

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: 10:31 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 26, 2025

State Board of Physical Therapy  
September 26, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS:

Geraldine M. Grzybek, Physical Therapist, Chairperson  
Matthew Eaton, Deputy Commissioner, on behalf of  
Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau 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  
Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel  
William A. Newport, Esquire, Board Prosecution  
Liaison  
J. Karl Geschwindt, Esquire, Senior Board Prosecutor  
and Prosecution Liaison  
Adrianne McClendon, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
Emyline Breckenridge, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,  
Prosecution Division  
Riley Baker, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
Ronald Rouse, Esquire, PA Office of General Counsel  
Michelle Roberts, Board Administrator  
Stephanie Dunkerley, Legal Analyst, Office of General  
Counsel  
Danie Bendesky, Special Assistant for Strategic  
Initiatives, PA Department of State

ALSO PRESENT:

Melissa Dehoff, Director, Rehabilitation Services  
Divisions, Rehabilitation and Community Providers  
Association  
Jazmine Tooles, PT, DPT, President, American Physical  
Therapy Association Pennsylvania  
Sandy Campbell, PT, Ph.D, MBA, Adjunct Faculty,  
Widener University  
Jacob Hill, Sargent's Court Reporting Services, Inc.

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State Board of Physical Therapy

September 26, 2025

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[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 9:30 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 10:30 a.m.]

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The regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Physical Therapy was held on Friday, September 26, 2025.

\*\*\*

Official Call to Order

[Geraldine M. Grzybek, PT, GCS, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.]

\*\*\*

[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 this morning and conducted quasi-

1 judicial deliberations with the advice of counsel.]

2 \*\*\*

3 Roll Call of Board Members

4 [Geraldine M. Grzybek, PT, GCS, Chairperson, provided  
5 a roll call of Board members. A quorum was noted to  
6 be present.]

7 \*\*\*

8 Introduction of Attendees

9 [Michelle Roberts, Board Administrator, provided an  
10 introduction of attendees.]

11 \*\*\*

12 Approval of minutes of the July 31, 2025 meeting

13 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

14 The first order of business is the  
15 approval of the Minutes of July 31,  
16 2025.

17 Does anyone have any corrections  
18 or edits to the minutes?

19 [The Board discussed four changes to the minutes.]

20 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

21 Anyone else have anything else?

22 Hearing none, may I have a motion  
23 to approve the minutes with recommended  
24 edits?

25 MR. RUBY:

1 Ruby, so moved.

2 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

3 Do I have a second?

4 MS. MACKELL:

5 Mackell, second.

6 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

7 It has been moved and seconded. If  
8 you're in favor, please signify by  
9 responding aye. I'll do the roll call.

10

11 Grzybek, aye; Eaton, aye; Bonacci, aye;  
12 Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye;  
13 Wolfe, aye.

14 [The motion carried unanimously.]

15 \*\*\*

16 Report of the Prosecution

17 [Emyline Breckenridge, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
18 presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda Item No.  
19 2, Case No. 21-65-007231.]

20 MR. BARRETT:

21 Based on the presentation and  
22 discussions, I believe the Board Chair  
23 would entertain a motion to approve the  
24 Consent Agreement and Order at Case No.  
25 21-65-007231.

1 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

2 Is there a motion?

3 MR. RUBY:

4 Ruby, so moved.

5 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

6 Ruby moved. Is there a second?

7 MS. MACKELL:

8 Mackell, second.

9 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

10 It's moved and seconded. Thank you so  
11 much Mr. Barrett. We'll go to the  
12 vote.

13

14 Grzybek, aye; Eaton, aye; Bonacci, aye;  
15 Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye;  
16 Wolfe, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent at  
18 Case No. 21-65-007231 is Jacqueline R Exley, PT.]

19 \*\*\*

20 Appointment - Shana Walter, Deputy Chief Counsel for  
21 Prosecution

22 [Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,  
23 Prosecution Division, introduced herself as the new  
24 Deputy Chief Counsel. She provided a summary of her  
25 professional background with the Department. She

1 offered to always be available for prosecution  
2 questions.]

3 \*\*\*

4 Report of Board Counsel

5 [Sean Barrett, Esquire, Board Counsel reported the  
6 Compact is progressing. He hoped to have updates at  
7 the Board's next meeting.]

8 \*\*\*

9 Report of Regulatory Counsel - Status of Regulations

10 [Thomas M. Davis, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel  
11 presented on the status of regulations. He noted a  
12 written Regulatory Report provided for the Board's  
13 review; however, no regulations had moved to their  
14 next phase since the Board's last meeting.

15 Mr. Davis provided a copy of the proposed Annex  
16 and proposed Preamble for Regulation 16A-6523,  
17 Licensure by Endorsement. He explained the  
18 regulation would be presented to the Board as edits  
19 are made. He noted, with Board approval, the  
20 regulation could be moved to the Office of General  
21 Counsel before the final steps.

22 Mr. Davis explained, when the regulation was  
23 first written, it made sense to include a definition  
24 of what it means to be actively engaged in physical  
25 therapy, the reasoning for the 200 hours of active

1 patient engagement to be a requirement. Mr. Davis  
2 stated, upon reviewing the proposed regulation and  
3 speaking with Board Counsel, he removed the 200-hour  
4 requirement of active patient engagement for  
5 licensure by endorsement. He added the definition of  
6 physical therapy does include administrative roles,  
7 not just patient engagement. Administrative roles,  
8 while not including active patient engagement, do  
9 qualify as the practice of physical therapy.]

10 \*\*\*

11 MR. DAVIS:

12 Based upon discussions in open session,  
13 I believe the Chair would accept a  
14 motion approving proposed Regulation  
15 16A-5323, Licensure by Endorsement as  
16 presented by Regulatory Counsel this  
17 date and directing Regulatory Counsel  
18 to promulgate this proposed regulation  
19 through the regulatory review process.

20 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

21 Thank you. Is there a motion?

22 MR. RUBY:

23 Ruby, so moved.

24 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

25 Ruby moved. Is there a second?



1 MS. MACKELL:

2 Mackell, second.

3 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

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

6 Hearing none, we'll go the vote.  
7 Signify by saying aye in approval.

8

9 Grzybek, aye; Eaton, aye; Bonacci, aye;  
10 Mackell, aye; Ruby, aye; Steele, aye;  
11 Wolfe, aye.

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13 \*\*\*

14 Report of Board Chairperson

15 [Geraldine Grzybek, Physical Therapist, Chairperson,  
16 noted with the retirement of Michelle Roberts,  
17 Commonwealth Administrator. Paul Keller will serve  
18 as the Interim Board Administrator until a permanent  
19 staff member is appointed. She added Mr. Keller has  
20 served a variety of boards and is very understanding  
21 of the behind-the-scenes activity of the Physical  
22 Therapy Board. She further added David Schenck will  
23 continue to work with Mr. Keller as he did with Ms.  
24 Roberts.

25 Chair Grzybek thanked Mr. Eaton and Acting

1 Commissioner Claggett for authorizing an email blast  
2 to inform licensees and certificate holders of recent  
3 updates to the physical therapy law. The emails  
4 included information regarding the implementation of  
5 Regulation 16A-6522 to the 49th Pennsylvania Code,  
6 Chapter 40, Title 49, the Professional and Vocational  
7 Standards.

8       The email also included information regarding the  
9 full implementation of the PT Compact, effective July  
10 7, 2025. The Compact permits Pennsylvania Physical  
11 Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants to apply  
12 for compact privilege to practice in Pennsylvania and  
13 other compact member states. The email offered a  
14 reference to additional information on the Board's  
15 website.

16       Chair Grzybek thanked Mr. Steele for delivering a  
17 presentation on the National Physical Therapy  
18 Examination to physical therapy students at the  
19 University of Scranton on September 17, 2025.

20       Chair Grzybek provided updates regarding the  
21 Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy  
22 (FSBPT). She thanked Ms. Wolfe for her continued  
23 service with the FSBPT Board of Directors. Upcoming  
24 webinars include October 15, 2025, Final Orders;  
25 November 18, 2025, Expanding PT Practice Into Health

1 and Wellness Services; and December 17, 2025, A Year  
2 in Review. She encouraged Board Members to sign up  
3 for the webinars and to share ideas for future  
4 webinars with the FSBPT Educational Committee. She  
5 also noted FSBPT appointed Pennsylvania Licensee  
6 William Stoddard to the Task Force for reference  
7 expansion.

8 Chair Grzybek stated the FSBPT will be conducting  
9 their annual delegate meeting as a virtual meeting on  
10 October 15, 2025, with a physical meeting in Spokane,  
11 Washington, from October 23-25, 2025. She reported  
12 Lisa Mackell is the Board's delegate with herself as  
13 the alternate. Chair Grzybek explained the FSBPT  
14 officers would be elected at the meeting. She  
15 reviewed the candidates and encouraged Board Members  
16 to reach out to either Ms. Mackell or herself with  
17 feedback.

18 Chair Grzybek shared thoughts on the retirement  
19 of Ms. Roberts. She noted Ms. Roberts had served the  
20 Commonwealth for 24 years and was with the Physical  
21 Therapy Board for the past 18 years. She praised Ms.  
22 Roberts for her wisdom, poise, precision, and  
23 thoughtful attention to detail. She noted Ms.  
24 Roberts had answered countless questions from  
25 potential licensees, potential certificate holders,

1 licensed physical therapists, PTA credential holders,  
2 and Board Members. She added Ms. Roberts  
3 contributions to the Board's work shaped the Board in  
4 ways that will last long after her retirement. She  
5 expressed sadness at Ms. Roberts retirement but  
6 excitement for her to embrace her new chapter in  
7 life. Chair Grzybek concluded by congratulating Ms.  
8 Roberts and expressing gratitude on behalf of the  
9 Board and all PTs and PT assistants in Pennsylvania.

10 Sandy Campbell, PT, Ph.D, MBA, Adjunct Faculty,  
11 Widener University, former Board Vice Chair, thanked  
12 Ms. Roberts for her years of tireless service to the  
13 Boards. She noted, during the COVID era, Ms. Roberts  
14 continued to issue new licenses after NPTE results in  
15 two to three days while a surrounding states took six  
16 to seven weeks. Ms. Campbell added the quality and  
17 consistency of Ms. Roberts' contributions to  
18 Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania's licensees was  
19 superior.

20 Ms. Roberts thanked everyone for their remarks.  
21 She looked forward to her next chapter but will miss  
22 the people she worked with.]

23 \*\*\*

24 Report of Acting Commissioner

25 [Matthew Eaton, Deputy Commissioner, on behalf of

1 Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of  
2 Professional and Occupational Affairs, echoed the  
3 sentiments shared for Ms. Roberts regarding her  
4 retirement. He thanked her for her contributions to  
5 not just the Physical Therapy Board but also the  
6 Veterinary Medicine Board. He noted her work for the  
7 Commonwealth is unmatched and she is irreplaceable.]

8 \*\*\*

9 Public Comment Period - No Comments.

10 \*\*\*

11 Adjournment

12 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

13 Does anyone have anything else to add  
14 to this meeting? Anyone in the gallery  
15 have anything to add?

16 Hearing none, I call for a motion  
17 for this meeting to be adjourned. Is  
18 there a motion?

19 MR. RUBY:

20 Ruby moved.

21 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

22 Ruby moved, is there a second?

23 MS. MACKELL:

24 Second.

25 CHAIR GRZYBEK:

1                   Okay, this meeting is adjourned. We  
2                   will see you in November. And again,  
3                   God bless, Michelle, and good luck.

4                   \*\*\*

5 [There being no further business, the State Board  
6 Physical Therapy Meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.]

7                   \*\*\*

8  
9                   CERTIFICATE

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

17  
18  
19                   

20                   Jacob Hill,

21                   Minute Clerk

22                   Sargent's Court Reporting  
23                   Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY  
REFERENCE INDEX

September 26, 2025

TIME	AGENDA
9:30	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:31	Official Call to Order
10:31	Roll Call/Introduction of Attendees
10:35	Approval of Minutes
10:36	Report of Prosecution
10:38	Appointment - Shana Walter
10:41	Report of Board Counsel
10:42	Report of Regulatory Counsel
10:47	Report of Board Chairperson
11:00	Report of Commissioner
11:01	Adjournment