

1 STATE OF ALASKA
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
3 DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS, AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
4

5 STATE MEDICAL BOARD
6 MINUTES OF MEETING
7 Friday, May 15, 2026
8

9 *These are DRAFT minutes prepared by staff of the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional*
10 *Licensing. They have not been reviewed or approved by the Board.*
11

12 By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, a quarterly meeting
13 of the Alaska State Medical Board was held Friday, May 15, 2026
14

15 **1. Call to Order/ Roll Call**

16 The meeting was called to order by Chair Taylor at 8:33 a.m.
17

18 **Roll Call**

19 Board members present:

20 Michael McNamara, MD
21 David Paulson, MD
22 Bob Skala, DO
23 Brent Taylor, MD (Chair)
24 David Wilson, Public Member
25

26 Absent: David Barnes, DO
27 Lee Walker, PA
28

29 Staff present: Glenn Saviers, Deputy Director, Kendra Wardlaw, Senior Investigator, Natalie Norberg,
30 Executive Administrator; Jason Kaeser, Licensing Supervisor.
31

32 Dr. Skala was welcomed as a new member of the Board.
33

34 **2. Review / Approval of Agenda**
35

36 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor, and approved by roll call vote,**
37 **the Alaska State Medical Board decided to adopt the agenda as presented.**
38

39 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
40 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker
41

42 **4. Review/Approval of Minutes**

43 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor, and approved by roll call vote,**
44 **the Alaska State Medical Board approved the minutes for the February 2, 2026, March 19,**
45 **2026, April 7, 2026 and April 16, 2026 meetings as presented.**
46

47 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson

1 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

2
3 **4. Ethics Disclosures**

4
5 Chair Taylor disclosed that he has a professional and personal conflict concerning Dr. Stanberry.

6
7 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Paulson, and approved by roll call**
8 **vote, the Alaska State Medical Board recused Chair Taylor from deliberating on matters**
9 **before the Board concerning Dr. Carl Stanberry.**

10
11 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson

12 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

13
14 Dr. McNamara disclosed conflicts involving three physicians: Dr. Carl Stanberry, a personal friend
15 and colleague; Dr. Kevin Paisley, with whom he has shared office space for the past year; and Dr.
16 Steven Tower, a long-time coworker with whom he regularly exchanged backup coverage. Chair
17 Taylor recused Dr. McNamara from all Board matters related to these three physicians.

18
19 Dr. Skala disclosed a conflict concerning Dr. Kevin Paisley, related to just having been his patient 4
20 to 5 years ago. Chair Taylor recused Dr. Skala from deliberating on matters before the Board
21 concerning Dr. Kevin Paisley.

22
23 No other ethics disclosures were made by Board members.

24
25 **5. Public Comments and Board Correspondence**

26
27 No members of the public requested to address the board.

28
29 **6. Old business**

- 30 • **Request for Reconsideration: Letter of Opposition HB 195 / SB 147 – Pharmacist Prescriptive**
31 **Authority**

32 Chair Taylor explained that the Pharmacy Association asked the Board to reconsider its opposition to HB
33 195. The original bill granted pharmacists broad authority to independently assess, prescribe, and
34 administer drugs or devices for the treatment or prevention of any condition. Recent amendments now
35 restrict pharmacists from prescribing controlled substances.

36
37 Dr. Skala summarized his analysis, noting that cooperative practice agreements would no longer require
38 Medical Board approval and that the bill authorizes pharmacists to perform clinical assessment and
39 prescribing while placing all regulatory oversight under the Board of Pharmacy. He stated this conflicts
40 with the Medical Board's responsibility to protect the public and regulate the practice of medicine. Dr.
41 McNamara agreed. Dr. Paulson stated he did not support revising the Board's letter of opposition.

42
43 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor, and approved by roll call**
44 **vote, the Alaska State Medical Board decided not to amend its letter of opposition to House**
45 **Bill 195 and Senate Bill 147.**

46
47 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson

48 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

1 • **Review and approval of physical therapy primary care statement**

2 In response to the discussion during the last board meeting concerning physical therapists as primary
3 care providers, it was requested that the Board issue a statement to summarize its position. A draft
4 statement was reviewed.

5
6 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor, and approved by roll call vote,**
7 **the Alaska State Medical Board decided to adopt the physical therapy primary care statement**
8 **as presented.**

9
10 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
11 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

12
13 • **Board Member workload relief strategies – follow up discussion**

14 The Board discussed strategies to reduce the case review burden on its members, including delegating
15 technical and reciprocal-action cases to the Executive Administrator, allowing the public member to
16 review CME compliance cases, exploring contracting with a physician reviewer, and investigating
17 potential AI tools (with caution due to FSMB concerns).

18 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Paulson, and approved by roll call vote,**
19 **the Alaska State Medical Board decided to delegate all potential technical violation cases and**
20 **reciprocal action disciplinary cases to the Executive Administrator and to the public members of**
21 **the board for review and to make recommended action for the board’s consideration; and that**
22 **the Board supports the Division of Corporations, Business & Professional Licensing’s efforts to**
23 **develop and implement a contract for the purpose of securing an individual to assist the board in**
24 **investigative case reviews.**

25
26 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
27 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

28
29 **7. New Business**

30 • **Regulation changes related to Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements**

31 Last year, the Department of Health secured a Rural Health Transformation Grant of \$270 million per
32 year for five years. A condition of continued funding requires Alaska physicians to complete CME in
33 nutrition. The proposed regulation changes, included in the Medical Board’s Administrative Order 360
34 Plan, would bring Alaska into compliance. The proposed changes also reduce required CME in pain
35 management, opioid use, and addiction from two hours to one. Board members expressed support for
36 the changes.

37
38 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor, and approved by roll call vote, the**
39 **Alaska State Medical Board decided to initiate a regulations project regarding an AO360 priority**
40 **one project for the Alaska State Medical Board by approving changes as presented to the**
41 **following regulations for public comment, unless substantive changes are made by the**
42 **regulation’s specialist or Department of Law: 12 AAC 40.200 and 12 AAC 40.470.**

43
44 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
45 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

46
47 • **Criteria for physician assistant application for independent practice**

1 SB 89 has passed the legislature and is awaiting the governor's action. Once enacted, it will place the
2 scope of practice and licensing requirements for physician assistants (PAs) directly into statute,
3 removing the Medical Board's authority to regulate these areas. The law will also allow PAs to apply to
4 the Board for approval to practice independently, without a collaborative agreement, when working
5 outside an approved facility. The Board must now establish criteria for granting independent practice.
6 Materials summarizing criteria used in other states, along with recommendations from the Alaska
7 Academy of Physician Assistants and the Alaska Medical Association, were presented for review. The
8 Board chose to postpone a decision until Mr. Walker, the PA representative, can participate.

9 10 **8. Break**

11 The Board went off the record at 9:43 a.m. and returned on the record at 9:57 a.m.

12 13 **9. Full Board Review**

14 **Ahmed Gbadamosi, PA**

15
16 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by roll call vote, the**
17 **Alaska State Medical Board entered in executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)(2),**
18 **and the Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions for the purpose of discussing Mr.**
19 **Gbadamosi's application for licensure.**

20
21 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
22 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

23
24 The board went off the record at 9:59 a.m. and returned on the record at 10:06 a.m.

25
26 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by roll call vote, the**
27 **Alaska State Medical Board denied a physician assistant license to Mr. Ahmed Gbadamosi. The**
28 **decision to deny the license is in accordance with AS 08.64.240(b) and AS 08.64.326 (a) (13). Mr.**
29 **Gbadamosi's license was suspended in 2019 then subsequently surrendered in the State of**
30 **Maryland in 2020. Mr. Gbadamosi's applications for licensure were denied in Washington in 2022**
31 **and in California in 2021.**

32
33 Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
34 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

35 36 **10. Malpractice Cases**

37
38 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by a roll call**
39 **vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
40 **44.62.310 (c)(3), with board staff remaining in the session and all others excluded from the**
41 **session for the purpose of discussing malpractice cases involving the following practitioners:**

- 42 • Ernst Hansch, MD
- 43 • Jonathan Hinds, MD
- 44 • Daniel Lewis, MD
- 45 • Carolyn Merkouris, MD
- 46 • Kevin Paisley, DO – 2 cases
- 47 • Eric Schmell, MD

- Stephen Tower, MD
- Isabelle Von Kohorn, MD

Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

The Board went off the record at 10:09 a.m. and returned on the record 10:33 a.m.

On a motion made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by a roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board decided to take no further action with respect to the malpractice cases related to: Dr. Hansch, Dr. Hinds, Dr. Lewis, Dr. Schmell, Dr. Tower and Dr. Von Kohorn.

Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

On a motion made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by a roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board decided to request the Executive Administrator to draft a non-disciplinary advisory letter for the malpractice case concerning Dr. Merkouris.

Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

On a motion made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by a roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board decided to refer the malpractice cases involving Dr. Paisley to the investigations unit for the purpose of gathering additional information.

Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
Abstained: Dr. McNamara and Dr. Skala
Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

11. Investigations

On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by a roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310 (c)(2), for the purpose of discussing case# 2025-000680 with board and investigative staff remaining in the session and the reviewing board members excluded from the session.

Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. McNamara, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala, Dr. Taylor, Mr. Wilson
Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

The Board went off the record at 10:36 a.m. and returned on the record at 10:41 a.m.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Skala and approved by a roll call vote, the Alaska State Medical Board adopted the order for an imposition of a civil fine as presented in case# 2025-000680 for Dr. Karoly Dobay.

Roll Call: Yeas, Dr. Scala, Dr. Paulson and Mr. Wilson
Abstained: Dr. McNamara, Dr. Taylor

1 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

2
3 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved by a roll call**
4 **vote, the Alaska State Medical Board entered into executive session in accordance with AS**
5 **44.62.310 (c)(2), for the purpose of discussing case# 2026-000362 with board and investigative**
6 **staff remaining in the session and the reviewing board member and recused board members**
7 **abstaining from the session.**

8
9 The Board went off the record at 10:43 a.m. and returned on the record at 11:44 a.m.

10
11 **On a motion duly made by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Dr. Skala, the Alaska State Medical**
12 **Board decided not to order a summary suspension as presented in case# 2026-000362.**

13
14 Roll Call: Nays, Dr. Paulson, Dr. Skala and Mr. Wilson

15 Abstained: Dr. Taylor Dr. McNamara

16 Absent: Dr. Barnes and Mr. Walker

17
18 **13. Wrap up/Adjourn**

19
20 There was agreement to move the next meeting from June 18th to June 11th at 4:00 p.m.

21
22 Dr. Paulson announced that he is stepping down from the board, effective immediately. Board
23 members expressed appreciation for his service.

24
25 The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 11:47 a.m.