

Alaska Board of Chiropractic Examiners: December 5, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Friday, December 5, 2025, 9:00 AM–2:00 PM AKST

Location: Zoom (Virtual)

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dr. John Lloyd at 9:10 AM.

Roll Call – All members present:

Dr. John Lloyd – Chair – Present

Dr. Walter Campbell – Member – Present

Dr. Tim Kanady – Member – Present

Dr. Edward Barrington – Member – Present

Mr. Ron Gherman – Public Member – Present

Guests/Staff:

Shane Bannarbie – Program Coordinator, Division

Reid Bowman – Program Coordinator, Division

Debbie Ryan – Alaska Chiropractic Society (ACS)

Joshua Hardy – Investigator, Division

Melissa Dumas – Operations Manager, Division

Dr. Jonathan Gates – Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Board (PT/OT)

Kim Lilly – Paralegal, Division

Audrey Garcia – Public attendee (technical audio issues; no oral comment provided)

2. Review/Approve Agenda

Motion:

RESOLVED to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

Moved by: Dr. Tim Kanady; Seconded by: Dr. Edward Barrington; Motion passed unanimously.

3. Ethics Reporting

Members were polled by roll call to declare any conflicts or ethics issues.

Result: No conflicts announced.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes (October 10, 2025)

Dr. Lloyd requested a specific sentence be tightened (removing “or anything like that”). Dr. Barrington suggested substituting “debridement or excision of tissue” to improve clarity.

Motion:

RESOLVED to approve the October 10, 2025 meeting minutes with clarification edits to language regarding laser treatment scope.

Moved by: Dr. Walter Campbell; Seconded by: Dr. Tim Kanady; Motion passed unanimously.

5. Public Comment

Public comment period was opened.

Outcome: No oral public comment received. Audrey Garcia remained muted

6. Investigative Report

Presenter: Joshua Hardy, Investigator

Period Covered: September 26, 2025 – November 20, 2025

Mr. Hardy explained the matters that were opened by the paralegals in Anchorage and Juneau regarding continuing education audits and license action resulting from those matters that are covered in his report. Dr. Lloyd opined, are these doctors that were audited, and did not have the correct hours? Mr. Hardy answered- yes and went on to explain that continuing education complaints generally arise from license audits; and noted a recent increase in claims associated with HIPAA questions relating to how patient information is treated. Dr. Lloyd questioned whether regulatory clarifications were needed. Mr. Hardy commented that statute and regulations are not especially confusing. The Board agreed the current statute and regulation framework is adequate.

Action: Discussion only.

7. Division Financial Report (FY25 Q4)

Presenter: Melissa Dumas, Operations Manager

Ms. Dumas summarized the: The division anticipates a renewal fee increase prior to the next cycle to prevent further deficit growth, noting licensee count declined ~5% (FY19–FY25). Dr. Lloyd expressed concern about perceived high program fees (~\$1,000–\$1,400) and opined if it is a professional hardship. Debbie Ryan voiced concerns regarding the increase of fees from 2022 (\$600) to 2024 fee (\$1000) considering the current proposed increase. Mr. Dumas explained there are several administrative factors coupled with the decline in licensure affecting the increased fees. Dr Walter Campbell presented educating the public on the current financial situation and why the fees are increased, explaining the prices are going to be what the prices are going to be because of the cost of government. The board agreed that preparing a transparent FAQs with fee rationale is beneficial. Mrs. Dumas agreed to provide a draft fee analysis with explanation and regulation language to the Board at the next meeting.

Action: Discussion only.

8. ACS Report

Presenter: Debbie Ryan, Alaska Chiropractic Society

Mrs. Rayn had the following updates:

The 2026 ACS Convention is slated for Nov 1–4, with hybrid packages (up to 48 hours: 32 live + 16 online); online-only package also planned. Mrs. Ryan also commented she's received reports of Moda requiring cyber insurance to stay in network and needing to investigate this further. Mrs. Ryan also noted that she's heard reports of one week scheduling backlogs in some clinics due to low recruitment of doctors. Mrs. Ryan stated she's been dealing with cyber insurance issues, and she recommended, if you don't have it, you need to get it as it was recommended to her to protect against financial scams. The Board acknowledged Mrs. Ryans concerns around program cost burdens, insurance changes, and cybersecurity warnings.

Action: Discussion only.

9. PT/OT Board Scope Modernization

Presenter: Dr. Jonathan Gates, PT/OT Board

I'm here representing the Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board. We're in the middle of a big push for scope modernization. Dr. Gates explained the PT/OT Board is seeking title protection for physiotherapy physiotherapist. Mr. Gates clarified the PT/OT board is not seeking term protection for "physiotherapy/physiotherapies" and chiropractors may continue advertising/treating with physiotherapies; they just may not use protected titles. Dr. Campbell opined, so there's no issue with someone saying they do physiotherapy at a chiropractic office; it would just be an issue if that chiropractor called themselves a physiotherapist? Dr. Gates responded "yes, sir, exactly. Dr. Gates summarized, the scope modernization being proposed is explicit to mobilization/manipulation language; dialogue on prescriptive privileges/injections (e.g., trigger point, hyaluronidase); and exploring primary care recognition. The board carried on discussions on the topic and agreed members don't ever hear physical therapists call themselves physiotherapists. Dr. Lloyd provided commentary on if there is a term that chiropractors are using when they do physical therapy style of care, which is like the ultrasound therapeutic exercise, asking the board if they know what the chiropractors are using at this point. Mrs. Ryan noted she believes they are advertised as doctor and they do physiotherapies. Dr. Gates included, if a chiropractor says I provide physiotherapy, then what this scope modernization language is trying to protect aligns with that. Dr. Kanady stated he believes the proposal is very reasonable. Dr. Gates confirmed Section B of the scope modernization language intended to protect chiropractic use of physiotherapies while securing PT title protection.

Action: Discussion only. The board expressed support in principle for title protection with explicit safeguard language preserving chiropractic use of physiotherapies.

10. Executive Session (Consent Agreement – License #105714)

Motion to enter executive session

RESOLVED to enter Executive Session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)(2) and constitutional privacy provisions to discuss consent agreement for License #105714 (subjects tending to prejudice reputation/character; person may request public discussion). Moved by: Dr. John Lloyd; Seconded by: Dr. Tim Kanady; Motion passed unanimously.

Motion for recusal of Dr. Lloyd:

RESOLVED to recuse Chair Dr. John Lloyd from Executive Session and voting on License #105714 based on his role as reviewing board member.

Moved by: Dr. Edward Barrington; Seconded by: Dr. Tim Kanady; Motion passed unanimously.

Recording paused for executive session at 10:00A.M.

Recording Resumed at 10:30A.M. All members, guests, and public guests were present.

Motion to accept consent agreement.

RESOLVED to accept the Consent Agreement for License #105714.

Moved by: Dr. Walter Campbell; Seconded by: Dr. Edward Barrington.

Motion passed unanimously, Dr. Lloyd – Recused (did not vote)

11. Break

A 10-minute break was taken at 10:30A.M.

Meeting resumed at 10:50A.M; all members, guests, and public guests were present.

12. AO360 Regulation Reduction Project (Discretionary Regulations)

The board reviewed and discussed the AO360 staff recommendation document and identified the following regulations for removal:

12 AAC 16.031(c)(7)- Duplicative text.

A notarized, sworn statement by the applicant that the applicant has not been, within the five years preceding the date of application, the subject of an unresolved review or an adverse decision based upon a complaint, investigation, review procedure, or disciplinary proceeding undertaken by a state, territorial, local, or federal chiropractic licensing jurisdiction, chiropractic society, or law enforcement agency that relates to criminal or fraudulent activity, chiropractic malpractice, or negligent chiropractic care and that adversely reflects on ability or competence to engage in the practice of chiropractic or the safety or well-being of patients.

12 AAC 16.031(d)(1)- Duplicative text, the sworn statement is enforceable by Alaska Statute 11.56.210

A notarized, sworn statement by the chiropractor licensed in this state for whom the applicant will substitute, including the dates of the substitute practice and the date that the chiropractor licensed in this state will resume practice.

12 AAC 16.041(1)- The board wished to remove this limitation.
may supervise not more than one chiropractic intern at a time.

12 AAC 16.041(3)- The board viewed as unnecessary language.

Before any chiropractic manipulative therapy performed by the intern, the preceptor must provide a patient with an informed consent document that states that the chiropractic intern is a chiropractic student and not a licensed chiropractic physician in this state.

12 AAC 16.042 TEMPORARY PERMITS- The board wished to remove this entire regulation as it is no longer relevant to the chiropractic program given current state exam procedures.

12 AAC 16.205(b)- the board viewed this is an irrelevant regulation to the process
An applicant for a courtesy license must submit a complete application on a form provided by the department no later than 45 days before the special event for which the courtesy license is requested. A complete application includes.

The board requested an FAQ be drafted to inform applicants of the process and typical timeframes.

12 AAC 16.205(b)(2)- the board viewed a drivers license is valid.
A current signed photograph of the applicant.

12 AAC 16.205(b)(3)- the board viewed this regulation as unnecessary.
A certification from the applicant certifying that the applicant is not a resident of this state.

12 AAC 16.205(b)(8)- The board viewed this requirement as duplicative and excessive for the type of license requested.

a report, issued by the applicant's primary state of residence no earlier than 90 days before the application, and that is equivalent to a report under AS 12.62 issued by this state containing criminal history record information concerning the applicant; if the applicant holds or has ever held a license in a state other than this state to practice chiropractic, a complete application also includes a report, issued by that state no earlier than 90 days before the application, and that is equivalent to a report under AS 12.62 issued by this state containing criminal history record information concerning the applicant

12 AAC 16.205(d)- Partial removal of this regulation.
A notarized copy of the license may be submitted in place of verification.

12 AAC 16.205(e)- Duplicative verification measure.
A document required by (b) or (d) of this section that is not in English must be accompanied by a certified English translation of the document

12 AAC 16.206(b)(1)- Applications may be completed online without a form.
Must submit a completed application on a form provided by the department.

12 AAC 16.345(a)(1)- Applications may be completed online without a form.
A completed application on a form provided by the department

12 AAC 16.410(d)- The board wished to remove this limitation.
A member of the utilization review committee may not serve on the committee for more than four consecutive years. The member may not be reappointed until two years have elapsed since the member last served on the committee.

12 AAC 16.420(b) The board wished to remove section as some services don't require payment.

A licensee's acceptance of or request for payment for treatment given to a patient constitutes the licensee's consent to submit to the utilization review committee the information required in (c) of this section.

12 AAC 16.430(a)(3)

Canadian Chiropractic Association

12 AAC 16.430(a)(10)

World Chiropractic Alliance

12 AAC 16.430(a)(11)

World Federation of Chiropractic

12 AAC 16.930(c)(1)- The board views this an invalid regulation.

With the consent of the patient.

12 AAC 16.930(c)(2)- The board views this an invalid regulation

Outside professional treatment sessions.

12 AAC 16.930(c)(3)- The board views this an invalid regulation

Off of the premises regularly used by the licensee for the professional treatment of patients.

Dr. Edward Barrington withdrew his entire regulation reform proposals submitted via the regulatory reform written comment form. Dr. Barrington noted his proposals were a duplicative effort in consideration of the board's actions on the AO360 reduction plan at the meeting and included centralized regulation reform (12aac 02.150.) which is outside of the board's scope. The board accepted the withdrawals.

Dr. Lloyd asked the board members if they have any information on the CCA (Chiropractic Assistants Program). Explaining that theoretically, the staff members in this state are intended to be licensed to do the procedures that they do. Our position on the board was that doctors, by definition, are professionals, everybody will investigate that on their own accord. It has come up a bit more recently and maybe something that should be addressed by the board. Dr. Lloyd went on to explain that the most common question is, can the assistants do x-rays? He acknowledged the board does have a pathway forward for people to do that? however, he concluded with, do we, as a board, want to continue to keep our position on that, which is, really let the profession police themselves, or do we have any interest in, putting out clear information as to how that process works?

Dr. Campbell opined he thought the CCA scope was covered in regulation. Dr. Lloyd responded he does not believe it is common knowledge for practitioners. Dr. Campbell suggested providing an FAQ to inform CCAs and chiropractic practitioners. Dr. Lloyd was in favor of putting an FAQ together and possibly getting it out after the new year. Dr. Lloyd asked if Ms. Ryan knew how many people are going through the CCA program. Ms. Ryan stated she could go find that out.

13. Email Correspondence

Evicore Peer to Peer Reviews: The board's position on the Evicore peer to peer reviews is that they are not in favor of it and feels that out of state individuals should not be reviewing practices in Alaska. The board agreed anyone regulating care should be aware of state regulations and procedures. The board has decided to table this response and address it at the next meeting. Reid Bowman volunteered to follow up with Division of Insurance and inform the board of their response.

The board reviewed correspondence regarding need for malpractice insurance for Ashiastu bars. The board agreed this question fell outside of chiropractic scope.

The board reviewed correspondence on whether Alaska law permits chiropractors to independently perform needle EMG and NCS and what are the supervision requirements for direct vs indirect supervision, if applicable: The board agreed, no supervision is required and ultimately decided to have the OLE draft the following response: "it would be a good idea to check with your regulatory board for your PT, we can't comment on that. As far as chiropractic goes, the best advice we have for you is to check the regulations and determine if you're inside the scope of regulations.

Action: No formal motion/vote on AO360 package

14. Task List

- Division (Dumas): Provide fee analysis at next meeting.
- ACS (Debbie Ryan): Verify payer cyber insurance requirements (e.g., Moda) and report findings.
- Shane: draft formal AO360 board planning
- Reid Bowman: volunteered to follow up with Division of Insurance and inform the board of their response.

14. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Lloyd, Second by Ron Gherman. Motion passed unanimously, meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM