

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: 10:30 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**

October 20, 2025

State Board of Psychology  
October 20, 2025

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., Vice Chair  
Daniel Warner, Ph.D., Secretary  
Steven K. Erickson, JD, Ph.D., LLM  
Katherine Bradley, Ph.D. - Absent

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Ronald K. Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel  
Lindsay Szymanski, Esquire, Board Counsel  
Todd Kriner, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison  
Patrick Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
Shana M. Walter, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,  
Prosecution Division  
Jacqueline Wolfgang, Senior Regulatory Counsel  
Liliana Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
CJ Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
Nicholas Kahler, Law Clerk  
Thomas Leech II, Board Administrator

ALSO PRESENT:

Molly Cowan, Psy.D., Director of Professional  
Affairs, Pennsylvania Psychological Association  
Kareema Smith, Ph.D., Psychologist, Temple University  
Larissa Newlin, Psy.D., Psychologist, William Penn  
School District  
Jacob Hill, Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.

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1 \*\*\*

2 State Board of Psychology

3 October 20, 2025

4 \*\*\*

5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,  
6 at 9:30 a.m. the Board entered into Executive Session  
7 with Ronald Rouse, Esquire and Lindsay Szymanski,  
8 Esquire, Board Counsel, for the purpose of conducting  
9 quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters  
10 that are currently pending before the Board and to  
11 receive the advice of counsel.]

12 \*\*\*

13 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State  
14 Board of Psychology was held on Monday, October 20,  
15 2025. Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair, called the  
16 meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

17 \*\*\*

18 [Ronald Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted this  
19 meeting of the State Board of Psychology is being  
20 held in a hybrid format, both in person and by  
21 livestream teleconference, pursuant to Act 100 of  
22 2021, which requires Boards to use a virtual platform  
23 to conduct business when a public meeting is being  
24 held.

25 Mr. Rouse also noted the meeting was being

1 recorded, and voluntary participation constituted  
2 consent to be recorded.]

3 \*\*\*

4 [Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chair, requested an  
5 introduction of Board members. A quorum of Board  
6 members was present.]

7 \*\*\*

8 Appointment - Introduction of Shana Walter

9 [Shana Walter, Esquire, introduced herself as the new  
10 Deputy Chief Counsel for the Prosecution Division.  
11 She stated Carlton Smith, Esquire, moved on to the  
12 Hearing Examiner's office. She was welcomed by the  
13 Board and announced she would see the Board again at  
14 the beginning of the year for their annual report.]

15 \*\*\*

16 Approval of Minutes - May 23, 2025

17 CHAIR MCALEER:

18 So can I have a motion to accept and  
19 approve the minutes from the Board's  
20 meeting on May 23, 2025?

21 DR. ZEHRUNG:

22 David Zehrung, so moved.

23 DR. WARNER:

24 Second.

25 CHAIR MCALEER:

1 Any discussion? May we have a roll  
2 call, please?

3  
4 McAleer, aye; Eaton, abstain; Zehrung,  
5 aye; Warner, aye; Erickson, abstain.

6 [The motion carried. Mr. Eaton and Dr. Erickson  
7 abstained from voting on the motion.]

8 \*\*\*

9 Approval of Minutes - August 18, 2025

10 CHAIR MCALEER:

11 May we have a motion to approve the  
12 minutes, please?

13 DR. ZEHRUNG:

14 David Zehrung, so moved.

15 DR. ERICKSON:

16 Second.

17 CHAIR MCALEER:

18 Thank you. May I have a roll call,  
19 please?

20

21 McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;  
22 Warner, aye; Erickson, abstain.

23 [The motion carried. Dr. Erickson abstained from  
24 voting on the motion.]

25 \*\*\*

1 Report of the Prosecutorial Division - No Report

2 \*\*\*

3 Report of Board Counsel

4 [Ronald Rouse, Esquire, Board Counsel, updated the  
5 Board on HB1000 of 2025, which is prescription  
6 privileges for psychologists.

7 He commented that the Board reviewed the bill at  
8 its last meeting, but he had not informed the Board  
9 that HB1000 of 2025 was introduced to the State House  
10 of Representatives on July 24th of 2025. It was then  
11 referred to the House Professional Licensure  
12 Committee. Mr. Rouse stated there had been no  
13 further activity on this bill.]

14 \*\*\*

15 Regulatory Report

16 [Ronald Rouse, Esquire, stated the 16A-6317  
17 regulation for Continuing Education had a proposed  
18 rulemaking that was published and the Independent  
19 Regulatory Review Commission (IRRC) submitted a  
20 comment to Regulatory Counsel. Regulatory Counsel  
21 was drafting the final regulation, which will go back  
22 to the Board for its review and vote.

23 Mr. Rouse discussed Regulation 16A-6324, the Code  
24 of Ethics. He stated Board Counsel and Regulatory  
25 Counsel will be updating this regulation.

Mr. Rouse reviewed Regulation 16A-6323, Volunteer License. Regulatory Counsel was drafting and updating this regulation.]

## Report of Board Chairperson

[Donald McAleer, Psy.D., Chairperson, informed the Board that Mr. Zehrung and he would be attending the ASPPB meeting beginning Wednesday, October 22nd, 2025, in St. Louis. They would have a report for the Board meeting in December. He also advised there is

1 a mid-winter meeting coming up in February-March of  
2 2026 if anyone was interested in attending.]

3 \*\*\*

4 Report of Acting Commissioner

5 [Matthew Eaton, Designee for Arion Claggett, Acting  
6 Commissioner for Professional and Occupational  
7 Affairs, announced the Board's December 15, 2025  
8 meeting would take place at Piatt Place in downtown  
9 Pittsburgh, PA.]

10 \*\*\*

11 Report of Board Administrator

12 MR. ROUSE:

13 I believe the Chair would entertain a  
14 motion to grant the application of  
15 Katelynn Faulkner, Psy.D., to sit for  
16 the PPLE, at Item No. 8 on the agenda.

17 CHAIR MCALEER:

18 Thank you. May I have a motion,  
19 please?

20 DR. ZEHRUNG:

21 David Zehrung, so moved.

22 DR. ERICKSON:

23 Second.

24 CHAIR MCALEER:

25 Roll call, please.



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McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;  
Warner, aye; Erickson, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

\*\*\*

MR. ROUSE:

And I believe the Chair would entertain  
a motion to grant the fictitious name  
application for Muir Therapy Group,  
PLLC, at Item No. 9 on the Agenda.

CHAIR MCALEER:

Thank you. May I have a motion,  
please?

DR. ZEHRUNG:

David Zehrung, so moved.

DR. ERICKSON:

Dr. Erickson, second.

CHAIR MCALEER:

Thank you. Can we have a roll call,  
please?

McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;  
Warner, aye; Erickson, aye.

[The motion carried unanimously.]

\*\*\*

1 MR. ROUSE:

2 And I believe the Chair would entertain  
3 a motion to approve the application of  
4 Kareema Smith, Ph.D., for meeting the  
5 supervised experience requirement, at  
6 Item No. 10 on the agenda.

7 CHAIR MCALEER:

8 Thank you. May I have a motion,  
9 please?

10 DR. ZEHRUNG:

11 David Zehrung, so moved.

12 DR. ERICKSON:

13 Dr. Erickson, second.

14 CHAIR MCALEER:

15 Thank you. May we have the roll,  
16 please?

17

18 McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;  
19 Warner, aye; Erickson, aye.

20 [The motion carried unanimously.]

21 \*\*\*

22 Correspondence

23 MR. ROUSE:

24 And I believe the Chair would entertain  
25 a motion to ratify and approve the

1                   waiver of the CE requirement for Nelda  
2                   Bowers and to grant a 90-day extension  
3                   to complete CE, at Item No. 15 on the  
4                   agenda.

5 CHAIR MCALEER:

6                   Motion please?

7 DR. ZEHRUNG:

8                   David Zehrung, so moved.

9 DR. ERICKSON:

10                  Dr. Erickson, second.

11 CHAIR MCALEER:

12                  Thank you. May we have the vote,  
13                  please?

14

15                  McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;  
16                  Warner, aye; Erickson, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18   \*\*\*

19 MR. ROUSE:

20                  And I believe the Chair would entertain  
21                  a motion to provisionally deny the PPLE  
22                  waiver request for Jamie Rishikoff,  
23                  Psy.D., at Item No. 16 on the Agenda.

24 CHAIR MCALEER:

25                  Thank you. May I have a motion,

1                   please?

2 DR. ZEHRUNG:

3                   David Zehrung, so moved.

4 DR. ERICKSON:

5                   Dr. Erickson, second.

6 CHAIR MCALEER:

7                   We have the roll call vote, please.

8

9                   McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;

10                  Warner, aye; Erickson, aye.

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12                                   \*\*\*

13 Report of Board Members

14 [Chair McAleer asked if the Board members had any  
15 comments or reports for the good of the public and  
16 the Board. Dr. Zehrung stated he would be attending  
17 the PSYPAC meeting in Tucson, AZ, on November 16th  
18 and 17th, 2025.

19       Chair McAleer commented that Dr. Bradley would no  
20 longer be on the Board. He acknowledged her service  
21 to the Psychology Board for over two terms. He then  
22 questioned Dr. Erickson as to when his term would  
23 end. Dr. Erickson replied that his term was up this  
24 month, but it provided for a six-month extension if  
25 necessary. He offered to fill in for the empty

1 membership slot left by Dr. Bradley until a successor  
2 was approved.]

3 \*\*\*\*\*

4 Discussion Item(s) - Corporate/Fictitious Names, at  
5 Item No. 11 on the agenda.

6 [Mr. Rouse discussed the status of the regulation  
7 found in section 41.27, subsection C, which says a  
8 fictitious name must be approved by the Board prior  
9 to its use. Mr. Rouse also advised that names which  
10 circumvent or neglect to comply with the ethical  
11 principles set out in section 41.61 will be denied.  
12 He added this type of non-compliance by a potential  
13 fictitious name applicant also included actions of  
14 false, misleading or deceptive information and would  
15 be applied to fictitious names which limit the  
16 practice to a particular area of psychology such as  
17 neuropsychology, clinical psychology or biofeedback.  
18 Documentation of training sufficient to establish  
19 these credentials are required.

20 Chair McAleer noted the receipt of requests for  
21 fictitious names that included words like Psychology  
22 Services, Psychology Associates, or XYZ Associates.  
23 These requests would not be honored unless the words,  
24 Psychology Services or any other type of plurality  
25 suggested within the fictitious name(s), are proven

1 to have more than one practicing member of the group.

2 Chair McAleer advised that the Board has been  
3 asked to approve fictitious names that infer the  
4 offering of specialty services, such as marital  
5 counseling, addiction counseling, forensic psychology  
6 or the like.

7 Chair McAleer requested the Board discuss and  
8 determine which areas of psychology might require  
9 further skill and training as opposed to the more  
10 generic training of a psychologist. He did not want  
11 to be overly zealous about over-restricting the  
12 criteria that would allow the plurality of a given  
13 entity name.

14 Dr. Zehrung commented, given the full scope of  
15 the report thus far, he was comfortable with some  
16 degree of leniency regarding the potential plurality  
17 of a given treatment center fictitious name, provided  
18 no evidence of false or misleading information was  
19 submitted to the Board.

20 Chair McAleer believed, though they were trying  
21 to protect the public, it was the public itself that  
22 was capable of deciding on a plural or singular  
23 practice. Chair McAleer suggested using a plural  
24 name for some solo service providers was not, in and  
25 of itself, harmful, provided the information

1 submitted by the fictitious name applicant was true  
2 and genuine.

3 Dr. Erickson concurred with the statements made  
4 by both Chair McAleer and Dr. Zehrung regarding  
5 generic psychology practices. He voiced his concern  
6 that the criteria that would be required for  
7 specialized practices of same. Dr. Erickson  
8 suggested, for specialized practitioners, the  
9 regulation to be considered by the Board should  
10 include Board Certification. Board Certification is  
11 based upon a metric in which the public can know with  
12 certainty that the specializing psychologist has met  
13 the criteria for having the experience and background  
14 in that particular specialty.

15 Dr. Zehrung commented that specialization is a  
16 special service within or outside the specialties of  
17 all psychologists. To the degree that the specialty  
18 service or Board Certification has not been obtained,  
19 he would promote and support an increased review and  
20 a higher standard.

21 Mr. Rouse reminded the Board, under the  
22 regulation 41.27, subsection C, the Board would be  
23 reviewing these on a case-by-case basis and request  
24 additional information from the applicant if needed.  
25 Additional information requested from the Board would

1 determine whether a fictitious name could include a  
2 specialty within their title.

3 Chair McAleer questioned what the definition of  
4 specialty might be? He asked the Board where they  
5 would draw the line on this. He requested feedback  
6 from the Board on what might be generic and less in  
7 need of demonstrating expertise than a specialty  
8 practice.

9 Dr. Erickson conveyed to the Board that the  
10 sufficiency criteria is not defined. He stated the  
11 Board could exercise its own judgement, but it would  
12 be most helpful if this was further defined for the  
13 public and for the profession. He advised that the  
14 Board needed to determine and clarify this for  
15 further consideration.

16 Chair McAleer wanted to begin this discussion in  
17 public session. He emphasized the need for input  
18 from members of the profession regarding their  
19 thoughts and opinions for the Board to consider and  
20 possibly incorporating some of the comments to  
21 further clarify the regulation.]

22 \*\*\*

23 [Chair McAleer announced the Board meeting dates for  
24 2026. Mr. Leech informed Chair McAleer the February  
25 16, 2026 meeting date would be changed to February



1 23, 2026.]

2 MR. ROUSE:

3 Would the Chair entertain a motion to  
4 amend the 2026 meeting dates to replace  
5 the February 15, 2026 date with  
6 February 23rd of 2026.

7 CHAIR MCALEER:

8 May I have a motion, please?

9 DR. ZEHRUNG:

10 David Zehrung, so moved.

11 DR. ERICKSON:

12 Second.

13 CHAIR MCALEER:

14 Roll call please?

15

16 McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;  
17 Warner, aye; Erickson, aye.

18 [The motion carried unanimously.]

19 \*\*\*

20 [Chair McAleer requested Mr. Leech read the 2027  
21 meeting dates, which were as follows: February 8,  
22 2027, April 5, 2027, June 7, 2027, August 9, 2027,  
23 October 4, 2027. December 6, 2027.]

24 CHAIR MCALEER:

25 May I have a motion to accept the Board

1 meeting dates for 2027 please?

2 DR. ZEHRUNG:

3 David Zehrung, so moved.

4 DR. ERICKSON:

5 Dr. Erickson, second.

6 CHAIR MCALEER:

7 Roll call please?

8

9 McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;

10 Warner, aye; Erickson, aye.

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 \*\*\*

13 [Chair McAleer stated the PPA (Pennsylvania  
14 Psychological Association) Annual Conference and  
15 Presentation to be held from June 14-20, 2026, would  
16 be completely virtual. Proposals were due November  
17 15th, 2025. He asked if any member of the Board  
18 would be interested in attending the conference and  
19 presenting. Both Dr. Warner and Dr. Zehrung offered  
20 their services for same.

21 Chair McAleer noted a motion would be needed in  
22 order to have Dr. Warner and Dr. Zehrung attend and  
23 present at the meeting. He also asked Mr. Eaton if  
24 it might be possible for all members of the Board to  
25 attend since it was a virtual meeting and the cost of

1 attending would be much less. Mr. Eaton advised that  
2 he would speak to Acting Commissioner Claggett about  
3 all members attending and would respond to Chair  
4 McAleer's request.

5 Mr. Rouse commented Board Counsel and the  
6 Commissioner's Office would need to review the  
7 presentation prior to the meeting.]

8 \*\*\*

9 FYI Items - No Report

10 \*\*\*

11 MR. ROUSE:

12 Would the Chair entertain a motion for  
13 three Board members to attend and  
14 present at the PPA Conference, June  
15 14th through June 20th, 2026.

16 CHAIR MCALEER:

17 I would entertain that. May I have a  
18 motion, please?

19 DR. ZEHRUNG:

20 David Zehrung, so moved.

21 DR. ERICKSON:

22 Dr. Erickson, second.

23 CHAIR MCALEER:

24 Roll call please.

25

1                   McAleer, aye; Eaton, aye; Zehrung, aye;  
2                   Warner, aye; Erickson, aye.

3 [The motion carried unanimously.]

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5 Adjournment

6 CHAIR MCALEER:

7                   I think I would entertain a motion to  
8                   adjourn the meeting.

9 DR. ZEHRUNG:

10                   David Zehrung, so moved.

11 DR. ERICKSON:

12                   Dr. Erickson, second.

13 CHAIR MCALEER:

14                   And I don't think we need a vote, is  
15                   that correct?

16

17 [There being no further business, the State Board of  
18 Psychology Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.]

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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.



Jacob Hill,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting  
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY  
REFERENCE INDEX  
October 20, 2025

TIME	AGENDA
9:30	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:31	Official Call to Order
10:33	Roll Call
10:34	Appointment - Shana Walter
10:35	Approval of Minutes - 05/23/25
10:36	Approval of Minutes - 08/18/25
10:37	Report of Board Counsel
10:40	Report of Board Chairperson
10:41	Report of Acting Commissioner
10:42	Report of Board Administrator
10:46	Correspondence
10:48	Report of Board Members
10:50	Discussion Items
11:15	Adjournment