

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

August 14, 2025

State Board of Chiropractic
August 14, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS:

Jonathan McCullough, D.C., Chairperson
Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
George Petruska, D.C. - Absent
Brian Moreland, D.C., Secretary
Elizabeth Oquendo, Senior Deputy Attorney General,
Consumer Protection Member
Shannon David Smith, D.C.
Shannon Thieroff, D.C.

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Shawn J. Jayman, Esquire, Board Counsel
Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Regulatory Board Counsel
J. Karl Geschwindt, Board Prosecution, Liaison
William Newport, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Riley Baker, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Lilianna Fischer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Shakeena Chappelle, Board Administrator
Stephanie Dunkerley, Legal Analyst, Office of General
Counsel

ALSO PRESENT:

George Khoury, D.C., UPMC
Doug Babin, State Farm
Anne Sorrentino, D.C., Diplomate American
Chiropractic Board Sports Physician
Adam Maurer, D.C.
Justin Miller, D.O., St. Lukes Orthopedic Care
Mike Barba, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
Chiropractic Association
Andrew Heck, D.C., President, Pennsylvania
Chiropractic Association
Allison Walker, Sargent's Court Reporting Service,
Inc.

State Board of Chiropractic

August 14, 2025

[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 9:30 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Shawn J. Jayman, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations and to receive the advice of counsel. The Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.]

Official Call to Order

[Jonathan McCullough, D.C., Chairperson, called the meeting of the State Board of Chiropractic to order at 10:29 a.m.]

Introduction of Board Members and Attendees

[Jonathan McCullough, D.C., Chairperson, requested an introduction of Board members and attendees. A quorum of Board members was present.]

[Shawn J. Jayman, Esquire, Board Counsel, informed everyone that the meeting was being recorded, and those who continued to participate were giving their consent to be recorded.]

Approval of minutes of the July 3, 2025 meeting

CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

The Chair would entertain a
motion to accept the minutes of
July 3, 2025 meeting.

COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

So moved.

DR. MORELAND:

Second.

Dr. McCullough, aye; Commissioner
Claggett, aye; Elizabeth Oquendo, aye;
Dr. Moreland, aye; Dr. Smith, abstain;
Dr. Thieroff, abstain.

[The motion carried. Dr. Smith and Dr. Thieroff
abstained from voting on the motion.]

Report of Prosecution

[Lilianna Fischer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
presented the Consent Agreement for Case No. 23-43-
002634.]

MR. JAYMAN:

Regarding Agenda Item No. 2, based on
Executive Session deliberation, I

1 believe the Chair would entertain a
2 motion to approve the Consent Agreement
3 for Case No. 23-43-002634.

4 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

5 So moved.

6 DR. MORELAND:

7 Second.

8
9 Dr. McCullough, aye; Commissioner
10 Claggett, aye; Elizabeth Oquendo, aye;
11 Dr. Moreland, aye; Dr. Smith, aye; Dr.
12 Thieroff, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
14 name at Case No. 23-43-002634 is Jason Fischer
15 Fetterman, D.C.]

16 ***

17 Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report

18 ***

19 Report of Board Counsel

20 MR. JAYMAN:

21 Based on discussions in Executive
22 Session, it is my understanding that
23 the Chair will entertain a motion to
24 approve and adopt the Proposed
25 Adjudication and Order, Case No. 22-43-

1 012220, in the case of Justin Dane
2 DiMond.

3 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

4 So moved.

5 DR. MORELAND:

6 Second.

7
8 Dr. McCullough, aye; Commissioner
9 Claggett, aye; Elizabeth Oquendo, aye;
10 Dr. Moreland, aye; Dr. Smith, aye; Dr.
11 Thieroff, aye.

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13 ***

14 Report of Regulatory Board Counsel

15 [Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Regulatory Board Counsel,
16 updated the Board on the status of its proposed
17 regulations. He noted his written regulatory report
18 provided to the Board prior to the meeting.

19 Mr. Davis state the three regulations on his
20 report consisted of the General Revisions, Licensure
21 by Endorsement, and the Continuing Education
22 regulation.

23 Mr. Davis addressed the CE regulation (16A-4336)
24 first by stating, after the Proposed Annex was
25 circulated, a positive comment was received from Dr.

1 Jeffrey Wack of the CFOP, (Chiropractic Fellowship of
2 Pennsylvania). Dr. Wack had presented the regulation
3 to the board members at the CFOP, which was
4 unanimously in favor of it. Dr. Wack requested an
5 in-person meeting with their peers.

6 Mr. Davis stated the General Revisions regulation
7 (16A-4328) involved the independent chiropractic
8 exams and the Licensure by Endorsement regulation
9 (16A-4334) referenced specialties. He informed the
10 Board that Dr. Khoury, along with individuals at the
11 Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards,
12 recognized chiropractic specialty programs. There
13 would be no deletion but there would be one addition.

14 Mr. Davis was still drafting the memos and
15 intended to have those completed for the Board at its
16 next meeting.]

17 ***

18 Report of Board Chair -

19 [Chair McCullough welcomed new Board members, Dr.
20 Shannon Smith, Dr. Shannon Thieroff, and Dr. George
21 Petruska to the State Board of Chiropractic.]

22 ***

23 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

24 ***

25 Old Business / New Business - No Report

Appointments - PCA Presentation: PIAA Limitations
for Chiropractors

[Dr. Andrew Heck, President of the Pennsylvania
Chiropractic Association, presented on the topic of
chiropractic practitioners as they relate to, or not,
the ongoing care and treatment of athletes in
Pennsylvania. He stated the PCA was currently
aligned with the Board's current practice act and
regulations. He requested a declaration of
regulatory clarity for the practitioners across the
state and was seeking confirmation of that existing
scope.

Dr. Heck began to clarify the physical issues
that might play a significant role in determining
whether or not an athlete can participate in their
sport of choice. Some of the physical exam history
might include past injuries to the athlete,
underlying health conditions, a baseline health
report, etc. The exams are conducted in a
musculoskeletal setting. Additionally, those exams
would consist of cardiovascular exams, respiratory
system exams, abdominal exams, ears, nose, throat,
vision and more.

Dr. Heck stated individuals that are training or

1 taking care of the athletes must follow the rules of
2 the PCA.

3 He advised the Board that every licensed
4 chiropractor had to demonstrate the ability to
5 identify systemic abnormalities, such as those
6 previously noted, on their board exams.

7 Dr. Heck continued by stating the purpose of the
8 regional examination for a chiropractor would be for
9 the purposes of referral if the management falls
10 outside of their current scope of musculoskeletal
11 system. Chiropractors must be able to detect
12 systemic abnormalities, identify vital signs, and if
13 needed, refer the athlete to the appropriate doctor
14 for further evaluation. Currently, Dr. Heck stated
15 medical doctors are the only practitioners that can
16 legally send an athlete back to their athletic
17 trainer after treatment. Chiropractors, on the other
18 hand, are not legally qualified to return an athlete
19 back to practice after treatment. If an athlete
20 prefers a chiropractor over a medical doctor, he or
21 she could see a chiropractor but would then have to
22 be examined by a medical doctor after chiropractic
23 treatment and before being accepted back into the
24 play of practice. This method is time consuming
25 since the chiropractor cannot send the athlete

1 directly back into the play of practice.

2 Dr. Heck commented on the fact that chiropractors
3 can perform all of the above-mentioned processes with
4 Paralympic athletes, collegiate, and professional
5 athletes. They are excluded from practicing from
6 within the scholastic athletic setting, for which he
7 provided examples.

8 He suggested, if chiropractors are able to
9 participate in the return to play decision, an
10 athlete can then go to the chiropractor who is able
11 to release that patient directly back to the athletic
12 trainer and return onto the field of play.

13 Dr. Heck discussed additional training that
14 provides the education for sideline care. The CCSP
15 and the DACBSP training provide such training. The
16 CCSP is a postgraduate education in sports medicine
17 injury management. The emphasis would be on
18 emergency procedures, injury triage, spinal injury
19 management, concussions, etc. The diplomate program
20 is a 300-hour course with 100 hours spent hands on
21 the field of play. There is a board examination to
22 determine if the practitioner has the skills to
23 complete the criteria for this education.

24 Dr. Heck stated the Pennsylvania Chiropractic
25 Association is respectfully asking that the

1 Pennsylvania State Board of Chiropractic make a
2 motion to direct Regulatory Counsel to confirm that
3 chiropractors licensed in Pennsylvania are authorized
4 to perform pre-participation examinations,
5 participate in return to play decisions, and
6 participate in sideline care athletic events with
7 appropriate additional training and credentials such
8 as the CCSP or the DACBSP.

9 Ms. Oquendo asked how often the chiropractors
10 were taking the NBCE (National Board of Chiropractor
11 Examiners) board exams. Dr. Khoury stated the
12 physical examinations and the sideline training for
13 the PPEs were already within any chiropractor's
14 training. He understood what Ms. Oquendo was asking
15 about were the additional certifications like the
16 Diplomate program and CCSP. He advised her that
17 those programs are approved specialties through the
18 American Chiropractic Association, doctors that have
19 additional training in specific areas of practice.

20 It was clarified what was being proposed with the
21 Annex. The proposal would allow the State Board of
22 Chiropractic in Pennsylvania to regulate those
23 practitioners that claim to be specialists but are
24 not. The regulation would give the Board the ability
25 to impose sanctions on those that falsify their

1 "specialty" practice.

2 Dr. Miller also suggested that this presentation
3 should be given to the PIAA (Pennsylvania
4 Interscholastic Athletic Association), further
5 commenting that the PIAA decides who they want on
6 their panel and they chose not to have chiropractors
7 on it.

8 Dr. Miller opined that being able to pursue
9 another type of industry, for example, becoming
10 examiners for pilots and having the full scope as
11 certified medical examiners, might be an option. If
12 this process could be achieved and then presented to
13 the PIAA, it might allow them to see the medical
14 credentials of those doing the pilot exams, and
15 therefore approve and include chiropractors as being
16 on their team.

17 Dr. Moreland reiterated the belief that the
18 purpose of the Board's discussion was not so much
19 about relating this to the PIAA. He focused on the
20 fact that the regulation was to be able to gain
21 clarity on their current scope of practice. He
22 stated that their Board was looking for a declaration
23 that they could use their practice in all settings.

24 Dr. Miller agreed wholeheartedly with Dr.
25 Moreland's comments and felt they needed more clarity

1 from the Board.

2 Dr. Heck brought up the option of preparing a
3 statement of policy about this regulation which might
4 help to clarify the situation. He also requested
5 that the Board Administrator forward the same to him
6 and to Board Counsel for the purpose of having a
7 contact person within the Board in order to commence
8 a dialogue regarding this subject.

9 An additional factor in processing the method by
10 which they could become a part of the PIAA panel
11 would be to inform them of a chiropractor's ability
12 to perform permit physicals, which also has a
13 regional examination component to it.

14 Mr. McCullough thanked Dr. Heck for bringing this
15 presentation to their attention. He also suggested
16 that Mr. Davis would be working with Board Counsel.]

17 ***

18 Miscellaneous - No Report

19 ***

20 Public Comment Period - No Report

21 ***

22 Adjournment

23 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

24 The Chair would entertain a motion for
25 adjournment.

1 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

2 So moved.

3 DR. MORELAND:

4 Second. Thank you everybody.

5 ***

6 [There being no further business, the State Board of
7 Chiropractic Meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.]

8 ***

9

10 CERTIFICATE

11

12 I hereby certify that the foregoing summary
13 minutes of the State Board of Chiropractic meeting,
14 was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision,
15 and that the minutes accurately summarize the
16 substance of the State Board of Chiropractic meeting.

17

18

19



20

Allison Walker,

21

Minute Clerk

22

Sargent's Court Reporting

23

Service, Inc.

24

25

26

STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC
REFERENCE INDEX

August 14, 2025

TIME

AGENDA

9:30	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:30	Official Call to Order
10:31	Introduction of Board Members/Attendees
10:31	Approval of Minutes
10:32	Report of Prosecution
10:34	Report of Board Counsel
10:35	Report of Regulatory Board Counsel
10:39	Appointment
11:04	Adjournment