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 PHYSICAL THERAPY

TIME: 10:34 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

July 30, 2026

State Board of Physical Therapy
July 30, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

Geraldine M. Grzybek, Physical Therapist, Chairperson
Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs
Robert Bonacci, M.D., Secretary of Health Designee
Lisa Mackell, Physical Therapist
Jeremy Robb, Attorney General's Office Designee - Absent
Craig Ruby, Physical Therapist, Secretary
Ian S. Steele, Physical Therapist
Krista Wolfe, Physical Therapist, Vice Chair

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Sean Barrett, Esquire, Board Counsel
J. Karl Geschwindt, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor and Prosecution Liaison
Ronald Jackson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Paul Keller, Acting Board Administrator
Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Stephanie Dunkerley, Legal Analyst, Office of General Counsel
Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Deputy Policy Director, Office of Policy
Adrianne McClendon, Esquire, Office of General Counsel
Christine Townley, Director of Operations, Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs

ALSO PRESENT:

Ted Mowatt, Vice President, Executive Director, Wanner Associates
Call-In # 1-412-759-6773
Jacob Hill, Sargent's Court Reporting Services, Inc.

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State Board of Physical Therapy

July 30, 2026

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[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 10:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Sean Barrett, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters currently pending before the Board and to receive advice of counsel. The Board returned to open session at 10:34 a.m.]

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The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Physical Therapy was held on Thursday, July 30, 2026.

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Official Call to Order

[Geraldine M. Grzybek, PT, GCS, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.]

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[Sean Barrett, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the meeting was being recorded and voluntary participation constituted consent to be recorded.

Mr. Barrett also noted the Board entered into

Executive Session prior to the meeting and conducted quasi-judicial deliberations with the advice of counsel.]

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Roll Call of Board Members and Bureau Personnel

[Geraldine M. Grzybek, PT, GCS, Chairperson, provided a roll call of Board Members and Bureau personnel. A quorum was noted to be present.]

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Introduction of Attendees

[Paul Keller, Acting Board Administrator, provided an introduction of attendees.]

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Approval of Minutes of the May 28, 2026 meeting

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

We'll move on to the approval of minutes of our May 28, 2026 meeting. I'm sure you've had the opportunity to review those minutes. Are there any corrections, edits, deletions?

Anybody have any comments on that?

Hearing none, are you ready for the vote? All those in favor of adopting the Minutes from the May 28, 2026 please signify by saying aye;

oppose, nay. And of course, if you were not present, abstain. I'll go through the roll call.

Grzybek, aye; Claggett, aye; Bonacci, aye; Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye; Wolfe, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Report of Regulatory Counsel

[Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, noted a regulatory status report had been provided for the Board's review. She stated the first regulation, she wanted to highlight was 16A-6523, Licensure by Endorsement or Act 41. She explained Act 41 and noted the most recent Annex and Preamble submitted to the Board on July 29, 2026, reflected a few differences from the exposure draft. The first difference was the amendment removing NPTE language was deleted as it was determined NPTE was the proper name of the test. The second update removed references to reciprocity for foreign applicants.

Ms. Abelson noted, on May 29, 2026, the Board received on public comment from the president of the American Physical Therapy Association of Pennsylvania

on the exposure draft. The comment suggested adding documentation of two hours of ethics and law education, in the same manner as the three hours of child abuse education.

However, after review, it was determined ethics and law education are already part of the Board's determination of whether a jurisdiction's licensure standards are substantially equivalent to or exceed those established under the Act and Regulations. In addition, she noted the child abuse education differed because in Pennsylvania, the child abuse education must be approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services; therefore, there is no substantial equivalent. She stated an explanation was provided in the Preamble.

Chair Grzybek appreciated the ethics education explanation. She requested clarification on title language on page two for section 40.4. Ms. Abelson stated she would compare the language to the current PA code to ensure consistency.]

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MS. ABELSON:

At this point, would the Board entertain a motion to approve the Preamble and Annex for Regulation 16A-

6523, Licensure by Endorsement?

MR. RUBY:

Ruby, so moved.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a second?

MS. MACKELL:

Mackell, second.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Great. It's been moved and seconded to approve the Preamble as indicated by our Regulatory Counsel.

Is there any further discussion? May we take a vote on that?

All those in favor, signify by saying aye, nay, or abstain.

Grzybek, aye; Claggett, aye; Bonacci, aye; Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye; Wolfe, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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[Ms. Abelson next discussed Regulation 16A-6525, Fees. She explained Section 8 of the Physical Therapy Practice Act requires the Board to increase fees by regulation to meet or exceed projected

expenditures if the revenue raised by fees, fines, and civil penalties are not sufficient to match expenditures over a two-year period. The Board approved the drafting of a rulemaking package at the May 28, 2026 meeting. She presented an exposure draft to the board for their approval. She added, if approved, the exposure draft would be released to stakeholders for feedback.]

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MS. ABELSON:

Would the Board entertain a motion to approve the exposure draft Annex for release to stakeholders for Regulation 16A-6525, Fees?

MR. RUBY:

Ruby, so moved.

MS. MACKELL:

Mackell, second.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

It's been moved and seconded. Is there any further discussion?

Hearing none, we'll go for the vote. All those in favor, signify by saying aye, nay, or abstain.

Grzybek, aye; Claggett, aye; Bonacci, aye; Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye; Wolfe, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Report of Board Counsel

MR. BARRETT:

So starting out with Item No. 5 on the Agenda, based on Executive Session deliberations, I believe the Board Chair would entertain a motion to approve the Final Adjudication and Order at Case No. 24-65-002316, Kristen Baker.

MR. RUBY:

Ruby, so moved.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Second?

MS. MACKELL:

Mackell, second.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

It's been moved and seconded. Is there any further discussion on this matter?

MR. BARRETT:

Just for the record, I'll noted

Chairperson Grzybek did recuse herself from deliberation in this matter.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Yes, sir. Thank you. Hearing none, we'll go for the vote.

Grzybek, recuse; Claggett, aye; Bonacci, aye; Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye; Wolfe, aye.

[The motion carried. Chair Grzybek was recused from deliberations and voting on the motion.]

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MR. BARRETT:

At Item No. 6 on the Agenda, based on Executive Session deliberations, I believe the Board Chair would entertain a motion to direct Counsel to draft an Adjudication and Order consistent with Executive Session deliberations at Case No. 21-65-006907, Bobby Lee Rainey.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a motion?

MR. RUBY:

Ruby, so moved.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a second?

MS. MACKELL:

Mackell, second.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Thank you. It's been moved and seconded.

Is there any further discussion on this matter? Hearing none, we'll go for the vote.

Grzybek, aye; Claggett, aye; Bonacci, aye; Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye; Wolfe, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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[Regarding Agenda Item 7, Mr. Barrett stated Mr. Prall asked if the Board intended to take any action based on his presentation on DOT physical exams. No members of the Board spoke up.]

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MR. BARRETT:

And then at No. 8, the application of Hasti Jadeja.

Based on Executive Session deliberations, I believe the Board

Chair would entertain a motion to repeal the provisional denial at this case.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a motion?

MR. RUBY:

Ruby, so moved.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a second?

MS. MACKELL:

Mackell, second.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

It's been moved and seconded. Does anyone have any further discussion? Hearing none, we'll go for the vote.

Grzybek, aye; Claggett, aye; Bonacci, aye; Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye; Wolfe, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Report of the Prosecution

[Ronald Jackson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented the Consent Agreements for Agenda Item No. 9, Case No. 25-65-003682; and Agenda Item No. 10, Case No.

24-65-014681.]

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MR. BARRETT:

Based on Executive Session deliberations and the report of Prosecution, I believe the Board Chair would entertain a motion to adopt the Consent Agreements at Item No. 9, Case No. 25-65-003682; and Item No. 10, Case No. 24-65-014681.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a motion?

MR. RUBY:

Ruby, so moved.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a second?

MS. MACKELL:

Mackell, second.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

It's been moved and seconded. Is there any further discussion on these two cases? Hearing none, we'll go for the vote.

Grzybek, aye; Claggett, aye; Bonacci,

aye; Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye; Wolfe, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously. The Respondents are as follows: Agenda Item No. 9, Case No. 25-65-003682, Amy Elizabeth Klause, PTA; and Agenda Item No. 10, Case No. 24-65-014681, Joseph R. Torello, P.T.A.]

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Report of Board Chairperson

[Geraldine Grzybek, Physical Therapist, Chairperson, reported Pennsylvania had received its second quarter report card from the Federation PT Compact Commission. Pennsylvania scored a 100 percent for weekly data sharing, no disciplinary actions were reported, and Pennsylvania is utilizing FSBPT (Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy) identification instead of social security numbers.

Chair Grzybek noted physical therapist licenses and physical therapy assistant certificates expire December 31, 2026. She reminded licensees 30 hours of continuing education (CE) between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2026, were required for renewals. In addition, she noted the licensee must have records of all 30 hours of CE in their possession prior to the attestation on their application.

Regarding the FSBPT, she reported, with Mr. Steele, she participated in the first of three opportunities to meet candidates for the FSBPT Board of Directors on July 13, 2026. A third opportunity to meet the candidates prior to the October vote will be at the October Annual Meeting in South Carolina. She added the second opportunity to meet the candidates was presented at the Leadership Issues Forum on July 18th and 19th, 2026. She noted Ms. Wolfe attended the forum as a member of the FSBPT Board of Directors, and Mr. Steele attended as the Pennsylvania delegate. She invited Mr. Steele to provided updates from his attendance.

Mr. Steele noted the meeting was very informative. He shared there is no planned increase to the NPTE exam fee until 2028. A Prescriptive Authority Task Force had been put together to work on potentially allowing physical therapists to have prescriptive authority related to DME imaging and some labs. He reported CAPTE (Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy) and ABPTRFE (American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education) are merging. An informational meeting is scheduled August 20, 2026.

Mr. Steele also reported there is a healthy

practice resource on the HRRI (Healthcare Regulatory Research Institute) website. The resource is anonymous and lets practitioners learn how they are doing as a practitioner and how their practice is doing in different areas.

Mr. Steele stated there was a lot of discussion at the meeting regarding the importance of public members and filing jurisdiction boards. He noted the Pennsylvania Board is working to bring more people on board. Mr. Steele also reported the Ethics and Legislative Committee had created an outreach letter template to educate and inform without lobbying for potential use with legislators and stakeholders. He concluded his remarks by noting the APTA (American Physical Therapy Association) and FSBPT are collaborating in various ways.

Chair Grzybek thanked Mr. Steele for his report. She shared she is looking forward to the October meeting in South Carolina. She reminded Board Members if they had any questions for the FSBPT candidates they could be sent to her or Mr. Steele using their pa.gov email addresses prior to October 12, 2026. She encouraged Board Members to review the monthly FSBPT news briefs and shared information regarding an upcoming webinar.]

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Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report.

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Report of Board Administrator

MR. BARRETT:

Moving on to the applications, at Item No. 11, based on Executive Session deliberations, I believe the Board Chair would entertain a motion to provisionally deny the initial application of Eva Shah.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Do I have a motion?

MR. RUBY:

Ruby, so moved.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a second?

MS. MACKELL:

Mackell, second.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

It's been moved and seconded. Does anyone have any further discussion on Item 11? Hearing none, let's go for the vote.

Grzybek, aye; Claggett, aye; Bonacci, aye; Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye; Wolfe, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MR. BARRETT:

And then at Item No. 12, Luke Thomas, initial application.

Based on Executive Session deliberations, I believe the Board Chair would entertain a motion to approve that application.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a motion?

MR. RUBY:

Ruby, so moved.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Is there a second?

MS. MACKELL:

Mackell, second.

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

It's been moved and seconded. Is there any further discussion? Hearing none, we'll go for the vote.

Grzybek, aye; Claggett, aye; Bonacci, aye; Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye; Wolfe, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

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Appointments - None

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Public Comment Period – No Comments

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Miscellaneous

[Geraldine Grzybek, Physical Therapist, Chairperson, noted the September 24, 2026 meeting was scheduled to be held at Central Penn College. She added the meeting would be in person with a virtual option.]

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Adjournment

CHAIR GRZYBEK:

Having no further business, we will adjourn this meeting at this time. I wish you all a great sunshine day and good August. I look forward to seeing you either in person or virtually in September. Thank you so much for your hard work.

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[There being no further business, the State Board Physical Therapy Meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.]

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CERTIFICATE

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

Jacob Hill

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

STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
REFERENCE INDEX

July 30, 2026

TIME	AGENDA
10:00	Executive Session
10:34	Return to Open Session
10:34	Official Call to Order
10:35	Roll Call/Introduction of Attendees
10:37	Approval of Minutes
10:38	Report of Regulatory Counsel
10:46	Report of Board Counsel
10:50	Report of Prosecution
10:53	Report of Board Chairperson
11:04	Report of Board Administrator
11:06	Miscellaneous
11:09	Adjournment