

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 SOCIAL WORKERS,
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS,
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS**

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

May 26, 2026

State Board of Social Workers,
Marriage and Family Therapists,
and Professional Counselors
May 26, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

Dr. Joe Behun, Ph.D., LPC, NCC, ACS, Chair
Kimberly Early, LSW, Vice Chair
Arion Claggett, Acting Commissioner of Professional
and Occupational Affairs
Dr. Michelle Santiago, Psy.D., NCC, CCMHC, LPC
Farida E. Boyer, MS, LMFT, AS - Absent
Dr. Tiffany Welch, LSW
Johnnie Geathers, MSW, LSW

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Thomas Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel
Thomas Miller, Board Administrator
Patrick M. Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
CJ Restemayer, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Jason T. Anderson, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Liliana Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecutor
Willow Marsh, Legislative Aide, Department of State
Todd Kriner, Esquire, Senior Prosecutor-In-Charge
Holly Hoffman, Law Clerk
Addie Abelson, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Marc Farrell, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, Office of
Chief Counsel
Robert Beecher, Deputy Policy Director, Office of
Policy
Jason C. Giurintano, Esquire, Deputy Chief Counsel,
Counsel Division
Sage McCool Price

ALSO PRESENT:

Brittani Berkeley, LMSW, Founder, Mitigation
Specialist, Advocacy Pathways
Mariah Cory, Applicant
Tyrone Norris, Department of Veterans Affairs
Jena Mable, Certified School Social Worker,
Outpatient Therapist, Conestoga Valley School
District
Jacob Hill, Sargent's Court Reporting Service,
Inc.

State Board of Social Workers,
Marriage and Family Therapists
and Professional Counselors

May 26, 2026

[Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
at 8:45 a.m., the Board entered into Executive
Session with Thomas Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel,
for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
deliberations on a number of matters currently
pending before the Board and to receive the advice of
counsel. The Board entered into public session at
10:30 a.m.]

The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family
Therapists, and Professional Counselors was held on
Tuesday, May 26, 2026. Joe Behun, Ph.D., LPC, NCC,
ACS, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

[Thomas Davis, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the
meeting was being recorded, and those who continued
to participate were giving their consent to be
recorded.]

1 Mr. Davis also noted the Board entered into
2 Executive Session for the purpose of conducting
3 quasi-judicial deliberations on a number of matters
4 that are currently pending before the Board and to
5 receive the advice of counsel.]

6 ***
7 Roll Call of Board Members/Introduction of Attendees
8 [Thomas Miller, Board Administrator, provided a roll
9 call of Board members and introduction of attendees.
10 A quorum of Board members was present.]

11 ***
12 Approval of Draft Minutes - April 7, 2026
13 CHAIR BEHUN:
14 The first item up on our Agenda will be
15 the Approval of the Draft Minutes from
16 April 7, 2026.

17 I would entertain a motion to
18 approve those minutes as written.

19 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:
20 Claggett, so moved.

21 CHAIR BEHUN:
22 Is there a second?

23 MS. EARLY:
24 Second, Early.

25 CHAIR BEHUN:

1 Okay. If there's a motion and a
2 second, is there any further
3 discussion?

4 All right. Then hearing no
5 further discussion, I'll ask for a roll
6 call vote.

7
8 Santiago, abstain; Early, aye;
9 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Welch,
10 abstain; Geathers, aye.

11 [The motion carried. Dr. Santiago and Dr. Welch
12 abstained from voting on the motion.]

13 ***

14 Report of the Prosecutorial Division
15 [Patrick M. Greene, Esquire, Board Prosecution
16 Liaison, presented the VRP Consent Agreements for
17 Agenda Item No. 2, Case No. 26-69-004559; Agenda Item
18 No. 3, Case No. 26-69-004190; and Agenda Item No. 4,
19 Case No. 26-69-004807.]

20 ***

21 MR. DAVIS:

22 No. 2 on the Board's Agenda, based on
23 the Board's discussions in Executive
24 Session, I believe the Chair would
25 accept a motion to approve the Consent

1 Agreement in the following matter, Case
2 No. 26-49-004559.

3 CHAIR BEHUN:

4 Can I have that motion please?

5 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

6 Claggett, so moved.

7 MS. EARLY:

8 Second, Early.

9

10 Santiago, nay; Early, aye; Claggett,
11 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,
12 aye.

13 [The motion carried. Dr. Santiago opposed the
14 motion.]

15 ***

16 MR. DAVIS:

17 I'm going to move to No. 3 on the
18 Board's Agenda, another VRP case.

19 Based on the Board's discussions
20 in Executive Session, I believe the
21 Chair would accept a motion to approve
22 the Consent Agreement in the following
23 matter, Case No. 26-69-004190.

24 CHAIR BEHUN:

25 Can I have that motion please?

1 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

2 Claggett, so moved.

3 MS. EARLY:

4 Second, Early.

5

6 Santiago, aye; Early, aye; Claggett,
7 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,
8 aye.

9 [The motion carried unanimously.]

10 ***

11 MR. DAVIS:

12 Moving to No. 4 on the Board's Agenda,
13 the last VRP case.

14 Based on the Board's discussions
15 in Executive Session, I believe the
16 Chair would accept a motion to approve
17 the Consent Agreement in the following
18 matter, Case No. 26-69-004807.

19 CHAIR BEHUN:

20 Can I have that motion?

21 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

22 Claggett, so moved.

23 MS. EARLY:

24 Second, Early.

25

1 Santiago, aye; Early, aye; Claggett,
2 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,
3 aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously.]

5 ***

6 [Berk V. Demiral, Esquire, Board Prosecutor,
7 presented the Consent Agreement for Agenda Item No.
8 5, Case No. 23-69-017614.]

9 ***

10 [Liliana Fisher, Esquire, Board Prosecutor, presented
11 the Consent Agreement for Agenda Item No. 6, Case No.
12 23-69-015325.]

13 ***

14 MR. DAVIS:

15 We will turn to No. 5 on the Board's
16 Agenda. I do have a prepared motion.

17 Based on the Board's discussion in
18 Executive Session, I believe the Chair
19 would accept a motion to approve the
20 Consent Agreement in the following
21 matter, Case No. 23-69-017614.

22 CHAIR BEHUN:

23 Is there a motion?

24 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

25 Claggett, so moved.

1 MS. EARLY:

2 Second, Early.

3

4 Santiago, abstain; Early, aye;

5 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye;

6 Geathers, aye.

7 [The motion carried. Dr. Santiago abstained from
8 deliberations and voting on the motion. The
9 Respondent at Agenda Item No. 5, Case No. 23-69-
10 017614, is Joseph H. Lucas, LPC.]

11 ***

12 MR. DAVIS:

13 No. 6, based on the Board's discussions
14 in Executive Session, I believe the
15 Chair would accept a motion to approve
16 the Consent Agreement in the following
17 matter, Case No. 23-69-015325.

18 CHAIR BEHUN:

19 Mr. Claggett, can you move this
20 forward?

21 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

22 Claggett, so moved.

23 MS. EARLY:

24 Early, second.

25

[The motion carried. Dr. Santiago and Ms. Welch were recused from deliberations and voting on the motion. The Respondent at Agenda No. 6, Case No. 23-69-015325, is Zachary English, L.S.W.]

Report of Board Counsel

For No. 7, based on the Board's discussions in Executive Session, I believe the Chair would accept a motion to approve as Final the Draft Adjudication and Order in the following matter Commonwealth BPOA v. Matthew Widemann, LPC, Case No. 24-69-011472.

Is there a motion?

Claggett, so moved.

Could I have a second please?

Geathers, second.

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Santiago, recuse; Early, recuse;
Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye;
Geathers, aye.

[The motion carried. Dr. Santiago and Ms. Early were
recused from deliberations and voting on the motion.]

MR. DAVIS:

Moving on to No. 8, a similar matter.
I have a proposed motion.

Based on the Board's discussions
in Executive Session, I believe the
Chair would accept a motion to approve
as Final the Draft Adjudication and
Order in the following matter
Commonwealth BPOA v. Ryan Robert Wood,
LCSW, Case No. 24-69-018920.

CHAIR BEHUN:

Is there a motion?

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

Claggett, so moved.

MS. WELCH:

Welch, second.

Santiago, recuse; Early, recuse;

1 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye;
2 Geathers, aye.

3 [The motion carried. Dr. Santiago and Ms. Early were
4 recused from deliberations and voting on the motion.]

5 ***

6 Regulatory Report

7 [Marc Farrell, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, Office of
8 Chief Counsel, explained there was one action item
9 for the Board regarding Regulation 16A-6923, General
10 Revisions. He stated, as it was written at the time,
11 the regulation adopted the 2015 American Association
12 for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) Code of
13 Ethics. The 2026 AAMFT Code of Ethics was provided
14 to the Board at the prior meeting for their review.
15 He asked if the Board would consider adopting the
16 2026 version as part of the General Revisions.

17 Chair Behun asked for confirmation AAMFT had
18 already approved the Code of Ethics, which Mr. Davis
19 confirmed.]

20 ***

21 MR. DAVIS:

22 Based on the Board's discussions in
23 open session, I believe the Chair would
24 accept a motion adopting the 2026 AAMFT
25 Code of Ethics.

1 CHAIR BEHUN:

2 I will entertain that motion.

3 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

4 Claggett, so moved.

5 MS. EARLY:

6 Early, second.

7

8 Santiago, aye; Early, aye; Claggett,
9 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,
10 aye.

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

12 ***

13 [Mr. Farrell discussed working on drafting the final
14 rulemaking documents for the General Revisions and
15 bring before the Board at its next meeting.

16 Mr. Farrell reported 16A-6927, licensed associate
17 marriage and family therapists and associate
18 professional counselors, was in a similar position
19 where comments were received and Regulatory Counsel
20 could proceed with drafting the final rulemaking
21 documents. He noted the Board was provided the
22 comments. He intended to have the final package for
23 the Board at the next meeting.]

24 ***

25 Legislative Report - No Report

Report of Board Chair - No Report

Report of Commissioner - No report.

Report of Board Administrator - No report.

Report of Committees - No report.

Applications

MR. DAVIS:

Based on the Board's discussions in Executive Session, I believe the Chair would accept a motion to adopt the proposed Report and Order of the Hearing Examiner in the following matters: No. 10, Application for Licensure as an Associate Professional Counselor of Eman Hasan, Case No. 25-69-014176; No. 11, Application for Licensure as an Associate Professional Counselor of Elaina McCloulsky, Case No. 25-69-014171; No. 12, Application for Licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist of Clair Edginton, Case No.

1 25-69-010523; No. 13, Application for
2 Licensure as a Professional Counselor
3 of Rebecca Alby, Case No. 25-69-010502;
4 and No. 14, Application for Licensure
5 as a Professional Counselor of Harlyn
6 Williams, Case No. 25-69-010505.

7 CHAIR BEHUN:

8 Is there a motion?

9 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

10 Claggett, so moved.

11 MS. EARLY:

12 Early, second.

13

14 Santiago, aye; Early, aye; Claggett,
15 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,
16 aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18 ***

19 MR. DAVIS:

20 Moving on to No. 15 on the Board's
21 Agenda, Application for Licensure of
22 Tyrone Norris, based on the Board's
23 discussions in Executive Session, I
24 believe the Chair would accept a motion
25 to adopt the Proposed Report and Order

1 of the Hearing Examiner, thereby
2 approving the Application for Licensure
3 in the following matter, Application
4 for Licensure as a Social Worker of
5 Tyrone Norris, Case No. 25-69-014164.

6 CHAIR BEHUN:

7 Is there a motion?

8 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

9 Claggett, so moved.

10 MS. WELCH:

11 Welch, second.

12

13 Santiago, aye; Early, nay; Claggett,
14 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,
15 aye.

16 [The motion carried. Ms. Early opposed the motion.]

17 ***

18 MR. DAVIS:

19 No. 16, based on the Board's
20 discussions in Executive Session, I
21 believe the Chair would accept a motion
22 provisionally denying the following
23 application, which is No. 16 on the
24 Board's Agenda, Steven Seitchick.

25 CHAIR BEHUN:

1 Can I have that motion?

2 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

3 Claggett, so moved.

4 MS. WELCH:

5 Welch, second.

6

7 Santiago, aye; Early, recuse; Claggett,
8 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,
9 aye.

10 [The motion carried. Ms. Early was recused from
11 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

12 ***

13 MR. DAVIS:

14 Moving to No. 17, based on the Board's
15 discussions in Executive Session, I
16 believe the Chair would accept a motion
17 provisionally denying the following
18 application, which is No. 17, Rochelle
19 Coles.

20 CHAIR BEHUN:

21 Is there a motion?

22 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

23 Claggett, so moved.

24 MS. EARLY:

25 Early, second.

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[The motion carried unanimously.]

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MR. DAVIS:

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CHAIR BEHUN:

15

Can I have a motion?

16

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

17

Claggett, so moved.

18

MS. EARLY:

19

Early, second.

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[The motion carried unanimously.]

25

1 MR. DAVIS:

2 Moving to 19 on the Board's Agenda,
3 based on the Board's discussions in
4 Executive Session, I believe the Chair
5 would accept a motion provisionally
6 denying the following application, and
7 that's 19, Allison Dengler.

8 CHAIR BEHUN:

9 Is there a motion?

10 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

11 Claggett, so moved.

12 MS. EARLY:

13 Early, second.

14
15 Santiago, aye; Early, aye; Claggett,
16 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,
17 aye.

18 [The motion carried unanimously.]

19 ***

20 MR. DAVIS:

21 No. 20, based on the Board's
22 discussions in Executive Session, I
23 believe the Chair would accept a motion
24 issuing a provisional license in the
25 following applications matter, and

1 that's Item No. 20, Catherine Hadid.

2 CHAIR BEHUN:

3 Can I have that motion?

4 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

5 Claggett, so moved.

6 MS. EARLY:

7 Early, second.

8

9 Santiago, aye; Early, aye; Claggett,
10 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,
11 aye.

12 [The motion carried unanimously.]

13 ***

14 MR. DAVIS:

15 21 on the Board's Agenda, based on the
16 Board's discussions in Executive
17 Session, I believe the Chair would
18 accept a motion approving the following
19 application, and that's matter No. 21,
20 Lindsay Adler.

21 CHAIR BEHUN:

22 Can I have that motion?

23 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

24 Claggett, so moved.

25 MS. EARLY:

1 Early, second.

2

3 Santiago, abstain; Early, aye;

4 Claggett, aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye;

5 Geathers, aye.

6 [The motion carried. Dr. Santiago abstained from
7 deliberations and voting on the motion.]

8 ***

9 MR. DAVIS:

10 I will note that 22 is tabled.

11 Moving to 23, based on the Board's
12 discussions in Executive Session, I
13 believe the Chair would accept a motion
14 provisionally denying the following
15 application, and that's 23, Ariana
16 Giambanco.

17 CHAIR BEHUN:

18 Is there a motion?

19 ACTING COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

20 Claggett, so moved.

21 MS. EARLY:

22 Early, second.

23

24 Santiago, aye; Early, aye; Claggett,

25 aye; Behun, aye; Welch, aye; Geathers,

1 aye.

2 [The motion carried unanimously.]

3 ***

4 [Mr. Davis noted Agenda Item No. 24 was tabled.]

5 ***

6 Old Business - None.

7 ***

8 New Business - None.

9 ***

10 Public Comment

11 [Mariah Cory, Applicant, stated a comment in
12 reference to her license application which the legal
13 team was reviewing. She wanted to take a moment to
14 advocate for herself regarding the discrepancy under
15 review.

16 Mr. Davis noted any additional information could
17 be sent to the Board Administrator's email address on
18 the website. He added the Board could not consider
19 anything shared in a meeting for an applications
20 matter. He also noted she could notate in the email
21 that she wished to speak with Board Counsel, and he
22 would be happy to discuss what he could with her.

23 Ms. Cory apologized for asking and thanked Mr.
24 Davis for the information. Mr. Davis thanked her for
25 being proactive and noted he would look into her

1 matter.]

2 ***

3 Adjournment

4 CHAIR BEHUN:

5 Having reached the end of our Agenda
6 and hearing no further business, I will
7 entertain a motion to adjourn.

8 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

9 Claggett, so moved.

10 MS. EARLY:

11 Early, second.

12 CHAIR BEHUN:

13 All right. Having a motion and a
14 second, then we will adjourn this
15 meeting of the State Board of Social
16 Workers, Marriage and Family
17 Therapists, and Professional Counselors
18 at 11:06 a.m. on May 26, 2026.

19 ***

20 [There being no further business, the State Board of
21 Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and
22 Professional Counselors Meeting adjourned at 11:06
23 a.m.]

24 ***

25

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors meeting.



Jacob Hill,

Minute Clerk

Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS,
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS,
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
REFERENCE INDEX

May 26, 2026

TIME

AGENDA

8:45	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:30	Official Call to Order
10:31	Roll Call of Board Members/Introduction of Attendees
10:32	Approval of Minutes
10:33	Report of Prosecutorial Division
10:48	Report of Board Counsel
10:50	Regulatory Report
10:55	Applications
11:04	Public Comment
11:06	Adjournment