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 MEDICINE

TIME: 10:29 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

September 29, 2026

State Board of Medicine
September 29, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs
Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair
Michael R. Ripchinski, M.D., MBA, CPE, FAAFP, Vice Chair
Mark B. Woodland, M.S., M.D., FACOG - Absent
Gerard F. Dillon, Ph.D., Public Member
Robert Bonacci, M.D., on behalf of Debra Bogan, M.D., FAAP, Secretary Department of Health
John D. Six, M.D.
John A. Kutz, M.D., FACS - Absent
Taliba Foster, M.D.
Adanma Okereh, CNM, CFNP, Nurse Midwife - Absent
Robert Emery, PA-C, MBA, DFAAPA

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Dana Archer, Esquire, Board Counsel
Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Jamison Cassel, Board Administrator
Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Nicholas C. Kahler, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Courtney J. Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Liliana Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Willow Marsh, Legislative Aide
Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Deputy Policy Director, Office of Policy
Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel, Prosecution Division
Julie Droddy, Program Co-Manager, Professional Health Monitoring Program
Robert Beecher, Deputy Policy Director, Office of Policy

ALSO PRESENT:

Lisa E. Claypool Stevenson, Esquire, Senior Associate Counsel at UPMC
Misha Patel, Esquire, Assistant General Counsel, Pennsylvania Medical Society

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ALSO PRESENT: (Cont.)

William Reynolds, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Society of Physician Associates
John Ostrowski, MS, LAT, ATC, Lead Athletic Trainer, St. Luke's University Health Network
Randy Stevens, M.D., Assistant Professor, Drexel University College of Medicine
Zayne Kemler, Paralegal Government Relations, Myers Brier & Kelly LLP
Angie Armbrust, Government Affairs Specialist, McNees Government Relations
Alyson Hansbarger, Doctoral Student, Instructor, College of Public Health, Temple University, Co-Chair, Governmental Affairs Committee, Pennsylvania Athletic Trainer Society
Catharine Conner, Partner, Milliron Goodman LLC
Candice Sampson, Applicant
Stephanie Osman, Applicant
Call In # 1-570-495-3925
Jacob Hill, Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.

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[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 8:45 a.m., the Board entered into Executive Session with Dana M. Archer, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters currently pending before the Board and to receive the advice of counsel. The Board returned to open session at 10:29 a.m.]

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The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Medicine was held on Tuesday, September 29, 2026. Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:29 a.m.

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Acknowledge Public - Turn Off Electronic Devices

[Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, requested all electronic devices be silenced.]

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[Dana M. Archer, Esquire, Senior Board Counsel, noted the meeting was being recorded and voluntary participation constituted consent to be recorded.

Ms. Archer also noted the Board entered into Executive Session for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations to discuss matters on the agenda and to receive the advice of counsel.]

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Roll Call of Board Members

[Diedre Bowers, Division Chief, provided a roll call of Board members. A quorum was present.]

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Introduction of Attendees

[Diedre Bowers, Division Chief, provided an introduction of attendees.]

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Approval of Minutes of August 18, 2026

CHAIR YEALY:

Next up, the first action Agenda Item is the approval of the minutes from the August 18, 2026 meeting. Those were distributed in advance.

I'd be happy to entertain a motion for approval.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further conversation, correction, concerns by any one voting Member of the Board?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Appointment - PA Athletic Trainers Society- Athletic Trainers Compact

[Alyson Hansbarger, Doctoral Student, Instructor, College of Public Health, Temple University, Co-Chair, Governmental Affairs Committee, Pennsylvania Athletic Trainer Society, provided a summary of the current status of the Athletic Trainers Compact. In Pennsylvania, the Compact is Senate Bill 1312 with State Senator Lisa Baker as the prime sponsor. She noted the minimum number of states needed to enact the Compact.

Ms. Hansbarger explained the compact privilege would allow athletic trainers to apply for a compact license in their home state. In Pennsylvania, the Board would maintain authority over the compact licenses. She pointed out the Practice Act would not be opened up in any way and any athletic trainer practicing in Pennsylvania under the Compact would be subject to the Practice Act.

Ms. Hansbarger shared a commission is currently being assembled, and any state who joins the Compact will have a representative on the commission. The initial eight states are meeting in November 2026 to work on rules and regulations for implementation. A data system will be established to share information between compact states.

Chair Yealy thanked Ms. Hansbarger for her presentation. He noted the Athletic Trainers Compact aligns with other efforts that fall under the Board where they are maintaining the rigor of licensure while working on some of the barriers.]

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Report of Prosecuting Attorneys

[Todd P. Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison, presented the VRP Consent Agreements for Agenda Item No. 5, Case No. 26-49-012163; and Agenda Item No. 6,

Case No. 26-49-012590.]

MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to approve the VRP Agreements for Case Nos. 26-49-012163 and 26-49-012590.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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[Keith E. Bashore, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison, presented the Consent Agreements for Agenda Item No. 7, Case No. 26-49-011102; and Agenda Item

No. 8, Case No. 26-49-011969.]

MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to approve the Consent Agreements and Orders for Case Nos. 26-49-011102 and 26-49-011969.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously. The Respondents are as follows: Agenda Item No. 7, Case No. 26-49-011102, Michael Allen Stewart, M.D.; and Agenda Item No. 8, Case No. 26-49-011969, Farhaad R. Riyaz, M.D.]

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[Nicholas C. Kahler, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda Item No. 9, Case No. 25-49-008290.]

MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to approve the Consent Agreement and Order at Case No. 25-49-008290.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, abstain; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried. Acting Commissioner Claggett abstained from deliberations and voting on the motion. The Respondent at Agenda Item No. 9, Case No. 25-49-008290, is Muhammad Abdul-Wahab, MD.]

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[Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented the Consent Agreements for Agenda Item No. 10, Case No. 26-49-006379.]

MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to approve the Consent Agreement and Order at Case No. 26-49-006379.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent at Agenda Item No. 10, Case No. 26-49-006379 is Jonathan Ellis, M.D.]

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[Liliana Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda Item No. 11, Case No. 25-49-015227.]

MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to approve the corrected Consent Agreement and Order for Case No. 25-49-015227.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent at Agenda Item No. 11, Case No. 25-49-015227, is Francis

Michael Hyduk, R.T.]

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Applications for Licensure

MS. ARCHER:

At Agenda Items 13 and 14, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the initial application for license to practice as a behavior specialist of Hawa Kamara and Stephanie Osman.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to grant the initial application for a license to practice as a behavior specialist of Nicole Griffin Lipowski at Agenda Item 15.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a

motion to grant the initial application for license to practice as a behavior specialist of Candice Sampson at Agenda Item 16.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, nay; Mr. Dillon, nay; Dr. Six, inaudible; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried. Dr. Ripchinski and Mr. Dillon opposed the motion. Dr. Six's vote was inaudible.]

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MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the initial application for a license to

practice as a behavior specialist of Erin Pierce at Agenda Item 17.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, nay; Dr. Yealy, nay; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, nay; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, nay.

[The motion failed on a tie vote with Acting Commissioner Claggett, Chair Yealy, Dr. Bonacci, and Mr. Emery opposing the motion. Some confusion was noted on the framing of the motion. It was clarified that an affirmative vote of aye would be to provisionally deny the application.]

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MS. ARCHER:

All right. Let me rephrase it, and

then we'll start again for a revote since it was a tie.

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the initial application for a license to practice as a behavior specialist of Erin Pierce at Agenda Item 17.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, nay; Dr. Yealy, nay; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried. Acting Commissioner Claggett and Chair Yealy opposed the motion.]

***

MS. ARCHER:

All right. Moving on to Agenda Item 18, I believe the Board would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the initial application for a license to practice as a physician and surgeon of Shareen Ismail, M.D.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

May we have a roll call vote here, now hearing no discussion?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a

motion to table Agenda Items 19 through 21, and send standard reentry letters to the following Applicants: Mark Braun, M.D.; Nabil Jabbour, M.D.; and Katherine Lee, M.D. and direct them to follow through with any recommendations.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

***

MS. ARCHER:

I believe the Board would entertain a

motion at Agenda Items 23 through 26 to ratify the granting of the following applications to practice as a physician and surgeon: Yashasvi Sukla, M.D.; Rupali Singh, M.D.; Humra Shamin, M.D., Ensar Yekeler, M.D.; and Amna Munir Shaikh, and that's a certified nurse midwife.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Miscellaneous

MS. ARCHER:

And then jumping down to Agenda Item 29.

I believe the Board would entertain a motion to deny the proposed preceptorship plan until such time that Dr. Chethan Byagdi, M.D. completes all other recommendations outlined in the LifeGuard assessment.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

Hearing none, may we have a roll call vote please?

Mr. Claggett, aye; Dr. Yealy, aye; Dr. Ripchinski, aye; Mr. Dillon, aye; Dr. Six, aye; Dr. Bonacci, aye; Dr. Foster, aye; Mr. Emery, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

***

Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report

[Dana Archer, Esquire, Board Counsel, reported 16A-4965, Midwifery Licensure and Practice, was recently distributed as an Exposure Draft. She noted working with Regulatory Counsel and hoped to have Regulation 16A-4963, Acupuncturist and Oriental Medicine Updates, on the November Agenda.

Chair Yealy thanked Ms. Archer for the organization and clarity of the status of regulations report.]

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FSMB Updates

[Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, reported there was no report as Dr. Woodland was actually in attendance at the FSMB meeting.]

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Board Meeting Dates

[Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, noted the upcoming meeting dates were listed on the Agenda.]

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Report of Board Administrator - No Report

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Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications

[Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, recognized the amount of effort, expertise, and consideration that

happens amongst the committee members to help prepare things for the Board.]

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Report of Committee on Legislation/Policy Development and Review - No Report

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Committee on Health-Related Professionals - No Report

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Report of Department of Health

[Robert Bonacci, M.D., on behalf of Debra Bogan, M.D., FAAP, Secretary Department of Health, provided updates regarding the measles outbreak in Pennsylvania. He shared a measles dashboard could be found at pa.gov/measles. As of September 28, 2026, there had been 903 cases in Pennsylvania in 2026 and four measles associated deaths. Of the 903 cases, less than one percent were fully vaccinated against measles. He highlighted a new community transmission map on the dashboard. The new map can be used as a reference for clinicians when determining if early doses of the MMR vaccine were appropriate for infants between six and eleven months of age or if an early second dose was appropriate for children who received their first does at 12 months or later at least 28 days prior.

Dr. Bonacci reported outreach efforts to educate clinicians continue. The DOH was working with professional medical societies to hold measles webinars. He encouraged anyone suspecting measles to reach out to the DOH for assistance at any time. A clinical consult team is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. He emphasized the way the outbreak will be stopped is by getting as many individuals vaccinated as possible to build community immunity. In August 2026, nearly 50,000 doses of MMR were given, twice as many as in an average month.

Dr. Bonacci noted, as respiratory virus season is starting, there is a respiratory virus dashboard available on the DOH website. A recent health alert provided guidance on preparation for respiratory virus season. He added a complicating factor this year was that early measles symptoms may look like other respiratory illnesses commonly seen during the season. He encouraged clinicians to have conversations with their patients about not just the MMR vaccine but also vaccines for flu, COVID, and RSV.

Dr. Bonacci concluded his report by noting the health alerts were moved to a new platform. He encouraged anyone not signed up to do so through the

new platform. Anyone previously signed up through the old system should have received information on how to transition to the new platform. He appreciated all of the hard work done by physicians across the Commonwealth, especially work to help slow and eventually stop the measles outbreak.

Chair Yealy thanked Dr. Bonacci and Secretary Bogen for their actions and communications regarding the challenges related to measles. He encouraged healthcare professionals to meet people where they are to discuss their concerns. He emphasized, with measles, the vaccine is excellent at preventing serious complications and dramatically lowering community transmission.]

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Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report

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Report of Vice Chair - No Report

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Report of Board Chair

[Donald M. Yealy, M.D., FACEP, Chair, remarked on a recent murder and home invasion of a physician in Western Pennsylvania. He noted, while the violent tragedy happened outside of the workplace, it was a reminder of societal issues. He stated violence,

whether verbal or physical, in healthcare settings was not to be tolerated. He added the Commonwealth had done a great job not only in educating about healthcare violence but also backing up with enhanced measures.

Chair Yealy shared upcoming observations in October 2026, including Indigenous Peoples Day, World Teachers Day, and World Mental Health Day. He noted some of the observations involve healthcare and are opportunities to be voices of insight and reason.]

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Public Comment - None

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Adjournment

CHAIR YEALY:

I'd be happy to entertain a motion to adjourn.

DR. RIPCHINSKI:

Ripchinski, so moved.

MR. EMERY:

Emery, second.

CHAIR YEALY:

And rather than a roll call, for the first time I'll say does anyone object to the motion and the second that is

standing. I see mostly smiles so I will break protocol and take that as a unanimous vote. Thank you all.

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[There being no other business, the State Board of Medicine Meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.]

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CERTIFICATE

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

Jacob Hill

Jacob Hill,
Minute Clerk
Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF MEDICINE
REFERENCE INDEX
September 29, 2026

TIME	AGENDA
8:45	Executive Session
10:29	Return to Open Session
10:29	Official Call to Order
10:31	Roll Call
10:33	Approval of Minutes
10:34	Appointment - PA Athletic Trainers Society
10:40	Report of Prosecuting Attorneys
10:53	Applications for Licensure
11:00	Ratifications
11:02	Miscellaneous
11:03	Report of Board Counsel
11:04	FSMB Updates
11:04	Board Meeting Dates
11:05	Report of Committee on Licensure Qualifications
11:06	Report of the Department of Health
11:13	Report of Board Chair
11:16	Adjournment