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 PODIATRY

TIME: 10:37 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

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

State Board of Podiatry
April 15, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

Deidre Bowers, Division Chief, Medical, Osteopathic, and Podiatry Boards, designee for Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs
Christopher A. Seda, D.P.M., Chairman
Steven Shannon, D.P.M., Vice Chairman - Absent
Edwin Hart, D.P.M., Secretary
Eric B. Greenberg, D.P.M., J.D.
Walker Kmetz, Public Member

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Ashley Keefer Jones, Esquire, Board Counsel
Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Paul J. Jarabeck, Esquire, Senior Prosecutor-In-Charge
Timothy Henderson, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Priscilla Turek, Board Administrator
Jason C. Giurintano, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel, Counsel Division
Taylor Koch, Fiscal Chief, Bureau of Finance and Procurement
Tamie Laudenslager, Fiscal Management Specialist, Bureau of Finance and Procurement

ALSO PRESENT:

Mike Barth, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association
Michael Paris, D.P.M.
Laurie Elliott, Sargent’s Court Reporting Service, Inc.

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State Board of Podiatry

April 15, 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 Ashley Keefer Jones, Esquire, Board Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters that are currently pending before the Board and to receive the 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 Podiatry was held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026. Christopher A. Seda, D.P.M., Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m.

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[Ashley Keefer Jones, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act that the Board entered into Executive Session for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters that are currently pending before the Board and to receive the advice of counsel.

Ms. Keefer Jones also noted the meeting was being recorded and those who continued to participate were giving their consent to being recorded.]

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Introduction of Board Members/Attendees

[Priscilla Turek, Board Administrator, provided an introduction of the Board members, staff, and audience in attendance. A quorum of Board members was present.]

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Approval of Minutes

MS. KEEFER JONES:

I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to adopt the meeting minutes of the December 17, 2025 meeting as presented. Is there a motion?

DR. HART:

So moved, Hart.

DR. GREENBERG:

Second.

Christopher Seda, aye; Deidre Bowers, abstain; Edwin Hart, aye; Eric Greenburg, aye; Walker Kmetz, abstain.

[The motion carried. Ms. Bowers and Dr. Kmetz abstained from voting on the motion.]

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MS. KEEFER JONES:
I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to adopt the meeting minutes of the February 18, 2026 meeting as presented.

DR. HART:
So moved, Hart.

DR. GREENBERG:
Second.

Christopher Seda, aye; Deidre Bowers, abstain; Edwin Hart, abstain; Eric Greenburg, abstain; Walker Kmetz, abstain.

[The motion carried. Ms. Bowers, Dr. Hart, Dr. Greenberg and Dr. Kmetz abstained from voting on the motion.]

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Appointment - Annual Financial Presentation

[Taylor Koch, Fiscal Chief, Bureau of Finance and Procurement (BFP), presented the annual financial report and fee package recommendation. He first showed a breakdown of the licensee accounts over the last six fiscal years. He noted the Board had almost

1,500 licensees in the prior biennium and roughly 1,479 licensees in the current biennium. He noted the Board only has one licensed class, the doctor of podiatric medicine. He added the Board renews in January of odd years with the next one scheduled for January 2027. The current renewal fee is $395 and the last approved fee increase was in 2002.

Mr. Koch presented a breakdown of revenue by sources. He noted the prior FY22/23 biennium total revenue and the current FY24/25 biennium projected total revenue. He noted the dip in revenue was due to the drop in licensee count. 97 percent of revenue is projected to come from renewals and applications.

Mr. Koch next reviewed the expenses, noting prior biennium expenses and the current biennium projected expenses. He explained expenses are derived in two categories, administrative and legal. Within the two categories, the expenses can be charged in three ways, timesheet based, direct charges, and licensee population. He attributed the spike in expenses in the 2025 budget to the licensing modernization project. He explained the licensing modernization costs. He also noted there is an overall higher cost of doing business which has been factored in.

Dr. Hart asked what item covered the

modernization project.

Mr. Koch replied the modernization costs were scattered throughout with a lot of the costs allocated in Board administration and the bulk in legal administration.

Dr. Hart questioned what licensees would see on their end with the modernization.

Ms. Keefer Jones stated it would be best to wait for Acting Commissioner Claggett as he had been spearheading the project. She noted the overall user experience for licensees would be easier.

Dr. Hart explained how New Hampshire has streamlined their CME process and wondered if the modernization project would include a similar process.

Chair Seda asked how BFP handled surpluses and deficits in the budget.

Mr. Koch explained BFP encompasses a renewal year and a non-renewal year for each biennium to account for ups and downs in the overall budget. He noted BFP does not want to curb any boards in terms of their expenses or revenues in just one specific fiscal year.

He stated BFP planned to monitor all of the numbers more frequently along with Acting

Commissioner Claggett, the legal team and Regulatory Counsel. In addition, he planned to provide additional interim reports to the Board throughout the fiscal year.

Chair Seda noted there was a balance sheet whether it was annual or biannual. He added the budget will not balance exactly and questioned what was the answer to his previous question.

Mr. Koch reiterated the budget is a snapshot in time of when the report was compiled. He explained the interim meetings will allow BFP to narrow down projections to more align the budget with reality. The BFP projected budget for FY25 at the time of the report was prepared was noted; however, after June 30, 2026, a more concrete number would be available. The financials would then be adapted based off of actual numbers. He stated based on everything BFP has compiled, they have presented the most accurate representation possible. He stressed the importance of continued monitoring and constant contact with people like the legal team to ensure BFP is not giving the Board inaccurate data.

Mr. Koch explained BFP does not want to base a fee increase package on historical data that is no longer relevant but wanted to look at real-time data and numbers including license counts, current budgets, and what may be coming down the pipe.

Mr. Koch next reviewed a slide showing the expenses and revenues brought together. He noted the figure in the beginning of FY22; however, the Board had overspent, cutting into the account balance. He explained the numbers shown were the most accurate projection BFP could provide at the current point in time. He noted future projections included cost of living increases and maintenance fees for the licensing modernization. He noted the consistent factor in the projections is the revenue fee of $395.

Dr. Greenberg asked what the vendors had the most expenditures each year. Mr. Koch noted one of the expenses would be the stenographer for Board meetings. He noted vendors would also include the various licensing modernization items, as well as things like postage and travel. He noted the costs may not be considered outside vendors but more absorbed costs that each board has. He stated the majority of the costs come from timesheet-based expenses which vary by Board so a specific number cannot be determined. He explained the Board is operating in a deficit and by law BFP has to present a fee increase.

Dr. Greenberg asked if there was a breakdown of the timesheet costs that showed what department constituted the majority of the costs.

Mr. Koch showed a breakdown of the expenses from the prepared fee package presentation which showed Prosecution accounted for the majority of costs.

Mr. Jarabeck explained some of the Prosecution costs come from experts who review cases. In addition, Prosecution attorneys are paid based on years of experience and time in their position. He noted the initial application fee has been set for a long period of time and has not been adjusted for cost of business and how individual cost for employment has increased since the last fee increase.

Dr. Greenberg asked if there was any way the Board could see the hourly fees being paid to experts used by Prosecution.

Mr. Jarabeck explained the fees are built into any formal charges filed. When the cost of investigation is indicated, the cost of the expert is included. He noted if a case is investigated but charges are not brought forth, the expert cost would be reported as part of the expenditures in the budget however the costs would not be publicized since the case was closed with no charges.

Mr. Koch next reviewed the fee package recommendation from BFP. He echoed his previous statement of approximately 96 percent of revenue is derived from renewals and applications. He noted the slide showed a breakdown of application types including current fees, anticipated number of each application, and the total amount derived from each type.

Mr. Koch presented a breakdown of the proposed application fee increases which were last adjusted in 2003. He stated the application fees should be adjusted to match the actual cost of processing each application type. Application fees cannot be a profit builder but should capture the time spent reviewing and approving applications so the Board is not losing any money. The proposed increases would go into effect in December 2028. He stressed the Board can legally only charge what the cost is to process the application. He noted the largest increase was to the reactivation and licensure by examination fees which would go from $25 and $30 respectively, to $126 for both applications. He noted BFP included another five percent increase for the next two biennium to adjust for cost-of-living increases as the economy becomes more expensive. He explained the application fee increases will start to help but will not be enough to get the Board out of a deficit.

Dr. Hart questioned why the fees for CE applications was not being increased.

Mr. Koch noted there was a future increase which started in December 2030 for that biennium as part of the cost-of-living adjustments. He explained ultimately, the Board cannot charge more then what it costs to process the application which is why the current $75 fee is not being changed initially with the rest of the fees.

Ms. Keefer Jones noted the only CE applications received by the Board are twice a year from Jefferson Northeast for a total of four applications a biennium.

Mr. Koch explained BFP was recommending a 30 percent increase for renewal fees which would change the renewal fees from $395 to $514 in December 2028. The two biennia after would have the same five percent increase for cost-of-living increases. The increases from both applications and renewals will bring in enough revenue to bring the Board back into the positive. He stated if the package was approved, the Regulatory team would begin the process to implement the fees. The process takes approximately two years which is why the proposal is for December 2028.

Mr. Koch showed the Board how the revenue will change based on the fee increases. He noted because the Board operates independently from other boards, it is imperative to keep the restricted balance at a healthy amount to avoid any financial trouble. He concluded by stating the Board could address any future questions to the Board Administrator who can pass them along. He also hoped Acting Commissioner Claggett could provide the requested clarification on the licensing modernization project.]

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MS. KEEFER JONES:

So I believe they are looking for a motion to approve moving forward with a fee increase regulatory package.

CHAIR SEDA:

So, yes, I guess I'll do a motion to do the fee increase.

MS. KEEFER JONES:

Okay, so we have a motion. Do we have a second?

DR. GREENBERG:

Second.

[There was a brief explanation that noted the motion was to authorize Regulatory Counsel to draft a regulation to present to the Board for discussion at that time.]

Christopher Seda, aye; Deidre Bowers, abstain; Edwin Hart, aye; Eric Greenburg, aye; Walker Kmetz, aye.

[The motion carried. Ms. Bowers abstained from voting on the motion.]

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[Mr. Koch offered to return later in the year with an interim financial report to show how the current fiscal year ends.]

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Report of Prosecutors

[Timothy Henderson, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison, presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda Item No. 5, Case Nos. 25-44-014690 and 25-44-014691.]

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MS. KEEFER JONES:

Is there anything in Attorney Henderson's presentation that will cause Board Members to want to go back into Executive Session?

Seeing none, I believe the Board Chair would entertain a motion to adopt the Consent Agreement and Order at Case No. 25-44-014690 and Case No. 25-44-014691.

DR. HART:

I make a motion.

DR. GREENBERG:

I second those motions.

MS. KEEFER JONES:

And I would just note that Dr. Seda is recused.

Christopher Seda, recused; Deidre Bowers, abstain; Edwin Hart, aye; Eric Greenburg, aye; Walker Kmetz, aye.

[The motion carried. Dr. Seda was recused from deliberations and voting on the matter. Ms. Bowers abstained from deliberations and voting on the matter. The Respondent for Agenda Item No. 5, Case Nos. 25-44-014690 and 25-44-014691 is Irina Y. Gross, DPM.]

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Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Status Report

[Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel explained most items were continuing as previously reported with no significant changes. She noted Regulation 16A-4420, regarding Radiologic Procedures, had been delivered to Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) on February 9, 2026 and opened for public comment. No public comments or legislative comments were received. IRRC had not yet commented but had until April 22, 2026 to provide comments.

Ashley Keefer Jones, Esquire, Board Counsel, reported on Regulation 16A-4421, General Revisions, that she had provided the Board with two items to look at. The first was the section of the General Revisions draft previously reviewed which pertained to the Standards of Professional Conduct along with the American Podiatric Medical Association's Code of Ethics. A suggestion had been received from Senior Regulatory Counsel that the Board may want to consider adopting the APMA Code of Ethics as the Standards of Professional Conduct.

Ms. Keefer Jones stated the second point of discussion was surrounding the Code of Ethics from Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association (PPMA). She noted the PPMA Code of Ethics was published in September 2013 while the APMA Code of Ethics was published in March 2022. She noted there are some aspects of the APMA Code of Ethics which are not included in the PPMA version. She recommended the Board consider having a discussion regarding the two versions and perhaps having Mr. Barth from PPMA explain the differences for further clarification. It was decided to table the discussion until the June meeting and invite Mr. Barth to present.]

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Report of Board Counsel

MS. KEEFER JONES:

Moving on to Item No. 7 on the Agenda, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to grant the Commonwealth motion to Enter Default and Deem Facts Admitted and authorize Counsel to draft and issue an Adjudication and Order in accordance with the discussions in Executive Sessions for Item No. 7, David Calderone, D.P.M., Case No. 24-44-018816.

DR. HART:

I'll make the motion.

DR. GREENBERG:

Second the motion.

Christopher Seda, aye; Deidre Bowers, abstain; Edwin Hart, aye; Eric Greenburg, aye; Walker Kmetz, aye.

[The motion carried. Ms. Bowers abstained from voting on the motion.]

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MS. KEEFER JONES:

Moving on to Item No. 8 on the Board's Agenda. This is the Proposed Report.

In the matter of Michael Karason, D.P.M., I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to adopt the Hearing Examiner's Proposed Report and substitute Board Order.

DR. HART:

I make a motion that we adopt the Report and substitute Board Order.

DR. GREENBERG:

I second that.

Christopher Seda, aye; Deidre Bowers, abstain; Edwin Hart, aye; Eric Greenburg, aye; Walker Kmetz, aye.

[The motion carried. Ms. Bowers abstained from voting on the motion.]

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MS. KEEFER JONES:

For Item Nos. 9 and 10 on the Board Agenda, I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to ratify the approval of Jefferson Health Northeast applications for CE programs.

DR. HART:

I make a motion to ratify those CE programs.

DR. GREENBERG:

Second.

Christopher Seda, aye; Deidre Bowers, abstain; Edwin Hart, aye; Eric Greenburg, aye; Walker Kmetz, aye.

[The motion carried. Ms. Bowers abstained from voting on the motion.]

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Report of Board Chair - No Report

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Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report.

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Report of Board Administrator

[Priscilla Turek, Board Administrator, provided an update on American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examination (APMLE) scores were no longer being provided through the Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards. All score reports are now being handled through the National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners (NBPME) and their Meazure Learning Connect Portal. Applicants can request their scores through the portal and Meazure Learning sends the reports directly to the Board and Applicant via PDFS by email. The PDFs do not include authentication or some form of tamper-proof feature. She stated the question was if the Board wished to accept the scores only from Meazure Learning or if they would also accept the PDFs directly from applicants.

Chair Seda noted the topic had previously been discussed.

Ms. Keefer Jones stated the Board had been unable to take a vote on the topic in February due to a lack of quorum.

After a brief discussion, the Board agreed the scores should come directly from the Meazure Learning Connect Portal and not from the applicant.]

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MS. KEEFER JONES:

I believe the Chair would entertain a motion to accept AMPLE scores only from Meazure Learning via their secured portal.

DR. HART:

I make the motion that we receive these scores through the secured portal alone.

DR. GREENBERG:

Second.

Christopher Seda, aye; Deidre Bowers, abstain; Edwin Hart, aye; Eric Greenburg, aye; Walker Kmetz, aye.

[The motion carried. Ms. Bowers abstained from voting on the motion.]

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Report of Committees - No Report

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Report of Board Members Who Attended a Meeting on Behalf of the Board - No Report

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For the Board's Information/Discussion - No Items

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Public Comment - No Comments

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Adjournment

CHAIR SEDA:

Our Board Meeting dates for the rest of 2026 and 2027 are listed on the Agenda as well as on the website. Anything else?

Motion to adjourn?

DR. HART:

Motion to adjourn, Hart.

DR. GREENBERG:

Second.

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[There being no further business, the State Board of Podiatry Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.]

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CERTIFICATE

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

Laurie Elliott
Minute Clerk
Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF PODIATRY
REFERENCE INDEX

April 15, 2026

TIME	AGENDA
10:00	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:37	Official Call to Order
10:38	Introduction of Board Members/Attendees
10:38	Approval of Minutes
10:42	Appointment - Annual Prosecution Report
11:25	Regulatory Status Report
11:29	Report of Board Counsel
11:32	Report of Board Administrator
11:35	Adjournment