

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.



STATE OF NEVADA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

SUMMARY MINUTES PUBLIC BOARD MEETING May 9, 2026

Members Present: Chelsea Gonzalez, Christopher Liebl, Jocelyn Pereira,
Katherine Varughese

Members Absent: Scott Oakley, Excused Absent

Staff Present: Heather Hartley, Executive Director
Stacey Whittaker, Director of Licensing & Operations
Henna Rasul, Senior Deputy Attorney General

Public Present: Eddie Ableser, Chad Duke, Alexandria Evans, Ricky Gourrier, Paul Klein, Matt
Olivier, Izack Tenorio, Angela Terencio

Call to Order, Confirmation of Quorum

Chair Gonzalez called the Board meeting to order at 9:31 am. A roll call confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comment

Chair Gonzalez called for public comments. Paul Klein with Tri-Strategies introduced himself to the Board along with his team Eddie Ableser, Alexandria Evans, and Ricky Gourrier. There were no further comments.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Liebl made the motion, seconded by Katherine Varughese, to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 21, 2026. The motion passed.

Board Member Orientation

Executive Director Hartley presented a Board Member Orientation to include Structure and Administration of the Board, Administrative Requirements, Board Policies, Data Collection & Reporting, Laws/Regulations, and Roles/Responsibilities of Board Members. There were no questions or comments.

Disciplinary Matter – Consideration of Consent Decree April Grimaldi, OT License No. 09-0095 Case C26-01 & C26-03

Executive Director Hartley confirmed that Board members had received and reviewed the proposed Consent Decree for April Grimaldi, OT. Henna Rasul, Senior Deputy Attorney General, summarized the terms of the Consent Decree. Chair Gonzalez called for a motion. Vice Chair Liebl made the

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

motion, seconded by Jocelyn Pereira to approve the Consent Decree for April Grimaldi, OT in complaint case C26-01 and C26-03 as presented. The motion passed.

Disciplinary Matter – Consideration of Consent Decree Chad Duke, OT License No. 13-0375 Case C26-05

Executive Director Hartley confirmed that Board members had received and reviewed the proposed Consent Decree for Chad Duke, OT. Henna Rasul, Senior Deputy Attorney General, summarized the terms of the Consent Decree. Chair Gonzalez called for a motion. Jocelyn Pereira made the motion, seconded by Katherine Varughese to approve the Consent Decree for Chad Duke, OT in complaint case C26-05 as presented. The motion passed.

Disciplinary Matter – Recommendation for Dismissal of Complaint Case C26-04.

Executive Director Hartley stated that after review of all documentation received regarding the above referenced complaint, it has been determined that there is insufficient evidence to file a formal complaint for hearing before the Board and the facts set forth in the accusations are insufficient to establish a violation of Chapter 640A of the Nevada Revised Statutes or the Nevada Administrative Code.

Vice Chair Liebl made the motion, seconded by Katherine Varughese to dismiss complaint case C26-04. The motion passed.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Hartley provided a thorough report on Board Office Administrative Activities to include License Statistics, Department of Business and Industry Regulations, Board Regulations R094-25, Board Office Lease, and an update on Complaints.

Executive Director Hartley presented the FY 2026 Financial Reports for the 3rd Quarter ending March 31, 2026. Katherine Varughese made the motion, seconded by Vice Chair Liebl to approve the financials as written. The motion passed.

Proposed Regulations by the Commission on Professional Standards in Education, Regulation LCB File No. R102-25, was on the agenda for consideration at the Legislative Commission meeting on April 28, 2026. No action was taken at the Legislative Commission meeting.

The Occupational Therapy Board and Nevada Physical Therapy Board have provided the Commission with suggestions to amend the regulations as written.

Ms. Hartley informed the Board that federal requirements are in place that require the Board's website, applications, and service areas to be ADA compliant. Big Picture/Albertson Consulting have submitted a proposal to the Board to provide the remediation work for \$12,000.00. Ms. Hartley is proposing to reallocate \$4,000.00 from travel expenses for this year's fiscal budget, with the remainder of costs being allocated to the FY 2027 budget. Vice Chair Liebl made a motion to approve the website remediation work including the reallocation of the FY 26 budget. Katherine Varughese seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Executive Director Hartley has requested proposals through informal solicitation for legislative services. Contract duration would be for the 2026 Legislative Interim through the 2027 Legislative Session with a possible start date of June 1, 2026, and end date of June 30, 2027. The Board received a total of four proposals ranging in cost from \$3,000 to \$6,000 per month.

Minutes have not yet been approved and are subject to revision at the next meeting.

Board Members had the opportunity to review the proposals at a prior Board meeting and have narrowed the selection to Tri-Strategies and Strategies 360. Both agencies have submitted letters to the Board for consideration. Chair Gonzalez stated that the Board would be in great hands with either agency, both have connections to the healthcare industry and both have been very responsive. Vice Chair Liebl made the motion, seconded by Jocelyn Pereira, to move forward with a contract for legislative services with Tri-Strategies and to have Ms. Hartley execute the contract. The motion passed.

The Board's June 2026 draft Semi-Annual Newsletter was presented for review and approval. Jocelyn Pereira made the motion, seconded by Katherine Varughese to approve the June 2026 Newsletter as presented. The motion passed.

Report from Deputy Attorney General

Henna Rasul, Senior Deputy Attorney General, had no report.

Board Activities & Reports from Members

Executive Director Hartley went over the remaining 2026 Board meeting calendar and informed the Board that a special meeting must be scheduled in the interim for an application review. The Board agreed to meet on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 1:00 pm. There were no further questions or comments.

Public Comment

Eddie Ableser with Tri-Strategies thanked the Board and looks forward to working together. There were no further comments.

Adjournment

Chair Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 10:26 am.