



*Pennsylvania Society for Respiratory Care Inc.*  
*Wednesday, April 15, 2020*  
*1st Quarter Board of Directors Meeting*  
*Virtual Webinar*

**1. Call to Order**

- PSRC President Margie Pierce called the 2020 PSRC Board of Directors 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Board Meeting to order at 7:00pm. She noted that given the current COVID-19 pandemic, this would be an abbreviated meeting.

**2. Attendance**

- **Quorum**
  - Attendance was taken and a quorum was present (see attached attendance list).
- **Guest Introduction**
  - None
- **Officiary Updates**
  - President Pierce asked all attendees to send any updated contact information to PSRC Secretary Linda Cornman via email.

**3. Conflict of Interest**

- The conflict of interest forms were completed online by board members in January.
- No new conflicts of interest were declared.

**4. Approval of Minutes from 2019 4th Quarter Meeting**

- Meeting minutes were not reviewed or approved at this meeting. The minutes will be sent out at a later date and a vote to approve will be done electronically.

**5. Review of Phone / E-mail / Executive Committee Votes**

- February 12, 2020 – 2020 PSRC P&P Manual
  - *Matt Pavlichko made a motion to approve the e-vote that occurred on February 12, 2020. The approved e-vote motion read “Approve the updated 2020 PSRC P&P manual.” John Conrad seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.*

**6. Officer and Committee Reports**

- President Pierce noted that, given the current pandemic, she waived the requirement of submitting written officer and committee reports for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.
- PSRC Executive Director Tom Lamphere provided a verbal report that included the following:
  - Mr. Lamphere noted that his 1<sup>st</sup> quarter work was split in half – the “pre-pandemic” and the “post-pandemic”! The first half of the quarter focused on planning for the spring educational events including the three big spring conferences / seminars. During that time period, he also worked with PSRC Education Committee Chair Christine Gluvna to send out a survey to all RT Program Directors in the state and received a 100% response from all 22 programs! One of the big “take away” results of the survey is that there are only 229 students expected to graduate from these programs in 2020. Additionally, the average enrollment in these programs is 56%! Soon after that survey, the pandemic hit the U.S....

- Mr. Lamphere made a strong recommendation to the 2020 PSRC Eastern Regional Conference planning committee and President Pierce that the event be rescheduled for new dates in the Fall. He noted that the hotel and Event Center would allow this without charging a fee. The committee & President Pierce agreed with this recommendation and the event was rescheduled to September 24-25, 2020.
- Mr. Lamphere noted he has spent numerous hours trying to contact the Board of Professional & Occupational Affairs in regards to increasing the number of RTs available to work during the current pandemic. This includes respiratory therapists who's license is inactive, students who are about to graduate in the Fall and therapists from out of state who want to obtain licensure in PA. He was finally able to get a hold of Stephen Latanishen who is the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for the PA Department of State. Mr. Latanishen is working with the Governor's office on multiple waivers to streamline processes during the current emergency.

Mr. Lamphere worked closely with Mr. Latanishen and educated him on the number of students expecting to graduate in April / May and the best way to get them working as quickly as possible. Given that the NBRC's testing centers are closed and therefore the recommendation was for graduating students to utilize the "Temporary Permit" process that already exists. Unfortunately, many graduating students have already applied for a license (rather than a permit) and the PA Licensing System (PALS) will not allow the student to change their application once payment is made. Mr. Latanishen is working to cancel these applications, refund the payment to the graduate who can then reapply for a Temporary Permit.

In addition, Mr. Lamphere recommended that the State Board of Medicine allow the "Verification of Education" form to be sent by Program Directors via email to the Board of Medicine instead of regular mail which is currently required. Mr. Latanishen was able to have this recommendation included in another waiver signed by the Governor and this should help streamline the process of Temporary Permit applications by new graduates.

In regards to reactivation of expired licenses, Mr. Latanishen worked with the Governor's office and was able to create and have signed by the Governor a waiver that allows all RT licenses that have been expired for four years or less to be reactivated without the normal requirements (continuing education, child abuse course, etc.) being completed. Mr. Lamphere worked with the State Board of Medicine on the process and will be promoting this new waiver to all contacts in the PSRC's system. He will then provide the waiver form to anyone interested in reactivating their license and those individuals will then complete and return the form to him. He will then send batches of completed applications to the State Board of Medicine for processing via email.

Finally, Mr. Lamphere noted that he has received only one contact from a therapist outside the state who was looking to obtain their license in PA. Given all the other urgent items that the state is dealing with at this time, he recommended to Mr. Latanishen that this NOT be a top priority at this time but to work on a waiver when time permits.

- Mr. Lamphere noted that he worked with Ms. Gluvna to hold a virtual meeting of RT Program Directors on Friday, March 20, 2020 to update them on the current events regarding the state license and NBRC situations. The meeting also allowed the attendees to ask questions and share what is happening in each of their programs.
- On March 27<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Lamphere sent an email out to all RT Program Directors to obtain information from each school on what RT equipment or PPE they had available, if they had donated these items to any hospitals and if so, what was donated. He also updated them on the almost daily changes in regards to the licensing process and on the current status of the NBRC.

## **7. Unfinished/Old Business**

- Review Action Items
  - a. The Action Items List was reviewed by the board and updated.
- **New Business**
  - President Pierce thanked everyone for all the work they are doing on the front lines of the pandemic.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

- There being no further business, *at 8:56pm Kathy Sebastian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director-At-Large Jason Lake seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.*



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***Meeting Attendance***

<b><i>President</i></b>	Margie Pierce	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Vice President</i></b>	Kathy Sebastian	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Treasurer</i></b>	Jay Salyers	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Treasurer-Elect</i></b>	Kaitlin Hannigan	Excused
<b><i>Secretary</i></b>	Linda Cornman	Excused
<b><i>Delegate</i></b>	Ashley Stabley	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Delegate</i></b>	John Conrad	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>East District Director</i></b>	Melissa Thornborough	Excused
<b><i>West District Director</i></b>	Christine Gluvna	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Central District Director</i></b>	Jason Lake	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Director-At-Large (Neonatal-Pediatrics)</i></b>	Lisa Tyler	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Director-At-Large (Acute Care)</i></b>	Karsten Roberts	Excused
<b><i>Director-At-Large (Management)</i></b>	Matt Pavlichko	Excused
<b><i>Executive Director</i></b>	Tom Lamphere	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Audit Committee Chair</i></b>	Kaitlin Hannigan	Not Present
<b><i>Awards Committee</i></b>	Kathy Sebastian	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Budget Committee</i></b>	Jay Salyers	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Bylaws Committee</i></b>	Randy Solly	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Education Committee</i></b>	Christine Gluvna	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Election Committee</i></b>	Alyssa Pierce	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Investment Committee</i></b>	Jay Salyers	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Judicial Committee</i></b>	Karsten Roberts	Not Present
<b><i>Legislative Committee</i></b>	Karsten Roberts	Not Present
<b><i>Legislative Consultant</i></b>	The Winter Group	Not Present
	Angie Armbrust	
<b><i>Medical Advisor</i></b>	Brian Anderson	Not Present
<b><i>Nominations Committee</i></b>	Alyssa Pierce	<b>Present</b>
<b><i>Public Relations Committee</i></b>	Tim Essick	Not Present
<b><i>Sputum Bowl Committee</i></b>	Renee Wunderley	Not Present
<b><i>Research Committee</i></b>	Natalie Napolitano	<b>Present</b>