

Alaska Board of Chiropractic Examiners

Meeting Minutes – January 16, 2026

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order via Zoom at approximately 9:00 AM AKST. Due to initial connectivity issues for Chair Dr. John Lloyd, Dr. Tim Kanady served as acting chair to open the session and conduct roll call.

1. Roll Call / Attendance

Board Members

- Dr. John Lloyd – Chair (joined after initial connectivity issues and assumed chair duties)
- Dr. Tim Kanady – Acting Chair to open; Member
- Dr. Walter Campbell – Member (present)
- Dr. Edward Barrington – Member (present)
- Mr. Ron Gherman – Public Member (present)

Staff & Guests

- Melissa Dumas – Operations Manager
- Joshua (Josh) Hardy – Investigator
- Debbie Ryan – Alaska Chiropractic Society (ACS)
- Reid Bowman – Program Coordinator
- Shane Bannarbie – Program Coordinator
- Public attendee: Sam Greer

Ethics/Conflict Disclosure: On opening, members reported no ethics conflicts. Later in the meeting, conflicts were disclosed for a specific CE exemption item (see item 11).

2. Agenda Review & Approval

Motion: Approve meeting agenda.

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

Vote taken. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

Acting chair invited public comment. Sam Greer attended but no comment was offered. Public comment period was closed.

4. Division Update – Fee Analysis (Presenter: Melissa Dumas)

Melissa presented an Excel-based fee and revenue analysis and outlined the program's projected deficit if fees remain unchanged. Without adjustments, the program could reach an estimated \$600,000 deficit by the FY30–31 biennium. She previewed proposed changes to improve solvency, including increasing the renewal fee by \$350; increasing certain non-refundable application fees; increasing CE fees; and removing the specialty designation (no longer utilized). Even with these changes, the analysis still projected a mid-biennium shortfall (\$245,000 by FY30–31), underscoring both shrinking licensee count (5% reduction since FY19) and rising costs, while noting past temporary offsets from general funds are no longer available. Board members discussed program cost

drivers, especially interagency legal, investigative, and non-investigative personal services cost. Chair transition: After resolving Zoom access, Dr. John Lloyd joined and assumed chair duties.

Board Discussion – Potential Revenue Offset via Certified Chiropractic Clinical Assistant Program (CCA) Program management. Dr. Lloyd proposed the board provide a PACE-approved online Certified Chiropractic Assistant training program to the profession and offer training at a nominal fee (e.g., \$200–\$300) to reduce overall license fees by generating board revenue. Dr. Lloyd went on to suggest the board could replace the national exam with a state-administered exam (board-developed and graded by a qualified reviewer), thus keeping the exam fee instate. He also included the program could renew biennially with CE's required, potentially creating ongoing revenue to help offset board deficits. The board discussed and came to the agreement that administrative costs for licensing and tracking CCAs must be cost-neutral and not an overcharge to the public. Melissa recommended modeling such costs before setting any fee. The board agreed to form a workgroup to draft regulatory language and begin a project for CCA credentialing to be managed by the Alaska Board. The board also agreed to include this item within the AO360 regulations plan as a priority.

Motion: Form a one-member workgroup consisting of Dr. John Lloyd to draft language enabling CCA credentialing through the board and to coordinate administrative cost analysis.

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

Vote taken: Motion passed unanimously.

6. Investigative Report (Presenter: Joshua Hardy)

Period covered: Nov 21, 2025 – Jan 8, 2026.

Mr. Hardy summarized cases, complaints, CE audit-related license actions, and noted low overall license action volume in recent years. Dr. Lloyd inquired about the continuing education complaint within the report and whether it was a doctor that was complaining. Mr. Hardy explained that, yes, continuing education complaints are going to be generally from the result of license audits. Dr. Lloyd went on to inquire if there was anything the board needed to deal with as far as a violation of professional statute or regulation. Are there any confusing areas in the regulations that we may need to clarify? Mr. Hardy replied he was not aware of such a need but did identify that He's been getting more complaints regarding HIPAA questions relating to how patient information is treated but affirmed he's seen nothing specifically where the statute or regulations are especially confusing. The board had no further questions for Mr. Hardy.

7. Alaska Chiropractic Society (ACS) Report (Presenter: Debbie Ryan)

Ms. Ryan informed the board that in November, she attended the Cairo Congress State Association meeting. Explaining it's the one meeting a year where all the associations get together to talk about the profession's trends and best practices. Ms. Ryan also covered the ACS convention planning. Highlighting, that ACS is simplifying it down to where it's going to be a package that's going to include live and virtual online credits.

We're going to make it very simple. You can come to convention up to 32 hours. She explained it would be constructed according to the format below:

- Three products: member, non-member (identical content), and online-only option.
- Up to 48 CE hours for one price (~32 live + 16 online), with flexible attendance (half-days allowed) and early access to online hours upon registration. ¹
- Pricing context: approx. \$1,200 (early-bird member rate) including meals; ACS can arrange payment plans for hardship cases; enhanced membership includes additional benefits (e.g., assistant attendance and compliance platform access).

8. Physical Therapy Practice Act modernization stakeholder input (Presenter: Jonathan Gates:

Mr. Gates expressed the PT Board sent him to consult with the chiropractic board about what you see here on their scope modernization plan document. Mr. Gates explained there is PT push for term protection for physiotherapy, physiotherapist and wanted to hear the board's feedback on the matter. Mr. Gates elaborated that the PT Board doesn't want to infringe on physiotherapeutic or have this affect you in any negative way. After some conversation on the matter, 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. Mr. Gates answered "yes, Sir, exactly". The board discussed the term physiological therapeutics within the local chiropractic industry and agreed that no chiropractor has used the term physiological therapeutics in advertising services that they are aware of. The board also discussed proposed PT scope language explicitly listing joint mobilization/manipulation (including thrust), potential claims of primary care provider status, and ordering imaging/labs—areas with possible overlap or safety concerns relative to Alaska chiropractic statutory definitions. The board concluded its commentary by asserting that the PT scope plan looks very reasonable, but they will provide more feedback on it at a later date.

9. Continuing Education (CE) Hardship Waiver Requests

The board heard continuing education hardship request for Dr. Morris. Dr. Morris requested to complete more than the allowed 16 credits of CEs online. The board discussed their authority to grant the waiver requested by Dr. Morris. Dr. Campbell opined, he doesn't think the board has the discretion to waive the requirement for the 16 hours of education to be completed in person. Reid Bowen clarified to the board Dr. Morris is not renewing or reinstating a license and does not meet the regulation to put him at the board's direction to approve such a request because hardship waivers only apply to active licenses. He needs to provide an initial application. The board agreed with this position and denied the request, and requestor notified by the examiner.

The board heard continuing education hardship request for Dr. Brent Wise. Dr. Wise requested to complete all 32 hours of his required continuing education online. The board reviewed the details of the letter. Dr. Walter Campbell recused himself from the discussion because he holds a 10% stake in the clinic the doctor works at. Dr. John Lloyd felt he shouldn't vote or be in discussion on the request either, though he supports the request. Dr. Lloyd was recused from the discussion and vote. Dr. Tim Kanady, commented I think it kind of defeats our purpose (granting the waiver to allow all 32 hours to be completed online). Dr. Barrington added, I think that Dr. Weiss should plan to come to Anchorage for convention. If there is a hardship, if the weather is bad, or his car breaks down and he can't make it, then perhaps we could give him authorization to finish his schooling online.

The board voted:

Conflicts disclosed: Dr. Campbell (minor ownership interest in clinic) and Dr. Lloyd (personal familiarity) both recused and did not vote; Reid reminded that recused members still count toward quorum but cannot participate in deliberation or vote. Motion: Grant CE hardship exemption (allow all required live hours online) for the current period.

Vote: FAILED (0–3). NAY—Kanady, Barrington, Gherman; Recused—Campbell, Lloyd. Board rationale emphasized live CE intent, availability of Anchorage convention (October; flexible attendance), and case-by-case hardship standard.

10. AO360 Regulations Reduction Plan (Presenter: Shane Bannarbie)

Board reviewed draft of the AO360 plan (statewide administrative order process) to reduce and streamline regulations. The board discussed the discretionary regulation language compiled by the license examiner for removal from regulation. Sections removed included the temporary permit regulation and several documents adopted by reference are included within the plan. The board reductions are expected to meet/exceed the 25% reduction benchmark set by the governor's office. The examiner will upload finalized plan to OnBoard for board approval.

11. Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB) /Annual Conference Travel Board discussed attendance at the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB) meeting (with NBCE sessions). Scholarship funding may be available; however, state travel—regardless of external funding—requires Governor's office exemption under current administrative orders. Dr. Walter Campbell will draft a justification letter for travel exemption; Reid Bowman outlined the approval process and noted that delegate status implies official state business.

Delegate Confirmation: Prior board actions designated Dr. Campbell as delegate and Dr. Lloyd as alternate; the board reaffirmed the delegate and alternate selection and chose to pursue the travel exemption for the FCLB conference.

12. Next Meetings

Tentative Regular Meeting: Friday, May 15, 2026

13. Task List / Assignments

- Dr. John Lloyd — Draft CCA credentialing language (third pathway through the board) and coordinate with staff; deliver draft for AO360 inclusion.
- Dr. Walter Campbell — Draft travel-exemption justification letter for FCLB/NBCE and route via staff for approval workflow.
- Melissa Dumas (Division) — Provide administrative cost estimate for CCA licensing/exam process once draft scope is defined.
- Debbie Ryan (ACS) Send PT statute/draft & AK chiropractic statute comparison; coordinate expert briefing by Dr. Cole Hosenfeld.
- Shane Bannarbie (Staff) —
- Upload AO360 plan to OnBoard; include CCA item as priority.
- Respond to Dr. Richard Morris clarifying ineligibility for reinstatement and outline by-exam CE requirements; refer to ACS for payment plan options if needed.
- Notify Dr. Weiss of board decision on CE hardship (denial).

14². Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Ron Gherman; Second: Dr. Tim Kanady — Passed unanimously.

Adjourned: approximately 12:45 PM AKST. ³
