

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 PSYCHOLOGY

TIME: 10:31 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, PA 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

June 15, 2026

State Board of Psychology
June 15, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair
Arion Claggett, Acting Commissioner of Professional
and Occupational Affairs
David Zehrung, Ph.D., Vice Chair
Jade Logan, Ph.D.
Daniel Warner, Ph.D.

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Lindsay Szymanski, Esquire, Board Counsel
Sparkle Thompson, Board Administrator
Jacqueline Wolfgang, Esquire, Senior Regulatory
Counsel
Todd Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Liliana Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Nicholas Kahler, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Senior Counsel, PA Office
of General Counsel
Holly Hoffman, Legal Analyst, Department of State
Danie Bendesky, Special Assistant for Strategic
Initiatives
Alexa Davies, Legal Intern

ALSO PRESENT:

Rachael Baturin, MPH, JD, Deputy Executive Director
Pennsylvania Psychological Association
Andrew Worek, Attorney, Eckert Seamans
Bill Ryan, Senior Lobbyist, Saxton & Stump Lawyers
and Consultants
Paul Kettlewell, Ph.D., APA Representative,
Pennsylvania Psychological Association
Erin Badstuebner, Sargent's Court Reporting Service,
Inc.

1 ***

2 State Board of Psychology

3 June 15, 2026

4 ***

5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
6 at 9:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session
7 with Lindsay Szymanski, Esquire, Board Counsel, for
8 the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
9 deliberations on a number of matters that are
10 currently pending before the Board and to receive the
11 advice of counsel.]

12 ***

13 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
14 Board of Psychology was held on Monday, June 15,
15 2026. Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair, called the
16 meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

17 ***

18 [Lindsay Szymanski, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the
19 meeting was being recorded, and voluntary
20 participation constituted consent to be recorded.

21 Ms. Szymanski stated the Board entered into
22 Executive Session for the purpose of conducting
23 quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters
24 that are currently pending before the Board and to
25 receive the advice of counsel.]

[Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair, requested an introduction of Board members and attendees. A quorum of Board members was present.]

Approval of Minutes - December 15, 2025

CHAIR MCALEER:

I assume everyone has had an opportunity to review the minutes from the April meeting. Are there any corrections, addition, modifications that anyone's been able to identify?

Hearing none, may I have a motion to accept the minutes?

DR. WARNER:

I motion to accept the minutes.

CHAIR MCALEER:

And may I have a second please?

DR. LOGAN:

I second.

CHAIR MCALEER:

Thank you, can we have a vote?

McAleer, aye; Claggett, aye; Zehrung, aye; Logan, aye; Warner, aye.

1 [The motion carried unanimously.]

2 ***

3 Appointment - Pennsylvania Psychological Association
4 Presentation

5 [Rachael Baturin, MPH, JD, Deputy Executive Director
6 Pennsylvania Psychological Association (PPA),
7 discussed working to introduce legislation that would
8 create a psychological associate license. The
9 legislation would be separate from the master's
10 licensure legislation. The legislation would create
11 a license for postdocs and interns to allow them to
12 be reimbursed for services provided while doing their
13 postdoc experience as well as their internship
14 experience. She noted, during the discussions for
15 RxP (prescriptive privileges), PPA was asked by
16 legislators how the psychologist workforce could be
17 improved. She explained one issue that has arisen
18 over the years is that psychological students have a
19 difficult time getting postdoctoral experience and
20 have not been able to be reimbursed for their
21 services. PPA sees the legislation as a way to
22 increase the number of postdocs and assist with the
23 number of internship sites in Pennsylvania.

24 Ms. Baturin noted, while the Board does allow for
25 practicum to count towards postdoc hours, there are

1 still mobility issues as some states do not recognize
2 the practicum experience. She added PPA plans to
3 focus on the psychological associate license for
4 students before returning to working on master's
5 licensure. She also noted a similar license was
6 established for marriage and family therapists (MFTs)
7 and social workers. Discussions with various
8 insurers have revealed they would provide a way for
9 people to be enumerated if the license was
10 established.

11 Ms. Baturin informed the Board there would be a
12 co-sponsorship memo circulated for the legislation.
13 She stated PPA has a prime sponsor for the bill and
14 has completed the sunrise application. She brought
15 the legislation to the Board's attention to see if it
16 supported the idea of creating the licensure.

17 Dr. Zehrung commented other jurisdictions have
18 psychology associates. He noted Ms. Baturin had
19 mentioned pros of the idea but asked if she had
20 encountered any cons that the Board would have to
21 keep in mind should the legislation come to fruition.

22 Ms. Baturin had not heard of any cons from the
23 states she had spoken with. She added creating the
24 license may give more protection to people, because
25 it would identify the people doing the service. She

1 explained, under the current model, the supervisor is
2 responsible for the services of the student, and the
3 student cannot be held responsible as they are not
4 licensed. The new license would allow both the
5 supervisor and the student to be held liable if the
6 services are incompetent.

7 Acting Commissioner Claggett commented the Board
8 was not in a position to say if they supported or
9 opposed the licensure. The Board could only hear Ms.
10 Baturin out and ask questions without expressing an
11 opinion.

12 Chair McAleer shared the issue is reminiscent of
13 past discussion regarding psychologists could have
14 psychometricians administer tests and get
15 reimbursement for the psychometrician's activities.
16 He stated that effort was mostly with insurance
17 companies and was very beneficial, allowing the
18 public to get necessary services.

19 Dr. Logan asked if there had been any thoughts
20 surrounding implementation and potential added cost
21 barriers on students or interns.

22 Ms. Baturin replied, as proposed, the license
23 application cost would be \$75, the same as for MFTs.

24 Paul Kettlewell, Ph.D., APA Representative,
25 Pennsylvania Psychological Association, noted PPA

1 stated it was possible salaries may increase as the
2 organizations who run internships and postdocs would
3 be able to generate more revenue.

4 Dr. Warner recalled getting a phone call every
5 couple of years questioning the status of a master's
6 level psychologist because of how the supervision
7 works. He thought the legislation might bring some
8 clarity to situations where a person is out of their
9 graduate program but not yet licensed. He added what
10 he heard was that the proposed legislation would
11 create a clear space where someone who is out of
12 their internship can have an official relationship
13 with a group practice, and it would be clear on how
14 they could bill.

15 Ms. Baturin noted many people who were having
16 problems were getting their postdoc but being unable
17 to bill insurances. Those people would then get
18 their licensed professional counselor (LPC) license
19 and have to work halftime as an LPC and halftime
20 doing their postdoc hours, thereby taking twice as
21 long to complete the postdoc. The legislation would
22 eliminate the need for students to get the additional
23 LPC license.

24 Dr. Zehrung asked what was envisioned in terms of
25 scope of practice for psychology associates in

1 Pennsylvania.

2 Ms. Baturin explained psychology associates would
3 only be allowed to do what postdocs and interns are
4 allowed to do. They would still be under the
5 supervision of a psychologist who is in control of
6 the practice and oversees the actions of the
7 psychology associate. She emphasized it would not be
8 an independent licensure and was mainly a way for
9 them to be able to bill insurance.

10 When asked, Ms. Baturin stated the legislation
11 would start as a House bill introduced by
12 Representative Boyd.]

13 ***

14 Report of the Prosecutorial Division
15 [Liliana Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, on behalf
16 of J. Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
17 presented the Consent Agreement and Order for Agenda
18 Item 4, Case No. 25-63-008202.]

19 ***

20 MS. SZYMANSKI:

21 Regarding the Consent Agreement at Item
22 No. 4 on your Agenda, Case No. 25-63-
23 008202.

24 After discussion in Executive
25 Session, I believe the Chair would

1 entertain a motion to reject this
2 Consent Agreement.

3 [After additional clarification from Jason T.
4 Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, the decision was
5 made to reenter Executive Session later in the
6 meeting to discuss the matter further.]

7 ***

8 Report of Board Counsel

9 MS. SZYMANSKI:

10 Item No. 5 on your Agenda is the
11 extension request of a provisional
12 endorsement license of Ivan Vazquez-
13 Torres.

14 I believe the Chair would entertain
15 a motion to approve the provisional
16 endorsement license extension for up to
17 three months of Dr. Ivan Vasquez-
18 Torres, Item No. 5 on your Agenda, Case
19 No. 26-63-006577. Are there any
20 questions?

21 CHAIR MCALEER:

22 Hearing none, may we have the vote?

23 DR. WARNER:

24 I'd like to make a motion to vote.

25 DR. LOGAN:

1 I second.

2 CHAIR MCALEER:

3 Thank you.

4

5 McAleer, aye; Claggett, aye; Zehrung,
6 aye; Logan, aye; Warner, aye.

7 [The motion carried unanimously.]

8

9 Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report

10 [Jacqueline Wolfgang, Esquire, Senior Regulatory
11 Counsel, noted the Board had four pending
12 regulations. She noted the written status report for
13 the Board's review and information. She stated
14 Regulation 16A-6317, continuing education (CE), would
15 update Section 41.59 of the regulations. 16A-6317
16 would clarify CE requirements with respect to
17 expanding distance education to allow for 100 percent
18 online education; add suicide prevention and
19 diversity requirements; revise sponsor and record
20 keeping standards; clarify reactivation,
21 reinstatement and waiver provisions; and improve
22 overall organization and consistency.

23 Ms. Wolfgang explained the regulation was
24 published May 31, 2025 with a 30-day comment period.
25 Independent Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC)

1 submitted comments recommending clarifying changes
2 including making the list of approved specialist
3 sponsors available on the Board's website; clarifying
4 distance education requirements; requiring written
5 explanations for waiver denials; and making
6 terminology and citations more consistent throughout
7 the regulations. She provided the Board with a draft
8 Annex and Preamble with amendments reflecting IRRC's
9 comments, which she stated helped to clarify the
10 Board's intent and does not substantively change the
11 content of the regulation.

12 Dr. Zehrung questioned the definition of distance
13 which he was unable to find. Ms. Wolfgang understood
14 the Board's intent was that distance education
15 includes both synchronous and asynchronous. When Dr.
16 Zehrung asked if the definition would be articulated
17 in the update, Ms. Wolfgang apologized for an
18 administrative mix-up which caused the Annex to be
19 provided to the Board late. She noted the Board
20 would not be voting on the regulation at the meeting
21 as they had an additional comment to review, which
22 was sent to a number of boards.

23 Ms. Wolfgang explained the additional comment was
24 from Kayden's Korner, a national safe parent
25 organization. The comment urged the Board to

1 promulgate regulations relating to domestic violence
2 and child abuse training, custody evaluators, court
3 experts, reunification therapy, parental alienation
4 theory, and implementation of the federal Kayden's
5 Law. She stated Pennsylvania had implemented the
6 federal Kayden's Law thorough Act 107 of 2024, signed
7 on April 15, 2024. She noted certain CE requirements
8 are applicable to individual psychologists who work
9 in child custody settings. She will put the comment
10 on the Agenda for review at the next meeting along
11 with the Annex.]

12 ***

13 Report of Board Chairperson

14 [Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chairperson, reported on
15 attending the Association of State and Provincial
16 Psychology Boards (ASPPB) mid-winter meeting with Dr.
17 Logan in April in Charlotte, North Carolina. He
18 stated the primary theme of the meeting was AI, how
19 AI is moving into the profession and issues
20 surrounding AI.

21 Chair McAleer reported from his Board Chairs
22 meeting notes, stating there were 14 jurisdictions in
23 attendance and open discussion occurred. All
24 jurisdictions continue to require CE as part of the
25 requirement for continued licensure. However, he

1 reported the CE varied widely in terms of types of
2 education and number of hours. He added, while the
3 majority of jurisdictions require a jurisprudence
4 examination, the PPLE in Pennsylvania, some
5 jurisdictions do not require a jurisprudence
6 examination. He noted one jurisdiction moved their
7 jurisprudence into their CE requirements. In
8 addition, Kansas is considering requiring background
9 checks for licensure. His takeaway was that there is
10 considerable variation across all jurisdictions.

11 Chair McAleer reported many jurisdictions, like
12 Pennsylvania, are pursuing psychopharmacology and
13 licensure for properly trained psychologists to
14 prescribe a limited formulary. He relayed a current
15 situation in Louisiana where there are two licenses,
16 a medical psychologist license and a psychologist
17 license. The Louisiana Medical Board regulates
18 prescribing psychologists but does not oversee other
19 activities like therapy or supervision. However,
20 psychologists only maintain their psychology license
21 under the Psychology Board until they obtain their
22 medical psychology license. He stated there had been
23 a great deal of internal squabbling leading to the
24 Medical Psychology Board suing the Psychology Board
25 for infringement on the right to practice.

1 Dr. Logan reported one of the topics of discussion
2 at the meeting was the Examination for Professional
3 Practice in Psychology (EPPP) and how there will be a
4 new integrated EPPP exam. A beta version of the new
5 EPPP will be available around March or April 2027.
6 Applicants will be able to choose to take the beta
7 version, and if they fail, they can still take the
8 regular EPPP. In addition, if they fail the beta
9 version, it does not count towards their failed
10 attempts of the exam. The beta version will only
11 cost \$100 versus the \$600 of the regular EPPP. There
12 will be access to the beta version for about a year.
13 She noted ASPPB stated additional information and
14 clarity would be forthcoming.

15 Dr. Logan also reported on the information shared
16 on AI at the meeting. One of the workshops was about
17 how AI is not thinking, but it is actually predicting
18 based on information put into the AI. She shared
19 other discussions surrounding the legality of AI and
20 who owns the information as there is technically a
21 third party involved. There were also conversations
22 around the use of AI to write notes, using AI in
23 training, and when recording notes through AI, who
24 owns the information.

25 Dr. Zehrung commented informed consent with AI

1 might be another issue, especially when sessions are
2 recorded and then AI is used to summarize the session
3 into a note. He stated there would be consent issues
4 for the patient in terms of their clinical
5 information being used for training data for AI.

6 Dr. Logan stated, in addition to the informed
7 consent issue, another issue was the lack of
8 regulations for psychologists using AI.

9 Chair McAleer stated the presentations were high
10 quality with nationally known folks presenting on AI.
11 An issue that struck him was how careful people need
12 to be about confidentiality, because unless
13 specifically prohibited, AI can use the information
14 input to further its learning algorithms. The AI can
15 then use the confidential information as part of its
16 algorithmic decision-making that is available to
17 anybody using the AI entity. He added the Board will
18 be challenged in terms how it will protect the public
19 from inadvertent breaches and bad actor use of AI
20 tools.

21 Dr. Logan added something she took away is to stop
22 humanizing AI. She noted there are some regulations
23 around AI in Canada, but there are no federal
24 regulations in the United States.

25 Dr. Warner commented on the situation in

1 Louisiana. He pointed out the situation highlights a
2 major issue as psychology moves forward in
3 prescribing. He stated it would be important for the
4 Board to consider how it will remain on top of
5 psychologists even if they are prescribers.

6 Rachael Baturin, MPH, JD, Deputy Executive
7 Director Pennsylvania Psychological Association,
8 stated, in Pennsylvania, a couple of bills were
9 introduced to regulate AI in mental health space. HB
10 2100 looks at regulating chatbots, so they cannot
11 provide direct psychological services. HB 1993 looks
12 at how AI can be used for administrative services.
13 In addition, PPA is considering amending the language
14 to include supplemental services to allow for AI use
15 of federally-approved devices. She mentioned
16 Governor Shapiro recently filed a lawsuit against a
17 chatbot company that did not have a disclaimer saying
18 it was not direct services. The company is being
19 sued for trying to assume the identity of a mental
20 health provider.]

21 ***

22 Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report

23 ***

24 Report of Board Administrator

25 MS. SZYMANSKI:

1 Regarding Item No. 9 on your Agenda,
2 this is an application to practice
3 psychology for persons licensed in
4 another state. This is for Ashley
5 Gill, Ph.D.

6 I believe the Board would entertain
7 a motion to grant the application to
8 practice psychology of Ashley Gill,
9 Ph.D. at Item No. 9.

10 CHAIR MCALEER:

11 May I have a motion please?

12 DR. WARNER:

13 I make a motion to vote.

14 DR. LOGAN:

15 I second.

16 CHAIR MCALEER:

17 May we have the vote please?

18
19 McAleer, aye; Claggett, aye; Zehrung,
20 aye; Logan, aye; Warner, aye.

21 [The motion carried unanimously.]

22 ***

23 Report of Committees - No Report

24 ***

25 Discussion Items - ASPPB's 66th Annual Meeting -

1 October 14th - 18th, 2026, Reno, Nevada

2 CHAIR MCALEER:

3 I would like a motion to send three
4 members of the Board plus Board
5 Counsel, with the understanding that
6 one Member of the Board will be fully
7 funded by ASPPB, to the annual meeting
8 in Reno, October 14th to the 18th. May
9 I have the motion please?

10 DR. WARNER:

11 I'd like to make the motion to vote.

12 DR. LOGAN:

13 And I second.

14
15 McAleer, aye; Claggett, aye; Zehrung,
16 aye; Logan, aye; Warner, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18 ***

19 Correspondence

20 MS. SZYMANSKI:

21 Item No. 11 on your Agenda is Allison
22 Lockard Valente. This is a supervised
23 experience extension.

24 I believe the Chair would entertain
25 a motion to approve the supervised

1 experience extension of Allison Valente
2 at Item No. 11.

3 CHAIR MCALEER:

4 Motion please.

5 DR. WARNER:

6 I'd like to make a motion to vote.

7 DR. LOGAN:

8 And I will second.

9

10 McAleer, aye; Claggett, aye; Zehrung,
11 aye; Logan, aye; Warner, aye.

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13 ***

14 MS. SZYMANSKI:

15 Item No. 12 is for Dimitra Robokos.

16 This is a PPLE waiver.

17 I believe the Chair would entertain
18 a motion to deny the PPLE waiver
19 request of Dimitra Robokos at Item No.
20 12.

21 CHAIR MCALEER:

22 Motion please.

23 DR. WARNER:

24 I'd like to make a motion to vote.

25 DR. LOGAN:

1 And I second.

2

3 McAleer, aye; Claggett, aye; Zehrung,
4 aye; Logan, aye; Warner, aye.

5 [The motion carried unanimously.]

6

7 FYI Items

8 [Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chairperson, noted the Board
9 was in compliance for the first quarter of the
10 PSYPACT report.

11 Dr. Zehrung continues to serve on a PSYPACT work
12 group as PSYPACT works to reconcile and update
13 various administrative documents.]

14

15 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
16 at 11:23 a.m., the Board entered into Executive
17 Session with Lindsay Szymanski, Esquire, Board
18 Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
19 deliberations and to receive the advice of Board
20 Counsel regarding Agenda Item No. 4. The Board
21 returned to open session at 11:41 a.m.]

22

23 MS. SZYMANSKI:

24 Regarding the Consent Agreement at Item
25 No. 4 on your Agenda, Case No. 25-63-

1 008202, after discussion in both
2 Executive Sessions, I believe the Chair
3 would entertain a motion to reject this
4 Consent Agreement as too lenient.

5 CHAIR MCALEER:

6 May I have a motion please?

7 DR. WARNER:

8 I just want to be clear. This is a
9 motion to reject.

10 MS. SZYMANSKI:

11 Correct.

12 CHAIR MCALEER:

13 That it's too lenient.

14 DR. WARNER:

15 I'd like to make a motion to vote.

16 DR. LOGAN:

17 I second.

18

19 McAleer, aye; Claggett, aye; Zehrung,
20 nay; Logan, aye; Warner, nay.

21 [The motion carried. Dr. Zehrung and Dr. Warner
22 opposed the motion.]

23 ***

24 Public Comment

25 [Andrew Worek, Attorney, Eckert Seamans, asked if

1 there was a method for him to understand the Board's
2 vote on Agenda Item No. 4 regarding his client.

3 Ms. Goshert stated he could address the vote with
4 the Prosecution Division.]

5 ***

6 Adjournment

7 CHAIR MCALEER:

8 I would entertain a motion for
9 adjournment. That does not need
10 seconded.

11 DR. WARNER:

12 Sounds good. I make a motion to
13 adjourn.

14 ***

15 [There being no further business, the State Board of
16 Psychology Meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.]

17 ***

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CERTIFICATE

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erin Badstuebner", is written over a horizontal line.

Erin Badstuebner,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY
REFERENCE INDEX
June 15, 2026

TIME	AGENDA
9:30	Executive Session
10:31	Return to Open Session
10:31	Official Call to Order
10:32	Roll Call
10:33	Approval of Minutes
10:44	Appointment - Pennsylvania
Psychological	Association Presentation
10:52	Report of Prosecutorial Division
10:47	Appointment - Annual Financial Report
10:52	Report of Board Counsel
10:53	Report of Regulatory Counsel
11:01	Report of Board Chairperson
11:18	Report of Board Administrator
11:19	Discussion Items
11:21	Correspondence
11:22	FYI Items
11:23	Executive Session
11:41	Return to Open Session
11:42	Report of Prosecution - Motion
11:45	Public Comment
11:46	Adjournment