



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
BOARD OF BARBERS AND HAIRDRESSERS

CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 3, 2026

By the authority of AS. 08.01.070(2) and AS08.86.030 and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.64, Article 6, a scheduled board meeting was held via teleconference/Zoom, February 3, 2026.

These are DRAFT minutes prepared by the staff of the Division of Corporation, Business and Professional Licensing. These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the board.

February 3, 2026:

Attendance

Members Present: Chair Kevin McKinley, Jennifer Lombardo, Jessica Pestrikoff, Willie Mae Canady, Shannon Thompson, Desarae Hager

Staff Present: Cynthia Spencer, Barbara Denney, and Damen Bennett Licensing Examiners, Program Coordinator Lacey Derr, Administrative Law Judge Beth Goldstein, Investigators Jenni Summers, Joy Hartlieb, Dannie Kerfeld, Sara Chambers Boards and Regulations Advisor, Melissa Dumas, Administrative Operations Manager

Public Present via Zoom: There were 5 members of the public attending.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The board was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Review/Amend Agenda

A. Review/Amend Agenda

Chair Kevin McKinley asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Hearing no amendments he polled the board.

Board members approved the February 3, 2026, meeting agenda as presented.

3. Ethics Disclosure

Shannon Thompson stated she works out of Kevin McKinley's Anchorage 5th Avenue shop as a "booth renter" under her own business.

No other board member in attendance had any ethics violations to report.

4. Administrative Business

A. Review/Edit/Approve Meeting Minutes

- i. November 5, 2025, Board Meeting
- ii. December 9, 2025, AO 360 Meeting
- iii. January 13, 2026, AO 360 Meeting
- iv. January 20, 2026, AO 360 Meeting

Chair McKinley asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes. Hearing no discussion, he requested a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion: 1st Jenn Lombardo – 2nd Mae Canady

Approve November 5, 2025, December 9, 2025, January 13, 2026, and January 20, 2026, meeting minutes as presented.

Approved by roll call vote.

Chair Kevin McKinley noted the board was ahead of schedule and suggested reviewing a short correspondence before public comment at 9:10 a.m. He asked LE Cynthia Spencer if one of the correspondences could be

addressed during the extra time.

LE Spencer stated they could review correspondence items and announced Judge Beth Goldstein had joined the meeting.

Chair McKinley greeted Judge Goldstein and explained that public comment and correspondence would occur before addressing the Judge's matter.

Judge Goldstein acknowledged and agreed to wait.

11. Administrative Business Cont.

C. Correspondence

i. Meaghan Enders - Request for Consideration: Dermaplaning Within Esthetician Scope with Verified Training

Chair McKinley asked if this request would require expanding esthetician licenses.

Mae Canady explained that dermaplaning would likely fall under a broader scope when the board extends aesthetics with an advanced aesthetics license. Definitions of appliances were recently updated, which may relate to this request.

PC Lacey Derr advised that if dermaplaning is not explicitly stated in statute or regulation, staff cannot interpret or authorize it. Standard response should direct the requester to legal counsel for interpretation.

The board acknowledged that current statutes do not specifically allow dermaplaning, though they could potentially accommodate it in the future.

Chair McKinley confirmed the process - revisiting esthetician regulations and statutes as part of the advanced aesthetics project.

PC Derr agreed this would be addressed in the larger advanced aesthetics project.

The board will respond to Ms. Enders advising:

- The board cannot interpret beyond statute and regulation.
- She should seek legal counsel for further interpretation.
- Dermaplaning is on the board's radar and will be considered during the advanced aesthetics project in 2026.

5. Public Comment

Chair McKinley asked LE Spencer who was online for public comment.

LE Spencer stated that the only public attendee who asked to speak with Jacqueline Polis.

Chair McKinley invited Ms. Polis to speak.

Jacqueline Polis, Esthetician.

- Expressed appreciation for Cynthia's participation despite feeling unwell.
- Asked for clarification on approval of prior meeting minutes (November, December, and two January meetings).
- Indicated interest in commenting on **med spa services** during administrative business and will continue listening to provide input when appropriate.

LE Spencer confirmed all listed minutes were approved.

Chair McKinley asked if there were any other attendees that wanted to speak.

LE Spencer stated no additional public comments were received; all other online participants were staff.

Chair Kevin McKinley stated that public comment would remain open until 9:20 a.m. and suggested returning to

correspondence items while waiting.

11. Administrative Business Cont.

C. Correspondence

ii. Victoria Murphy - Scope of Practice Clarification: Ultrasonic Cavitation

Chair McKinley noted multiple letters regarding esthetician scope of practice and suggested consistent responses.

PC Derr reiterated that if a service is not explicitly stated in statute or regulation, the board cannot interpret or authorize it; individuals should seek legal counsel.

Ms. Canady emphasized informing the esthetician community that the board is actively working on this issue and following the required process.

Desarae Hager raised the question of whether related provisions exist in Alaska medical statutes and suggested advising individuals to review current statutes and rules.

Chair McKinley confirmed the board will continue working with information from the MedSpa Working Group and explore licensing options as part of the advanced aesthetics project.

The board will respond to Ms. Murphy advising:

- The board cannot interpret beyond statute and regulation.
- Seek legal counsel for interpretation.
- The issue is under review as part of the advanced esthetics project.

ii. Miracle Workman – Esthetician Service Clarification (Dermaflash and Gloves for Waxing)

Jenn Lombardo asked board members for information regarding the use of gloves.

Ms. Canady stated gloves for waxing is optional; not required by statute or regulation. She encourages glove use for apprentices but confirmed no regulatory mandate.

Ms. Hager noted the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) may have related sanitation requirements and advised checking with DEC.

Chair McKinley requested clarification on the Dermaflash device for future discussion.

The board will respond to Ms. Murphy advising:

- Provide same standard response for scope-related questions.
- Advise Ms. Workman that glove use is optional and recommend checking DEC guidelines for sanitation requirements.

Chair McKinley noted the time was 9:20 A.M. and the public comment period had ended. He requested the board move onto Item 6.

6. Investigations

A. Dept. of Law, Office of Administrative Hearing – Case Review (Judge Goldstein)

Chair McKinley introduced Item 6A and invited Judge Goldstein to begin.

Judge Goldstein asked if the board would move into Executive Session first.

Chair McKinley confirmed the need for Executive Session.

Judge Goldstein noted that Cynthia had the motion wording displayed on the screen and offered additional wording if needed.

Motion to enter executive session: 1st Jenn Lombardo Hager - 2nd Desarae Hager.

Alaska State Board of Barbers and Hairdressers enter executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.610(c) and Alaska constitutional right to privacy provisions, for the purpose of discussing subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the

person may request a public discussion. Board staff to remain during the session.

Approved Unanimously.

Board entered executive session at 9:23 a.m. and returned from executive session at 10:04 a.m. Quorum of board confirmed by roll call.

Chair McKinley requested a motion be made.

Motion: 1st Jenn Lombardo – 2nd Mae Canady

Accept findings as provided for case 2021-000550 and 2022-000149 for Kimberly Steadman, 3-year suspension, civil fine of \$30,000 with \$10,000 suspended for instructor license No. HADI10152 and 4-year probation period with \$5,000 fine with \$1,000 suspended for shop owner license No. 103701 and amend Section G, Page 7 to reflect correct employer (ACPE) for Tyler Eggen.

Chair McKinley asked if the board had any additional comments or questions; hearing none, Chair McKinley requested a roll call vote.

	Roll Call Vote		
Name	YES	NO	RECUSE
Shannon Thompson	X		
Kevin McKinley	X		
Jessica Pestrikoff	X		
W. Mae Canady	X		
Jenn Lombardo	X		
Desarae Hager	X		

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair McKinley thanked Judge Goldstein for presenting and answering questions, noting this was the first time the board had handled such a matter.

Judge Goldstein thanked the board for their diligence and confirmed that paperwork had been sent to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) for distribution. She concluded by thanking the board for their attention and departed the meeting.

B. Investigative Report/Memo

Investigator Joy Hartlieb reviewed the Investigative Memo with the board. Inv Hartlieb reported for the period November 1, 2025 – January 20, 2026, there are 15 open cases and 30 closed cases. She asked if board members had any questions.

Chair McKinley commended Inv Hartlieb for the significant workload and opened the floor for questions.

Ms. Hager asked about progress on past cases, noting 15 new cases and 30 closed asking if backlog cases are being reduced and whether this eases investigators' workload.

Inv Hartlieb stated backlog reduction is occurring.

Chair McKinley inquired about "Division Inspection" listed under Manicurists.

Inv Hartlieb explained that an on-site inspection was conducted by another investigator; she will verify specifics and report back.

Chair McKinley asked if more inspections are occurring overall.

Inv Hartlieb noted snow days in December and January limited travel, with plans to resume increased public-facing inspections this month.

Chair McKinley observed investigations appear more present in the public. Inv Hartlieb confirmed.

Chair McKinley asked if there were any addition questions. Hearing none, he thanked Inv Hartlieb for her time.

C. Investigative Probation Report

Probation Monitor Dannie Kerfeld greeted the board and reported for the period October 4, 2025 – January 16, 2026, there are currently 10 licensees on probation and no licensee released from probation.

Chair McKinley asked about reasons for non-compliance.

PM Kerfeld explained that the first two probationers (of the three displayed) stem from one singular case; the license holder has moved out of state and does not intend to practice, resulting in non-compliance with the consent agreement. Paperwork is routed to the Chief to complete a suspension for that license holder. The third probationer has a condition in the consent agreement that either needs modification to achieve compliance, or the licensee must remedy the condition.

Chair McKinley confirmed that he answered his question. He asked if any other Board members had questions; hearing none, he thanked PM Kerfeld for the report.

LE Spencer noted that Chair McKinley was the reviewing board member for the case to be reviewed and will be left out of the executive session.

Motion to enter executive session: 1st Mae Canady – 2nd Desarae Hager
Alaska State Board of Barbers and Hairdressers enter executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.610(c) and Alaska constitutional right to privacy provisions, for the purpose of discussing subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion. Board staff to remain during the session.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Board entered executive session at 10:17 a.m. and returned from executive session at 10:52 a.m. Quorum of board confirmed by roll call.

Motion: 1st Jenn Lombardo – 2nd Desarae Hager
Adopt Consent Agreement for case 2025-000437 as written for Annika Kirchner, license No. 232418; 2-year probation period with a \$4,000 civil fine with \$2,000 suspended.

Vice Chair Lombardo noted the case involves a Class B misdemeanor and stated that any case involving a misdemeanor should be referred to legal; she supports the consent agreement's content but emphasized referral because it involves breaking the law.

Ms. Hager added that, in addition to reporting cases, the board should inform licensees that violations of legal statutes (such as misdemeanors) will be reported, to underscore seriousness regardless of the eventual disposition by the Law Department.

LE Spencer clarified for Class B misdemeanors; the proper referral is to local law enforcement (police or state troopers); the Department of Law acts after a case is presented by law enforcement—not before.

Chair McKinley asked whether the investigative unit would handle reporting.

LE Spencer stated yes, for future cases involving violations of state law, the investigative unit will conduct its investigation and report immediately to the appropriate law enforcement authority.

Ms. Lombardo thanked Cynthia for the clarification.

Chair McKinley asked if there was any further discussion on this matter, hearing none, he requested a roll call vote for the motion.

	Roll Call Vote		
Name	YES	NO	RECUSE
Desarae Hager	X		
W. Mae Canady	X		
Jenn Lombardo	X		
Shannon Thompson	X		
Jessica Pestrikoff	X		
Kevin McKinley			X Reviewing Board Member

THE MOTION PASSED BY A MAJORITY VOTE.

The Board thanked Investigators for their time and assistance.

Chair McKinley noted the Board was ahead of schedule and asked staff what they could work on until their scheduled break at 11:20 a.m.

PC Derr stated she would assume facilitation duties due to LE Spencer being unwell.

Chair McKinley thanked LE Spencer for her efforts and wished her well.

PC Derr proposed either a quick break now followed by Administrative Business or continuing correspondence until the 11:20 a.m. break.

Board members agreed they were all flexible. Board members resumed review the correspondence item from Miracle Workman.

Ms. Lombardo stated during Covid-19 the board provided guidance encouraged glove use, but it was not mandatory; DEC rules may not specify glove use.

Board members briefly discussed and asked staff to encourage Ms. Workman to contact DEC for guidance on glove requirements.

PC Derr confirmed no additional correspondence items remained.

Recess The Board recessed at 11:03 a.m. for a short break; reconvened at 11:20 a.m. Majority of the board confirmed by roll call

8. Administrative Business

A. MedSpa Services Esthetics Continuum

PC Derr stated at the request of board member Ms. Lombardo, the MedSpa Services Work Group materials were re-presented for refresher and discussion.

Ms. Lombardo thanked PC Derr for presenting this as it began prior to her being appointed to the board and a refresher would be greatly appreciated.

PC Derr stated the Work Group, led by Sarah Chambers and comprised of medical professionals, Board of Barbers & Hairdressers members, and industry stakeholders last met prior to posting materials to the website in February 2025. She stated that Work Group should be reprised anytime soon and what the board would like to see with that. She also stated that questions should be deferred to Jessica Pestrikoff, who was the board's liaison to this work group.

Chair McKinley clarified the liaison for the Work Group is Shannon Thompson and not Jessica Pestrikoff.

Ms. Thompson confirmed it has been some time since the group met and anticipated future meetings "not for quite some time" based on prior discussions.

Ms. Lombardo asked whether the Board should defer esthetics updates until AO360 is completed.

PC Derr explained that AO360 focuses on regulatory reduction, while advanced esthetics require statutory changes; thus, AO360 does not block the Board from initiating this work. AO360 deliverables are due to the Governor's Office in the coming weeks; statutory work for advanced esthetics would realistically align with the 2027 legislative cycle (including sponsor identification, drafting, Law review, public comment, and Board revisions).

Chair McKinley emphasized esthetics work as a top priority alongside AO360 and suggested dedicated esthetics-focused meetings (similar to prior AO360 sessions) to organize and advance the project.

Ms. Canady and Ms. Lombardo underscored the public's longstanding interest—with esthetics-related correspondence recurring over 15 years and urged momentum.

Ms. Hager requested a consolidated pre-meeting packet of pertinent history and materials to prepare for dedicated esthetics meetings.

Ms. Lombardo asked Ms. Canady and Ms. Thompson, members with esthetics experience, to lead development of a baseline esthetics curriculum, recommending a "foundation" built from 2–3 exemplary state curricula (and NIC resources), with parameters that allow for evolving modalities without overly prescriptive specifics. She also recommended Ms. Hager review prior meeting minutes and board packets for complete historical information.

Chair McKinley and PC Derr reiterated that staff are not subject-matter experts and rely on the Board to provide the professional groundwork; staff will package and format for public process once the Board supplies technical content.

Ms. Canady proposed broader public involvement (e.g., town halls via Zoom) to gather input and improve awareness.

Chair McKinley suggested coordinating with Susanne Schmaling as a subject-matter resource (acknowledging any prior mispronunciation with apology). He noted Ms. Pestrikoff will be instrumental in strategic planning and keeping the project organized and progressing.

An unknown public attendee raised their hand to address the board. Chair McKinley noted public comments are limited to the Public Comment agenda item. He stated that for questions during other agenda items, attendees may email Lacey Derr at lacey.derr@alaska.gov.

B. Fine Matrix Update – Review / Approve (Discussion & Direction)

Chair McKinley summarized prior feedback that the matrix needs updating (not necessarily a full overhaul) and can be cumbersome in parts, especially where first offenses persist for extended periods (e.g., over a year). He confirmed case-review experience among members: Mae Canady, Shannon Thompson, Jennifer Lombardo; public member does not review cases (per Lacey Derr, PC2).

Chair McKinley reviewed the working draft prepared by PC Derr.

Proposed Structure & Clarification of "First vs. Second" and Timeframes - Working draft:

- First offense, \leq 90 days \rightarrow Non-Disciplinary Letter of Advisement (NDLA).
- First offense, \geq 91 days \rightarrow Imposition of civil fine.
- Second (or multiple) offense(s) \rightarrow Imposition of civil fine (regardless of days).

Ms. Lombardo sought clarity on how days interact with second/more offenses.

Chair McKinley and PC Derr confirmed intent, anything outside "first offense \leq 90 days" should be treated as more stringent discipline (e.g., civil fines), including second/multiple offenses, \geq 91 days, and/or harm to another.

The board briefly discussed the removal of quarterly reports in line with AO360 and agreed

quarterly report references (e.g., “15 days from end of quarter”) will need removal or revision due to anticipated AO360 changes.

PC Derr informed the board that this was still applicable to require registration/permits prior to training and final records submission after training; lack of timely submission can be a violation even if quarterly references are removed.

Ms. Lombardo questioned whether timelines need to be in the matrix at all if already in statute/regulation.

Ms. Hager supported retaining day thresholds to escalate penalties where delays harm students (e.g., delayed licensure).

Board members agreed to remove obsolete “quarterly” language, keep clear time triggers where appropriate for escalation.

Ms. Hager requested explicit guidance on handling multiple first-time violations in the same case (e.g., “20 first offenses”).

Chair McKinley and PC Derr discussed per-incident treatment and confirmed precedent where investigators assessed per occurrence (e.g., license display issues across several practitioners).

Board members agreed the need to clarify “per incident / per practitioner / per student/apprentice” where applicable so fines scale with scope of noncompliance.

Chair McKinley asked whether rapid remediation after investigation contact should influence discipline.

Ms. Canady noted she weighs post-complaint compliance differently (oversight vs. negligence).

Board members agreed to keep investigator and reviewing member discretion; matrix is a tool, not an absolute—compliance status can be considered.

Ms. Hager asked whether 90 days starts when notified or when violation began.

PC Derr stated the clock is based on the violation occurrence (i.e., from the date the regulation was broken), not the notification date; investigators must manage caseload priorities and provided the following example.

- Shop license renewal timing: Operating without renewal can be a violation; if closed and renewal performed before reopening, no violation (subject to reviewing member discretion).

Chair McKinley noted common issues involve fraudulent CPR/First Aid/Bloodborne Pathogens certificates, often detectable via QR-code validation.

Ms. Lombardo proposed adding second/more offense handling and per-occurrence language to Tattooing of a Minor and Fraudulent License (currently marked NA for offense tiers).

Ms. Hager suggested per-incident fines and potential caps or step-ups for repeat conduct (e.g., doubling fines or triggering suspension/revocation at defined thresholds).

Chair McKinley supported clearer policy; floated example consequences but noted more research is needed for exact values.

Board members agreed to add per-occurrence structure and remove “NA” entries; leave specific escalation amounts to be developed through further research.

PC Derr confirmed she will update the matrix, and it will be presented to the board for a final review and adoption during their next meeting.

C. AOM 360 Completion

PC Derr opened discussion before reviewing the final AOM360 Excel spreadsheet. She noted the board had asked to revisit the Tattooing Aftercare materials currently posted and dated March 2003.

Chair McKinley summarized that statute requires aftercare to be provided and regulation prescribes what the aftercare must include he asked staff to confirm this structure.

Ms. Lombardo stated the statute text is relatively minimal but includes the phrase “approved by the board” for aftercare instructions. The regulation (and accompanying board-approved aftercare document, ~4–5 pages on the website) is overly prescriptive and should be simplified or eliminated; she believes specific aftercare content should be up to the practitioner, not the Board. Because the issue ties into statutory language, she recommended handling it outside AOM360, as a larger legislative project rather than a simple regulatory clean-up.

Chair McKinley agreed the topic has been contentious historically and aligned with the approach to remove it from AOM360 and move it to a legislative track for more thorough consideration.

Ms. Lombardo stated she supports handling through legislation and revising or replacing the existing board-approved aftercare document.

Ms. Canady and Ms. Thompson agreed.

The board briefly discussed aftercare and decided to not include Tattooing Aftercare changes in the AO360 package and to treat it as a legislative project to address the “approved by the board” clause and modernize the aftercare guidance.

Recess The Board recessed at 12:33 p.m. for a lunch break; reconvened at 1:00 p.m. Quorum of the board confirmed by roll call.

10. Division and Financial Update

A. FY26 1st Quarter Budget Report

Melissa Dumas, Administrative Operations Manager, greeted the board and reported the 2nd quarter report had been published and she would be reviewing that report with the board.

Ms. Dumas reviewed the FY26 2nd Quarter report with the Board.

Ms. Lombardo asked if Ms. Dumas could re-review the DEC expense section.

Ms. Dumas reported \$15,366.68 has been paid to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) under interagency management consulting. She noted that DEC billings are current; Department of Law billings typically appear later due to contract setup timelines. The period for billings is July 1 – December 31 (FY26 Q1–Q2 year-to-date).

Chair McKinley asked how this board fiscally compares with other boards.

Ms. Dumas explained cross-board comparisons are difficult due to license counts and staffing differences. She indicated the program looks financially healthy, including with the addition of a third Licensing Examiner. She hoped the added staffing correlates to efficiency gains.

PC Derr confirmed processing times have improved substantially; calls, emails, and most applications are handled within ~5 days.

Chair McKinley shared public feedback that callers can reach staff by phone, which is appreciated.

Ms. Lombardo requested a breakdown of how the Board’s payments to DEC are used, including number of inspections and indicative cost per inspection for tattoo/permanent cosmetic/body piercing facilities.

Ms. Dumas agreed to provide inspection counts and per-inspection cost detail to program staff for distribution to the Board. She also informed the board that their website provides a Board Member Resources page and Division Reports tab where reports are posted along with annual statistics, and Annual Reports. She emphasized using posted training and reports for ongoing Board reference.

The board thanked Ms. Dumas for the report and updates.

B. House Bill 243

Chair McKinley reported that the sponsor for HB243 is Representative Carrick from District 35. There is only one committee assigned, House Labor & Commerce. He Reported that he and Director Sylvan Robb had provided testimony addressing committee questions, including impacts on existing licensees—assured there would be no issues under the change. He noted at a meeting (yesterday at ~3:00 p.m.), the bill was read in Labor & Commerce and moved out without amendments or additional questions, and the bill will proceed to the Senate.

Ms. Chambers reported the bill is moving unusually fast; with no fiscal note it does not go to Finance and should proceed to the House floor, then to the Senate. In the Senate, it will likely be referred to Senate Labor & Commerce. She emphasized keeping proceedings simple and focused to avoid delays. Depending on committee needs, the Board may request limited, targeted testimony (e.g., Chair, possibly a school owner or instructor) to speak to the need for timely licensure approvals. She thanked Chair McKinley for being available and prepared, noting that his testimony contributed credibility to the bill's need and pace

Chair McKinley thanked Ms. Chambers and asked for questions; no questions were raised. He invited Ms. Chambers to proceed to Legislative Guidance (next agenda item).

C. 2026 Legislative Guidance

Ms. Chambers provided a brief annual refresher on legislative tools and processes relevant to the Board's work—useful for newer members, a refresher for experienced members, and informative for the public following Board activities.

A Legislative Guidance document was included in the board packet and displayed during the meeting. Ms. Chambers reviewed key tools & how to use them:

- Board Member Resources webpage (via the Board of Barbers & Hairdressers site under CBPL Quick Links):
 - ❖ Includes the Guide to Excellence in Regulation, which functions as the board member handbook.
 - ❖ See Section 9: Legislation and Legislative Audit for details on legislative process, audit involvement, and board roles.
- Tracking Bills & Hearing Schedules:
 - ❖ BTMF (Bill Tracking Management Facility):
 - ❖ Set up an account/folder to track bills (e.g., HB 243).
 - ❖ Receive email alerts when a bill is scheduled, heard, or moves out of committee.
- Legislative site / BASIS:
 - ❖ Search for specific bills to view status, text, amendments, fiscal notes, hearing audio/video, committee minutes, and submitted documents (e.g., sponsor statements, public letters).
- Live hearing access:
 - ❖ “Live Now” tab allows watching committee meetings in real time.
 - ❖ Archived audio/video typically available within hours for later review.

Ms. Chambers stated the Board has identified statutory changes through strategic planning and AO360 work. She noted that the Board will have a legislative audit this year; expect to be called next spring for audit hearings where the legislature may ask questions based on findings. She emphasized Summer/Fall 2026 are opportune windows to prepare for potential 2027 legislative proposals; this will require heavy lifts from board members requiring:

- multiple board members,
- public engagement,
- careful drafting, and
- coordination with staff and stakeholders).

Ms. Canady asked if travel bans were still in place. She noted previous travel to Juneau for legislative change submissions were incredibly helpful and educational; in-person meetings with legislators and legislative staff seemed to help the board with previous legislation.

Ms. Chamber stated State travel restrictions remain in place currently; in-person legislative engagement is limited, though regional legislative offices (e.g., Anchorage) can facilitate public testimony. She did note if the Board authorizes additional members to testify or engage with the legislature on the Board's behalf, she and staff can provide one-on-one coaching and materials review.

Chair McKinley shared a practical tip from Ms. Chambers: prepare thoroughly, even if you know the material—use notes for clarity and confidence.

Med Spa Services Work Group – Status Update

Ms. Chambers explained the Med Spa Work Group paused meetings during the AO360 window (announced August 2025), to avoid overloading boards already holding extra AO360 sessions. She stated board FAQ (current statutory/regulatory interpretations) was developed and circulated to the six participating boards; but two boards still need to finalize. She noted that web posting is on hold due to AO360 (no new guidance documents during AO360). After AO360 winds down (late February/March), staff intends to confirm membership and reconvene the work group to tackle next priorities and, if feasible, post the FAQ.

Chair McKinley noted a surge in esthetics questions and reiterated the Board's readiness to advance work beyond definitions, including advanced esthetics scope/licensure.

Ms. Chambers confirmed the task force previously encouraged the Board to start a statute project for an advanced esthetician license, acknowledging prior scheduling constraints (strategic planning, AO360). She offered to serve as the staff point and to coordinate with subject-matter resources (e.g., Susanne Schmaling, Esthetics Council) for Board work sessions. She stated that she can assist staff with consistent answers to "what's allowed today?" questions. She informed the board that members of the public (schools, associations, attorneys) may independently seek a legislative sponsor to propose an advanced esthetics bill; if legislators engage the Board, the Board will participate accordingly.

Ms. Lombardo asked about potential pushback given AO360's reduction focus.

Ms. Chambers clarified that advanced esthetician licensure is a legislative decision (not an executive/administration approval); a new license type would require division analysis (IT setup, staffing, potential cost impacts) in coordination with division leadership. She noted that while it adds a license category, it can reduce burdens on qualified estheticians who currently must operate under medical/nursing delegation—expanding lawful service options, business opportunities, and public access to services within a defined scope.

The board thanked Ms. Chambers for her time and assistance.

11. Administrative Business, Cont.

A. AOM 360 Cont. – Review/Approve Decisional Tracker

PC Derr thanked the Board for their extensive work on the AOM360 regulatory reform project, noting that the Board navigated 31 pages of regulations and substantial changes. She noted that of 138 reductions needed to meet the spirit of AOM360, the Board identified 247.5 reductions. She requested a formal motion to approve the Decisional Tracker for submission to the Governor's Office, beginning the standard regulatory process of Department of Law review, return to Board, and public comment.

Ms. Canady expressed concern that stakeholders may not be aware of the proposed changes and emphasized the importance of public notice and opportunity to comment.

PC Derr outlined the publications process:

- Portal notifications to licensees with electronic correspondence,

- USPS mail (where applicable; process has been updated to reduce returned mail costs),
- Division Listserv and website postings.

PC Derr noted previous town hall meetings were noticed and held with invited stakeholders; few public comments were received.

Ms. Chambers added: the AOM360 plan is a high-level, two-year work plan—each regulation change will still follow the normal rulemaking process (Regulations Specialist coordination, public notice, comment periods, hearings, board adoption). Meetings are publicly noticed on the Online Public Notice system and the Division website; Governor's Office will also publish all agencies' reform plans later this year, providing another avenue for public visibility.

Ms. Canady appreciated the clarification, reiterating public may be unaware of the Governor's reform initiative and encouraged proactive communication.

Ms. Hager shared that students are excited about contemplated changes and strongly supportive.

Ms. Lombardo emphasized that despite transparency, many industry members don't know where to look for updates; she noted disappointment that the AO360 public comment window was not clearly communicated to the Board and requested more communication going forward.

Chair McKinley acknowledged the challenge: while some people won't engage, the Board's goal is to reach as many stakeholders as possible throughout the process and noted multiple future steps for engagement.

PC Derr noted stakeholder invitations from Director Robb for multiple sessions across Business Licensing, Corporations, and Professional Licensing; apologized that DEC notifications are outside the Division's control.

Ms. Lombardo reported she did not receive any of those communications; Chair McKinley asked staff to follow up on this matter.

PC Derr displayed motion verbiage and confirmed that if the Board agrees, the Excel decisional tracker will be forwarded for inclusion in the state regulatory reform plan list.

Chair McKinley asked for a motion.

Motion: 1st Shannon Thompson—2nd Jenn Lombardo

Approve the AO 360 Barbers and hairdressers Reform Plan and Decisional Tracker with the proposed regulatory changes as presented.

Chair McKinley asked if the board had any additional discussion; hearing none, Chair McKinley requested a roll call vote.

	Roll Call Vote		
Name	YES	NO	RECUSE
Kevin McKinley	X		
Desarae Hager	X		
Jenn Lombardo	X		
Mae Canady	X		
Shannon Thompson	X		
Jessica Pestrikoff	X		

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair McKinley thanked board members for their hard work on this big project.

B. Review/Edit/Approve Mission Statement

PC Derr displayed the drafted Mission Statement.

Chair McKinley read the proposed mission statement):

“The Board of Barbers and Hairdressers cultivates an environment where practitioners receive transparent and responsive guidance, and consumers obtain services with the confidence and security that their health and safety are protected.”

Chair McKinley asked for a motion to approve.

Motion: 1st Shannon Thmpson– 2nd Jenn Lombardo

Approve the Mission Statement as written.

Chair McKinley asked if the board had any additional discussion.

Ms. Lombardo noted that the vision statement had previously been discussed alongside the mission and recalled a suggestion from Sara Chambers to read the mission at the start of each meeting as a symbolic way to “put on our board hats.”

LE Spencer clarified that during the last meeting, which the Chair McKinley was unable to attend, the Board reviewed both mission and vision statements and merged them into the single mission statement shown.

Ms. Thompson and Ms. Lombardo expressed support for reading the mission aloud at the beginning of meetings.

Chair McKinley read the mission statement aloud as practice and noted it “flows really well.” He asked if there was any further discussion, hearing none, he requested a roll call vote.

Motion: 1st Shannon Thmpson– 2nd Jenn Lombardo

Approve the Mission Statement as written.

	Roll Call Vote		
Name	YES	NO	RECUSE
Kevin McKinley	X		
Shannon Thompson	X		
Mae Canady	X		
Desarae Hager	X		
Jenn Lombardo	X		
Jessica Pestrikoff	X		

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair McKinley shared a message just came in from Cadence Connor, Chief of Staff to Rep. Ashley Carrick (bill sponsor), indicating HB 243 is now queued for the House floor. He reported that following House floor action, the bill will be transmitted to the Senate for referral and additional hearings likely Senate Labor & Commerce. He noted that the bill continues to move quickly.

D. Application Review – Yoseph Malcuit

Chair McKinley introduced the application review for Yoseph Malcuit.

PC Derr stated the board will need to defer to LE Spencer for this file review.

LE Spencer asked whether the review should occur in Executive Session rather than public session due to the nature of applicant information.

Chair McKinley agreed and requested a motion.

Motion to enter executive session: 1st Jenn Lombardo Hager - 2nd Shannon Thompson. Alaska State Board of Barbers and Hairdressers enter executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.610(c) and Alaska constitutional right to privacy provisions, for the purpose of discussing subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person,

provided the person may request a public discussion. Board staff to remain during the session.

Approved Unanimously.

*Board entered executive session at 2:15 p.m. and returned from executive session at 2:34 p.m.
Quorum of board confirmed by roll call.*

Chair McKinley requested a motion.

Motion: 1st Shannon Thmpson– 2nd Mae Canady

Accept the training hours for Yoseph Malcuit student permit file No. 245340 as presented.

Chair McKinley asked if the board had any additional discussion; hearing none, Chair McKinley requested a roll call vote.

	Roll Call Vote		
Name	YES	NO	RECUSE
Kevin McKinley		X	
Shannon Thompson		X	
Mae Canady		X	
Desarae Hager		X	
Jenn Lomnardo		X	
Jessica Pestrikoff		X	

MOTION FAILED – 0 TO 6

E. Schedule Future Board Meetings

Board members briefly discussed dates and times for future meetings.

The board agreed to the following meeting dates and times:

- May 5, 2026, Board Meeting – 9am – 4pm
- August 18, 2026, Board Meeting – 9am – 4pm
- October 6, 2026, Board Meeting – 9am – 4pm

Board members agreed to schedule additional AO360, esthetician licensing discussion, and Strategic Planning meetings as needed during future meetings.

Chair McKinley thanked all board members and staff for their engaged participation and collaborative spirit throughout the meeting. He highlighted the importance of the board's work, especially in addressing regulatory burdens that directly impact licensees and the public.

15. Adjourn

The chair declared the board off the record at 2:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cynthia Spencer, Licensing Examiner III

Approved:

Kevin McKinley, Chairperson
Board of Barbers and Hairdressers

Date: _____