State Board of Psychology August 18, 2025

BOA

BOARD MEMBERS:

Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair
Matthew Eaton, Deputy Commissioner, on behalf of
Arion Claggett, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of
Professional and Occupational Affairs
David Zehrung, Ph.D.
Steven K. Erickson, JD, Ph.D., LLM - Absent

Steven K. Erickson, JD, Ph.D., LLM - Absent Katherine Bradley, Ph.D.

Daniel Warner, Ph.D.

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

17 Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel
19 Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor

Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel, Prosecution Division
Thomas Leech II, Board Administrator

Thomas Leech II, Board Administrator Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk, Department of State

ALSO PRESENT:

Molly Cowan, Psy.D., Director of Professional
Affairs, Pennsylvania Psychological Association
Jennifer Smeltz, Republican Executive Director,
Senate Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure
Committee

Brian Crosby, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, Penn State University

Theresa Welles, Ph.D., Director of Psychological Clinic, Associate Clinical Professor of Psychology, Penn State University

Call-In 1-443-691-9441

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

2 State Board of Psychology

August 18, 2025

* * *

[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act, at 9:30 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session with Ronald Rouse, 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 regularly scheduled meeting of the State
Board of Psychology was held on Monday, August 18,
2025. Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair, called the
meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

[Ronald Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the meeting was being held in a hybrid format, both in person and via live stream teleconference.

Mr. Rouse also noted the meeting was being recorded, and voluntary participation constituted consent to be recorded.]

23 ***

[Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair, requested an introduction of Board members. A quorum of Board

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4
1
   members was present.]
                               * * *
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3
   Approval of Minutes - June 16, 2025
4
   CHAIR MCALEER:
5
                  I think what we'll do first is the
 6
                  Approval of Minutes from the June 16
7
                  meeting.
8
                       Having reviewed it, may I have a
9
                  motion to approve the minutes, please?
10
   DR. WARNER:
11
                  I move to approve.
   CHAIR MCALEER:
12
13
                  Thank you.
14
   DR. ZUHRUNG:
15
                  Second that.
16
                  McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;
17
18
                  Bradley, aye; Warner, aye.
19
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
                               * * *
20
21
   Report of the Board Prosecution
22
   [Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented
23
   the Consent Agreement for Item No. 2 on the Agenda,
   Case No. 25-63-011021.]
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25
   MR. ROUSE:
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5
1
                  Regarding the Consent Agreement at Item
2
                  No. 2 on the Agenda, Case No. 25-63-
3
                  011021, after discussion in Executive
 4
                  Session, I believe the Chair would
 5
                  entertain a motion to adopt the Consent
 6
                  Agreement.
7
   CHAIR MCALEER:
8
                  Do we have a motion?
   DR. WARNER:
9
10
                  I move to vote.
11
   DR. ZEHRUNG:
12
                  Zehrung, second.
13
   CHAIR MCALEER:
14
                  May we have the roll call please?
15
16
                  McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;
                  Bradley, aye; Warner, aye.
17
18
   [The motion carried unanimously. The Respondent's
19
   name for Case No. 25-63-011021 is Jeffrey Joseph
20
   Leoni.l
                               * * *
21
22
   Report of Board Administrator
23
   MR. ROUSE:
24
                  I believe the Chair would entertain a
25
                  motion to grant the Fictitious Name
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MR. ROUSE:
1
2
                  Is there a second?
3
   DR. BRADLEY:
4
                  I'll second, Dr. Bradley.
   MR. ROUSE:
5
                  Are there any other nominations?
6
                                                      Roll
7
                  call.
9
                  McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;
10
                  Bradley, aye; Warner, aye.
11
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
12
13
   MR. ROUSE:
14
                  Is there a motion to elect Dr. Warner
15
                  as the Secretary of the State Board of
16
                  Psychology?
17
   DR. BRADLEY:
18
                  I'll make the motion.
19
   DR. ZEHRUNG:
20
                  Zehrung makes that motion.
21
   MR. ROUSE:
22
                  So was Dr. Bradley the motion and Dr.
23
                  Zehrung the second? Thank you.
24
                  other discussion? Roll call.
25
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1
                  McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;
2
                  Bradley, aye; Warner, aye.
3
    [The motion carried unanimously.]
4
5
   Correspondence
6
   MR. ROUSE:
7
                  In the matter of Brian Crosby, Ph.D.,
                  and after discussion in Executive
8
9
                  Session, I believe the Chair would
10
                  entertain a motion to grant the Request
                  for a Waiver of the Experience
11
12
                  Requirement under section 41.32(1)(iv)
13
                  for Brian Crosby, Ph.D., at Item No. 14
14
                  on the Agenda.
15
   DR. WARNER:
16
                  Move to vote.
17
   DR. ZEHRUNG:
18
                  Zehrung second.
19
   CHAIR MCALEER:
20
                  Roll call please.
21
22
                  McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;
23
                  Bradley, aye; Warner, aye.
24
    [The motion carried unanimously.]
25
                               * * *
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9 MR. ROUSE: 1 I believe the Chair would entertain a 2 3 motion to grant the EPPP Accommodation 4 request of Melissa Brennan-Bonini, 5 Psy.D. at time and a half to take the 6 examination in a separate room. 7 CHAIR MCALEER: I believe that is correct. Thank you. 9 Motion please. 10 DR. WARNER: Motion to vote. 11 DR. ZEHRUNG: 12 13 Zehrung, second. 14 CHAIR MCALEER: 15 Roll call please. 16 17 McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye; 18 Bradley, aye; Warner, aye. 19 [The motion carried unanimously.] * * * 20 21 MR. ROUSE: 22 Next, Item No. 16, Celita Owens, 23 Psy.D., I believe the Chair would 24 entertain a motion to grant the EPPP 25 Accommodations Request of Celtia Owens,

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1
                  Psy.D. at time and a half, earphones
2
                  and a separate room.
3
   CHAIR MCALEER:
 4
                  Yes, that's correct. Motion please.
5
   DR. WARNER:
6
                  Motion to vote.
7
   DR. ZEHRUNG:
8
                  Zehrung, second.
9
   CHAIR MCALEER:
10
                  Roll call.
11
12
                  McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;
13
                  Bradley, aye; Warner, aye.
14
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
15
   Report of Board Counsel - Regulation 16A-6320 General
16
17
   Revisions
18
   [Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, reported
19
   Regulation 16A-1620, General Revisions, was released
20
   as an exposure draft to stakeholders on June 17,
21
   2025. The Board received one comment from licensed
22
   psychologist Salvatore Cullari, Ph.D., which
23
   supported the adoption of the draft Annex. Mr. Rouse
24
   noted the Board discussed revisions to the Annex over
25
   the prior two meetings. He asked if the Board had
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any other suggestions or comments on the Annex.

Chair McAleer asked for the reasoning behind requiring an applicant to wait for six months before retaking the test after the first failure. Board members stated it was kept the same from previous Boards, and they were unaware of prior rationale.

The Board discussed if the six-month rule was a requirement of the Board or if it was a requirement of Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). The suggestion was made to amend the regulation to be consistent with the current Practice Act, which is to allow retesting after 60 days rather than six months.

Mr. Rouse put the Annex on the screen, which showed the Board had already made the decision to remove the six-month requirement in section 41.42. The regulation, as proposed, would allow for an applicant to retake the exam in the timeframe required by ASPPB.]

20 ***

21 MR. ROUSE:

Regarding Item No. 6, is there a motion to adopt the Annex and Preamble for Regulation 16A-6320 and direct Board Counsel to continue the regulatory

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12
1
                  process?
2
   DR. WARNER:
3
                  So moved.
4
   DR. ZEHRUNG:
5
                  Zehrung, second.
6
   CHAIR MCALEER:
7
                  Roll call please.
8
9
                  McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;
10
                  Bradley, aye; Warner, aye.
11
   [The motion carried unanimously.]
12
13
   [Daniel Warner, Ph.D., exited the meeting at 11:01
14
   a.m.]
15
16
   Report of Board Counsel - PSYPACT Notice of Proposed
17
   Rulemaking
18
   [Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel reported the
19
   Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT)
20
   published proposed rules for consideration and
21
   comment. The proposed rules can be accessed through
   the Board's website under announcements or through
22
23
   PSYPACT (https://psypact.gov/page/PublicComment).
24
        Mr. Rouse explained the proposed rules are:
                                                       ΤО
25
   add a residency definition as specified in the
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1 | PSYPACT legislation; to provide a better

- 2 understanding of the grounds on which an
- 3 authorization application can be denied or a
- 4 previously issued authorization can be revoked; to
- 5 expand the appeals process to cover denials and
- 6 revocations separately for clarity; and to revise the
- 7 numbering of the entire rule to align the new
- 8 additions.
- 9 Mr. Rouse noted the 60-day public comment period
- 10 ends on October 3, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. EST. There will
- 11 be a public hearing regarding comments at PSYPACT's
- 12 Annual Meeting on November 17, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.
- 13 EST.
- Dr. Zehrung participated in an information
- 15 hearing from PSYPACT regarding the changes. He noted
- 16 the changes were to better align their procedures
- 17 | with actual PSYPACT legislation enacted in each
- 18 | PSYPACT jurisdiction. None of the changes undermine
- 19 or alter licensing authority in any of the
- 20 jurisdictions.]
- 21 ***
- 22 Report of Board Counsel FYI- HB 1000 of 2025
- 23 Prescription Privileges for Psychologists
- 24 [Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, reported HB
- 25 | 1000 of 2025 proposes to amend the Professional

Psychologist Practice Act to provide for prescription privileges for psychologists.

Section 2 regarding definitions adds the following: Collaborative relationship, controlled substance, drug prescribing psychologist, prescription certificate, prescriptive authority, primary care provider, psychopharmacology, clinical practical experience, psychotropic medication and telemedicine. The definition of practice of psychology would be amended.

Mr. Rouse noted section 3.1 of the Act would be amended to increase the number of Board members from nine to eleven. The number of licensed psychologist Board members would increase from six to eight with at least two of those members being prescribing psychologists.

Section 3.2 of the Act would be amended at paragraph three to give the Board authority to examine for, deny, approve, issue, revoke, suspend, restrict, limit and renew the licenses of prescribing psychologists as well as the authority to conduct hearings in connection with those matters. Paragraph 7 would be added to require the Board to keep a list of prescribing psychologists along with certain other information, including their name, identification

number with the Board, DEA number, and effective date they obtained prescriptive authority.

Section 6.1 of the Act would add the requirements for a psychologist to qualify for a prescription certificate issued by the Board. Section 6.2 would describe the scope of practice of a prescribing psychologist. Section 6.3 would require a prescribing psychologist to file their DEA registration and number with the Board.

Mr. Rouse reported Section 8 of the Act would be amended to add prescribing psychologists as subject to disciplinary action for various reasons. Section 8.1 of the Act would be amended to require prescribing psychologists to report multiple licensure to the Board.

Section 11 of the Act would be amended to add prescribing psychologists as subject to penalties and injunctions for unlawful practice.

Chair McAleer commented he has learned through the years that sometimes so much is put into a law, it begins to constrain the flexibility of what a person can do in their practice. He did not go into specifics and thanked Mr. Rouse for the overview.]

* * *

25 Report of Board Counsel - Regulations

- 1 [Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, reported on
- 2 | the ongoing regulations before the Board. Regulation
- 3 | 16A-6317 regarding continuing education received one
- 4 comment on the proposed rulemaking from Independent
- 5 Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC). Regulatory
- 6 Counsel is beginning the process of drafting the
- 7 final regulation.
- 8 Mr. Rouse noted Board Counsel and Regulatory
- 9 Counsel are working to update Regulation 16A-6324,
- 10 regarding the Code of Ethics.
- 11 Regulation 16A-6323, regarding Volunteer Licenses
- 12 is being drafted and updated by Regulatory Counsel.
- 13 He reported Regulation 16A-6327, regarding
- 14 Accreditation, had the final rulemaking approved by
- 15 | IRRC on June 26, 2035. 16A-6327 was published on
- 16 August 2, 2025, officially amending the regulation.]
- 17
- 18 Report of the Board Chairperson
- 19 [Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair, reported on attending
- 20 the Pennsylvania Psychological Association Convention
- 21 | with Dr. Zehrung. They gave a one-hour presentation
- 22 and received uniformly positive feedback. He noted
- 23 the attendees appreciated the statistics given in the
- 24 presentation, and they have been asked to continue
- 25 presenting. He added one request was a presentation

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17
   on how to avoid getting into trouble with the Board.
1
2
        Chair McAleer also reported he will be attending
3
   the ASPPB annual meeting in October with Dr. Zehrung.
4
   He added there will be another licensee attending
5
   from Pennsylvania who is not a Board member.]
 6
7
   Report of Acting Commissioner - No Report
8
9
   Report of Board Members - No Report
10
11
   Correspondence -Correspondence from Evan M. Forman,
12
   Ph.D. concerning patient service interruptions
13
   [Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair, explained the Board
14
   had received correspondence from Dr. Evan Forman
15
   concerning patient interruptions of service,
16
   particularly in the case of death or disability of a
17
   psychologist. Dr. Forman inquired if the Board would
18
   consider adding a regulation advising practitioners
19
   to have a professional will or document as to who
20
   will take care of their material if something were to
21
   happen to them. Mr. Forman also gave an example of
22
   another jurisdiction who had a similar regulation.
23
        Mr. Rouse noted the Board's regulations at
24
   section 41.57(d) require a psychologist retain
25
   patient records for five years from the last date
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service was rendered. Section 41.57(e) requires that
1
2
   a psychologist shall provide for the confidential
3
   disposition of records in the event of the
 4
   psychologist's withdrawal from practice, incapacity
5
   or death.
6
        Chair McAleer noted the regulations direct the
7
   licensed psychologist to have a plan in place without
   mandating the specificity of the plan.
   appreciated the comments by Dr. Forman and recognized
10
   the issue has been raised in professional circles for
11
   several years.]
12
13
   FYI Items - PSYPACT 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2025 Compliance Letter
14
   [David Zehrung, Ph.D., noted the Board had received a
15
   letter noting from PSYPACT's perspective,
16
   Pennsylvania was out of compliance with reporting.
   He added the Board is working on a resolution.
17
18
   Rouse noted the letter provided information on how to
19
   schedule a meeting for the next steps.]
20
21
   Upcoming Meeting Dates
22
   [Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair, noted upcoming
23
   meeting dates as October 20, 2025; December 15, 2025;
24
   February 16, 2026; April 13, 2026; June 15, 2026;
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August 17, 2026; October 19, 2026; and December 21,

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19
 1
   2026.]
 2
                                * * *
 3
   Adjournment
 4
   CHAIR MCALEER:
 5
                   Any questions or comments from members
 6
                   of the public that are in attendance?
 7
                        Hearing none, then I think we would
 8
                   entertain a motion to adjourn.
 9
   DR. BRADLEY:
10
                   So moved.
11
   DR. ZEHRUNG:
12
                   Second.
13
                                * * *
14
    [There being no further business, the State Board of
15
   Psychology Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.]
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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.

Jucoh Hill

Jacob Hill,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting

Service, Inc.