

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: 10:32 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

April 16, 2026

State Board of Chiropractic
April 16, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

Jonathan McCullough, D.C., Chairperson
Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
Brian Moreland, D.C., Secretary
Mia V. Paone, Senior Civil Investigator, Consumer
Protection Member
Dr. Shannon David Smith, D.C.
Dr. Shannon Thieroff, D.C.
Dr. George Petruska, D.C.

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Shawn J. Jayman, Esquire, Board Counsel
Lorese Alli, Board Administrator
J. Karl Geschwindt, Board Prosecution Liaison
Ronald Jackson, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Emyline Breckenridge, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Stephanie Dunkerley, Legal Analyst, Office of General
Counsel
Marc Farrell, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, Office of
Chief Counsel
Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Taylor Koch, Fiscal Chief, Bureau of Finance and
Procurement
Amanda Richards, Fiscal Supervisor, Bureau of Finance
and Procurement
Adrianne McClendon, Esquire, PA Office of General
Counsel

ALSO PRESENT:

Mike Barba, Executive Director, Pennsylvania
Chiropractic Association
Andrew Heck, D.C., President, Pennsylvania
Chiropractic Association
George Khoury, D.C., UPMC
Justin Miller, Chiropractor, Miller Sports and Family
Chiropractic LLC
Mike Guinosso, D.C., Sage Chiropractic, Chiropractic
Freedom Coalition
Lisa Lanzara-Bazzani, D.C., Bazzani Chiropractic
Scott Kelley, D.C., LCP, DphCS

State Board of Chiropractic
April 16, 2026

ALSO PRESENT (CONT.):

Stuart Lakernick, D.C., NRCME, Lakernick Health and
Wellness

Ana Chaves

Erin Badstuebner, Sargent's Court Reporting Service,
Inc.

State Board of Chiropractic

April 16, 2026

[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 on a number of matters that are currently before the board and to receive the advice of counsel. The Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.]

Official Call to Order

[Dr. Jonathan McCullough, Chair, called the meeting of the State Board of Chiropractic to order at 10:32 a.m.]

Introduction of Board Members and Attendees

[Dr. Jonathan McCullough, Chair, 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

1 consent to be recorded.

2 Mr. Jayman also noted the Board entered into
3 Executive Session this morning and conducted quasi-
4 judicial deliberations with the advice of counsel.]

5 ***

6 Approval of Minutes of the February 12, 2026 meeting.

7 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

8 The Chair would entertain a motion for
9 approval of minutes from February 12,
10 2026 Board meeting.

11 DR. THIEROFF:

12 Shannon Thieroff, motion to approve.

13 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

14 Do we have a second?

15 DR. SMITH:

16 Second, Dr. Shannon Smith.

17 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

18 Thank you, Dr. Shannon. Roll call
19 vote.

20
21 Dr. McCullough, aye; Acting
22 Commissioner Claggett, aye; Dr.
23 Moreland, aye; Ms. Paone, aye; Dr.
24 Smith, aye; Dr. Thieroff, aye; Dr.
25 Petruska, aye.

1 [The motion carried unanimously.]

2 ***

3 Report of Prosecution

4 [J. Karl Geschwindt, Board Prosecution Liaison,
5 presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda Item No.
6 2, Case No. 23-43-002634.]

7 ***

8 MR. JAYMAN:

9 Based on Executive Session
10 deliberations, I believe the Chair
11 would entertain a motion to reject the
12 Consent Agreement for Case No. 23-43-
13 002634 as being too lenient.

14 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

15 Yes, I would. The Chair accepts that
16 recommendation. I would like to make a
17 motion that we reject the Consent
18 Agreement on Case 23-43-002634 as being
19 too lenient.

20 DR. SMITH:

21 So moved.

22 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

23 Claggett seconds the motion. Okay,
24 roll call.

25

1 Dr. McCullough, aye; Acting
2 Commissioner Claggett, aye; Dr.
3 Moreland, aye; Ms. Paone, aye; Dr.
4 Smith, aye; Dr. Thieroff, aye; Dr.
5 Petruska, aye.

6 [The motion carried unanimously.]

7 ***

8 Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report

9 ***

10 Report of Board Counsel

11 [Shawn J. Jayman, Esquire, Board Counsel, reported
12 House Bill 1106, Certified Chiropractic Assistants,
13 would amend the Chiropractic Practice Act to add a
14 new chapter on certified chiropractic assistants. He
15 provided a background, noting chiropractors in
16 Pennsylvania currently cannot delegate the
17 performance of assisting patients in using
18 therapeutic exercises to a chiropractic assistant.
19 House Bill 1106 would allow a chiropractor the
20 ability to delegate the performance of therapeutic
21 exercises to a chiropractor assistant to assist
22 patients under the direct on-premises supervision of
23 a licensed chiropractor. The noted the proposed bill
24 would also define direct on-premise supervision.
25 Dr. Thieroff asked, if a chiropractor did not

1 want to delegate, if they had to have their assistant
2 be certified or if they could employ normal people.

3 Mr. Jayman stated Section 601, regarding
4 supportive personnel, may address Dr. Thieroff's
5 question. The section says that a licensed
6 chiropractor can utilize unlicensed or uncertified
7 personnel to perform activities which do not require
8 a formal education.

9 Andrew Heck, D.C., President, Pennsylvania
10 Chiropractic Association, noted the proposed bill
11 related to a court case where it was determined
12 therapeutic exercise required the skill, education,
13 and knowledge of the chiropractor. Therefore, things
14 which do not require that skill, education, or
15 knowledge can still be delegated. The intent of the
16 bill is to only allow for the provision of delegating
17 therapeutic exercise.

18 Dr. Thieroff noted nothing about the bill seemed
19 easy to implement efficiently. She asked if there
20 were approved certification programs. Mr. Jayman
21 replied, if the bill was passed, there would be a
22 need for regulations to address the specific program
23 parameters.

24 Dr. Heck stated there are national programs that
25 could be adopted such as one through the Federation

1 of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB).

2 George Khoury, D.C., UPMC, commented FCLB has a
3 program which has been in effect for quite a while
4 and has been adopted by a number of states. He noted
5 the Board would not be required to adopt the FCLB
6 program, but it was the program most other states
7 used as regulatory guide rails to implement the
8 certified chiropractic assistant program.

9 Mr. Jayman noted he would keep the Board up to
10 date with what happens with the proposed bill.]

11 ***

12 [Shawn J. Jayman, Esquire, Board Counsel, explained
13 number four on the Agenda was correspondence from the
14 Chiropractic Freedom Coalition (CFC). CFC had
15 questions with regard to the proposed merger between
16 the National Board of Chiropractor Examiners and
17 FCLB.]

18 ***

19 MR. JAYMAN:

20 Regarding this correspondence, it's my
21 understanding that based on Executive
22 Session deliberations that the Chair
23 would entertain a motion to table this
24 for further research on this before a
25 response is given.

1 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

2 Claggett, so moved.

3 DR. SMITH:

4 Second.

5 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

6 Roll call vote.

7

8 Dr. McCullough, aye; Acting

9 Commissioner Claggett, aye; Dr.

10 Moreland, aye; Ms. Paone, aye; Dr.

11 Smith, aye; Dr. Thieroff, aye; Dr.

12 Petruska, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14 ***

15 MR. JAYMAN:

16 That takes us to No. 5 on the Agenda

17 regarding the Federation of

18 Chiropractic Licensing Board's annual

19 conference. After revisiting this

20 issue on sending Dr. Shannon David

21 Smith and Dr. Shannon Thieroff to the

22 conference at the end of the month,

23 it's my understanding based on

24 Executive Session that this matter will

25 be tabled on whether Dr. Smith and Dr.

1 Thieroff will be attending that
2 conference.

3 I believe the Chair would
4 entertain a motion to table that.

5 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

6 Claggett, so moved.

7 DR. SMITH:

8 Second.

9 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

10 Roll call vote.

11

12 Dr. McCullough, aye; Acting
13 Commissioner Claggett, aye; Dr.
14 Moreland, aye; Ms. Paone, aye; Dr.
15 Smith, aye; Dr. Thieroff, aye; Dr.
16 Petruska, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18 ***

19 Regulatory Report - Status of Regulations

20 [Marc Farrell, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel,
21 Office of Chief Counsel, reported he had served as
22 interim Regulatory Counsel for the Board during their
23 time without an assigned Counsel. During that
24 period, he was able to move Regulation 16A-4334,
25 Licensure by Endorsement or Act 41, forward in the

1 process. The regulation was published as proposed in
2 *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on December 20, 2025. There
3 were no comments received from the public. On
4 February 19, 2026, Regulatory Counsel received a
5 letter from Independent Regulatory Review Commission
6 (IRRC) stating it also did not have any comments. In
7 the letter, IRRC stated if the regulation was
8 delivered in final rulemaking form without any
9 substantive changes, they would deem the regulation
10 approved at that point.

11 Mr. Farrell stated the Board had received the
12 final Annex and final Preamble in their packets.
13 Both documents were similar to the documents they had
14 already reviewed and had no substantive changes. If
15 approved by the Board, Regulatory Counsel would have
16 everything needed to proceed with the remainder of
17 the final rulemaking phase.]

18 ***

19 MR. JAYMAN:

20 At this time, I believe the Chair would
21 entertain a motion to approve the final
22 Annex and final Preamble and direct
23 Board Counsel to move them through the
24 regulatory process for Regulation 16A-
25 4334.

1 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

2 So moved.

3 DR. SMITH:

4 Second.

5 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

6 Roll call vote.

7

8 Dr. McCullough, aye; Acting

9 Commissioner Claggett, aye; Dr.

10 Moreland, aye; Ms. Paone, aye; Dr.

11 Smith, aye; Dr. Thieroff, aye; Dr.

12 Petruska, aye.

13 [The motion carried unanimously.]

14 ***

15 [Marc Farrell, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, Office of
16 Chief Counsel, stated the Board also had a copy of
17 the Regulatory Status Report which had three
18 additional regulations listed. He noted new
19 Regulatory Counsel, Abbie Abelson, would begin
20 digging into the regulations.

21 Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel,
22 shared a brief introduction, noting she recently came
23 from Office of General Counsel in Maine where she
24 spent the last four years reviewing work from the
25 Department of State and other agencies promulgating

1 regulations.

2 Dr. Smith asked if one of the open regulations
3 pertained to continuing education being part in-
4 person and part not in-person.

5 Mr. Farrell confirmed Regulation 16A-4336 was one
6 of the open regulations.

7 Mr. Jayman noted he shared the PowerPoint
8 presentation from Pennsylvania Chiropractic
9 Association (PCA) regarding Pennsylvania
10 Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA)
11 limitations for chiropractors with Ms. Abelson. He
12 added, if PCA wanted to share anything further, the
13 topic could be put on the Agenda for the next
14 meeting.

15 Andrew Heck, D.C., President, Pennsylvania
16 Chiropractic Association, noted PCA had sent in a
17 brief regarding outstanding matters that are
18 currently under review by PPA. He wanted to make
19 sure the document was received for Ms. Abelson's
20 review. He was asked to forward the document again
21 to be safe.

22 When asked, Mr. Farrell noted the other two open
23 regulations were 16A-4328, General Revisions, and
24 16A-4327, Independent Chiropractic Examination.]

25 ***

1 Report of Board Chair - No Report

2 ***

3 Report of Board Administrator - No Report

4 ***

5 Appointment - BFP Presentation

6 [Taylor Koch, Fiscal Chief, Bureau of Finance and
7 Procurement (BFP), reviewed the annual financial
8 presentation. He started with a breakdown of the
9 license counts for the past six years with a focus on
10 the biennium of FY22/23 in which there were just
11 under 3,900 licensees and the current biennium of
12 FY24/25 for which the licensee count dipped by 67
13 licensees. He also explained the renewal fees. He
14 noted a fee package was approved in February 2022 and
15 took effect in September 2024 with the last renewal
16 cycle. The current renewal fee is \$225 with a seven
17 percent increase scheduled in September 2026 and
18 again in September 2028 for a final amount of \$258.

19 Mr. Kock reviewed the revenue breakdown. FY22/23
20 generated approximately \$916,000 in revenue. The
21 current biennium is projected for just over \$1
22 million in revenue, largely due to the increase in
23 renewal fees. He noted the bulk of revenue is
24 comprised of renewals and applications.

25 Regarding expenses, Mr. Koch explained in

1 FY22/23, the Board had about \$1.38 million in
2 expenses. The current biennium is projected at \$1.56
3 million in expenses. He stated the expenses are
4 broken into administrative costs and legal costs.
5 Within the two categories, the expenses are incurred
6 in three ways, timesheet based, direct charges, and
7 by licensee population. He noted a lot of the
8 increase in FY25 is due to the licensing
9 modernization project. He added as of March 2026,
10 the expenses for FY25 were at \$503,000 against a
11 projection of \$821,000. He stated there was also an
12 increase in expenses in recent years derived from an
13 increase in investigation costs associated with an
14 increased caseload. Discussions have led him to
15 anticipate caseloads will be dropping off and costs
16 should level out to be more in line with past years.

17 Mr. Koch showed the expenses and revenues brought
18 together. He noted in FY24 when the first increase
19 happened, there was a deficit of \$539,000. Because
20 the Board is in the middle of a fee increase, BFP is
21 monitoring expenses moving forward. He anticipated
22 making another presentation later in the year after
23 the fiscal year ends to show where the numbers end
24 up. He stated BFP will continue to monitor and
25 provide information to the Board so educated

1 decisions can be made moving forward.]

2 ***

3 Public Comment

4 [George Khoury, D.C., UPMC commented with the FCLB
5 Annual Conference in two weeks, he recommended the
6 Board inform FLCB staff as soon as possible if anyone
7 was attending. He added he would be at the annual
8 conference and was willing to help anyone who
9 attended.]

10 ***

11 [Mike Guinosso, D.C., Sage Chiropractic, Chiropractic
12 Freedom Coalition (CFC) stated he was not sure if
13 discussion on the CFC letter was tabled or the trip
14 to the annual FLCB conference was tabled. However,
15 he noted CFC had put three questions in front of the
16 Board. He shared the three questions were if the
17 Board had statutory authority to vote in a private
18 corporation's governance structure; whether the
19 deliberations about the same topic and decisions are
20 subject to supervision by the state's attorney
21 general; and where any of the costs associated with
22 participation in FCLB events are drawn from public
23 funds.

24 Mr. Guinosso pointed out the NBCE has a statutory
25 monopoly on testing in almost all 50 states in the

1 county. He added if the FCLB merged with the NBCE,
2 there would be NBCE representatives at Board meeting
3 influencing decisions that may reflect back on the
4 examination required for licensure. He noted the
5 situation was rife for potential conflicts of
6 interest. CFC urged the Board to abstain from voting
7 if they attended the conference and if they voted, to
8 vote no.

9 Mr. Guinosso also stated when Board Members have a
10 stake in the market they are regulating, they can
11 become liable for any antitrust actions that occur
12 from their decisions. He cited a lawsuit involving
13 the North Carolina Board of Dental Examiners as an
14 example. He noted his comment were not accusations
15 but were a request for review of the greater context
16 of what is being called for.]

17 ***

18 Adjournment

19 CHAIR MCCULLOUGH:

20 It would appear that the public comment
21 period is now over and the Chair would
22 entertain a motion for adjournment.

23 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

24 Claggett is so moved.

25 DR. SMITH:

1 Second, Dr. Smith.

2 ***

3 [There being no further business, the State Board of
4 Chiropractic Meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.]

5 ***

6
7
8 CERTIFICATE

9
10 I hereby certify that the foregoing summary
11 minutes of the State Board of Chiropractic meeting,
12 was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision,
13 and that the minutes accurately summarize the
14 substance of the State Board of Chiropractic meeting.

15
16
17 

18 Erin Badstuebner,

19 Minute Clerk

20 Sargent's Court Reporting
21 Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC
REFERENCE INDEX

April 14, 2026

TIME

AGENDA

9:30	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:32	Official Call to Order
10:32	Introduction of Board Members/Attendees
10:34	Approval of Minutes
10:35	Report of Prosecution
10:38	Report of Board Counsel
10:47	Report of Regulatory Counsel
10:56	Appointment - BFP Presentation
11:09	Public Comment
11:13	Adjournment