



[Alaska Board of Chiropractic Examiners Meeting](#) Approved Minutes  
Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
12/6/2024 12:00 PMAKST

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 12:10pm

**Members:**

Dr. Brian Larson – Board President  
Dr. John Lloyd – Board Vice-President  
Dr. Tim Kanady – Member  
Dr. Walter Campbell – Member  
Public Member – Ronald Gherman

**Guests:**

Reid Bowman – Program Coordinator II  
Shane Bannarbie – Program Coordinator  
Debbie Ryan- Alaska Chiropractic Society, CEO

2. Review/Approve Agenda

RESOLVED to approve agenda as is.

Motion moved by Ron Gherman , seconded by Dr. Tim Kanad; motion carried.

3. Ethics Reporting

Members were polled by roll call, to declare any conflict or ethics issues. No conflicts announced.

4. Public Comment

No members were present for public comment.

5. Board Business

The board began review and discussion of LAWs feedback on their interpretation of the definition of dry needling. The feedback from LAW addressed whether dry needling was within the scope of chiropractic practice. LAW determined that after a review of Alaska chiropractic statutes, regulation, caselaw, and legislative history, leads them to conclude that dry needling was likely intended by the legislature to be excluded from the scope of practice under the boards governing statute, AS 08.20. LAW also found that the boards authority to interpret it's statute in regulation does not extend so far as to permit it to change the scope of practice established by the legislature. A statutory amendment

would be needed. The board expounded on the fact that LAWs interpretation is void of the understanding of chiropractic practice and common medical understanding of such procedures. Dr. Larson presented his draft modification to 12 AAC 16.990 (b)(2) which includes an emended definition of surgery that includes the addition of language that states “use of filiform needles for acupuncture, dry needling, EMG” .... Dr. Larson explained his draft language was based on discussion with LAW, specifically Ms. Milks. Dr. Larson went on to explain that Ms. Milks thought the language was reasonable and very plausible means for the board to define dry needling within the scope of statute. Members of the board consented with the draft language. Members agreed this is a better route to address the issue of defining dry needling in a manner that meets LAWs interpretation.

The board RESLOVED to open a regulation project to move forward the modification to 12 AAC 16.990 (b)(2) drafted by Dr. Larson.

Dr. Tim Kanady moved to open a regulation project to move forward the modification to 12 AAC 16.990 (b)(2) drafted by Dr. Larson; seconded by John Lloyd; motion carried.

Exemption Request for Dr. Michael Melendrez -Tabled for Discussion

The board discussed the exemption request for Dr. Michael Melendrez and RESOLVED to grant an exemption for Dr. Melendrez for the in person portion of the continuing education requirements with all hours to be completed by March 1, 2025; seconded by

Dr. Tim Kanady moved to grant an exemption for Dr. Melendrez for the in person portion of the continuing education requirements with all hours to be completed by March 1, 2025; seconded by Dr. Lloyd; motion carried.

Correspondence

The board reviewed correspondence from Dr. Rich Wooley regarding approval for completion of “non” PACE approved CE coursework. The course was not PACE approved at the time he took the course. The course is now PACE approved. Dr. Wooley is seeking approval for the hours he took since the course is now approved. The board agreed unanimously to not allow retroactive approval of CE coursework.

Diagnostic Ultrasound: Survey

The board reviewed correspondence that solicited feedback from the board on the use of diagnostic ultrasound imaging by chiropractors in the United States. The solicitation requested specific information on the legal and academic aspects within the scope of diagnostic ultrasound. Dr. Larson agreed to draft a letter in response to the solicitation.

6. Tasks

- Dr. Larson agreed to draft a letter in response to the solicitation regarding diagnostic ultrasound imaging by chiropractors

7. Adjourn

The board resolved to adjourn the meeting at 01:04pm.