------|------|

#### **Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency** – Director Michael Karnbach

- Pharmacy Technician impairment
- Pharmacy Technician continuing education

**Cognizant's Report – Mr. Young Chang**

|              |              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| GDNA #A35421 | GDNA #B35624 | GDNA #35636  | GDNA #B35637 |
| GDNA #T35641 | GDNA #A35611 | GDNA #B35635 | GDNA #B35560 |
| GDNA #A35642 | GDNA #B35489 | GDNA #B35572 | GDNA# A35596 |
| GDNA #A35607 | GDNA #A35431 | GDNA #B35534 | GDNA #B35546 |
| GDNA #B35555 | GDNA #B35375 | GDNA #B35475 | GDNA #B35405 |
| GDNA #B35501 | GDNA #B35595 | GDNA #B35575 | GDNA #B35580 |

**Attorney General's Report – Mr. Dowlin Ryals, Assistant Attorney General****Status Report / Open Cases**

|               |      |      |
|---------------|------|------|
| C.P.S. / E.H. | C.M. | M.R. |
|---------------|------|------|

**Mr. Ryals presented the following consent orders/ counterproposals for acceptance:**

|      |        |      |      |
|------|--------|------|------|
| N.D. | S.M.S. | R.P. | S.T. |
|------|--------|------|------|

**Executive Director's Report – Mr. James Joiner**

No Report.

**Legal Services – Mr. James Joiner**

- C.N.S.L.

**Applications**

|      |      |      |        |      |
|------|------|------|--------|------|
| A.A. | A.H. | B.M. | J.D.B. | L.T. |
| N.B. | P.B. | A.R. | C.J.   | C.W. |
| D.K. | E.E. | E.L. | J.B.   | L.B. |
| M.C. | M.D. | G.T. | J.H.   | S.S. |

**Correspondences/Requests****Notices of Discipline**

|        |        |        |          |        |
|--------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
| A.H.I. | C.A.H. | E.P.   | A.B.O.S. | O.P.   |
| P.H.L. | S.C.S. | T.H.C. | W.D.R.L. | N.P.C. |

**Miscellaneous**

|      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| C.M. | D.K. | L.T. | S.M. | T.T. | S.R. |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|

**Open Session**

Mr. Stone made a motion for the Board to take the following The Board voted to accept all of their recommendations.

**Appearances:**

|      |                                     |                             |
|------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| K.B. | Reinstatement                       | Approved with Consent Order |
| F.D. | Application for Pharmacy Technician | Denied                      |

**Cognizant's Report – Mr. Young Chang**

|                   |        |                              |
|-------------------|--------|------------------------------|
| GDNA Case #A35421 | M.W.M. | Referred to AG               |
| GDNA Case #B35624 | S.E.C. | Referred to AG               |
| GDNA Case #B35636 | R.A.M. | Referred to AG               |
| GDNA Case #B35637 | P.E.F. | Accept Private Consent Order |
| GDNA Case #T35641 | C.H.B. | Tabled                       |

|                   |                            |  |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--|
| GDNA Case #A35611 | M.C.P.E. L.                | Referred to AG for Public Consent Order        |
| GDNA Case #A35611 | D.R.H.                     | Letter of Concern                              |
| GDNA Case #B35635 | D.S.I. / R.S.I.            | Approve Application with Private Consent Order |
| GDNA Case #B35560 | P.P. / A.T.C./ B.R.M.      | Misfill Guidance #1A                           |
| GDNA Case #A35642 | S.D.C.I.                   | Referred to AG for Private Consent Order       |
| GDNA Case #B35489 | D.D.C. / W.M.C.            | Misfill Guidance #1A                           |
| GDNA Case #B35572 | H.P. / J.B.G.              | Misfill Guidance #1A                           |
| GDNA Case #A35596 | F.P.                       | Referred to AG for Private Consent Order       |
| GDNA Case #A35596 | D.C.T.                     | Letter of Concern                              |
| GDNA Case #A35607 | B.H.P.                     | Referred to AG for Public Consent Order        |
| GDNA Case #A35607 | C.M.B.                     | Letter of Concern                              |
| GDNA Case #A35431 | B.T.Y.                     | Referred to AG for Private Consent Order       |
| GDNA Case #B35534 | P.P.                       | Close No Action                                |
| GDNA Case #B35546 | C.P.                       | Close No Action                                |
| GDNA Case #B35555 | M.V.C. / M.R.A.            | Close No Action                                |
| GDNA Case #B35375 | G.P.D. / A.S.P. / A.R.S.P. | Closed   |
| GDNA Case #B35405 | A.S.P.                     | Closed   |
| GDNA Case #B35501 | M.H.U.M.C.                 | Close No Action                                |
| GDNA Case #B35595 | C.P.                       | Close No Action                                |
| GDNA Case #B35575 | F.H.P. / T.M.C.            | Close No Action                                |
| GDNA Case #B35580 | A.H.F.M.C.P.               | Close No Action                                |

### **Orders/ Counterproposals**

All proposed orders were approved.

### **Applications**

|        |                     |                             |
|--------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| A.A.   | Pharmacy Technician | Approved                    |
| A.H.   | Pharmacy Technician | Approved                    |
| B.M.   | Pharmacy Technician | Denied                      |
| J.D.B. | Pharmacy Technician | Tabled for more information |
| L.T.   | Pharmacy Technician | Approved                    |
| N.B.   | Pharmacy Technician | Tabled for more information |
| P.B.   | Pharmacy Technician | Tabled for more information |
| A.R.   | Pharmacist          | Tabled for more information |
| C.J.   | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |
| C.W.   | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |
| D.K.   | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |
| E.E.   | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |
| E.L.   | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |
| J.B.   | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |
| L.B.   | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |
| C.M.C. | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |
| M.D.   | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |
| Q.T.   | Pharmacist          | Tabled for more information |
| J.H.   | Pharmacist          | Board Requesting Appearance |
| S.S.   | Pharmacist          | Approved                    |

### **Correspondences/Requests**

**Notices of Discipline:** The Board reviewed the notices and agreed that these notices are for information only and that no further action is necessary at this time

|        |          |          |          |      |
|--------|----------|----------|----------|------|
| A.H.I. | C.A.H.L. | E.P.     | A.B.O.S. | O.P. |
| P.H.L. | T.H.C.   | W.D.R.L. | N.P.C.   |      |

**Miscellaneous/ Requests**

|      |   |                                 |
|------|---|---------------------------------|
| C.M. | Request to Extend Application until 5/31/2025. Request to Extend time to take the NAPLEX and MPJE until 5/31/2025 | Approved. Extended to 6/30/2025 |
| D.K. | Request to Extend License until February 28, 2025   | Approved. Extended to 3/31/2025 |
| L.T. | Request to take NAPLEX for the 6 <sup>th</sup> time   | Approved                        |
| S.M. | Request to take NAPLEX for the 4 <sup>th</sup> time   | Approved                        |
| T.T. | Request to take MPJE for the 4 <sup>th</sup> time   | Approved                        |
| S.R. | Request to take NAPLEX for the 4 <sup>th</sup> time   | Approved                        |

Vice-President Chang seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Georgia Board of Pharmacy will be held on Wednesday, March 19, at 9:00 a.m. at 2 MLK Jr., Drive, SE, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334.

Minutes recorded by Angela Johnson, Board Administrative Secretary  
Edited by J. Clinton Joiner, II, Executive Director