

Alabama State Board of Podiatry

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The Alabama State Board of Podiatry met in a regularly scheduled meeting on July 24, 2026, at ASBOP offices at 400 South Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama. Those present were Chair Dr. Tomeko McPhillips, Dr. Johnnie Alston, Dr. Rosemarie Caillier, Dr. Theresa Brown, Dr. Benjamin Werner, and Dr. Tameka Lee Sanders joined via Zoom. Also present were Board Attorney Benjamin Seiss, Executive Director Patrick McWhorter, and Administrator Randy Barrows. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

Dr. McPhillips acted in her position as chair to preside over the meeting. The meeting was called to order by her at 2:05 pm, and roll call was held with 6 members present, 1 absent (Dr. Hill). A motion to approve the meeting agenda was made by Dr. Caillier, seconded by Dr. Werner. Voting in favor were Drs. McPhillips, Werner, Alston, Caillier, Brown and Lee Sanders. Then a motion was made by Dr. Alston, seconded by Dr. Caillier to approve the minutes from the previous Board meeting on April 24, 2026, after being reviewed. Voting in favor were Drs. McPhillips, Werner, Alston, Caillier, Brown and Lee Sanders. Members were reminded to complete the forms to submit travel expenses.

REPORTS OF CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Chair deferred her comments of the report to later in the meeting. Executive Director McWhorter reported that Arete now has a good handle on licensing. All files have been organized and are now in much better order. He mentioned the idea previously discussed at the last meeting of legislative changes to Board member terms and reminded the Board that under current law, we have two members currently serving in expired terms and will need to get notice out to all licensees to advise them of such vacancies and encourage them to apply. ED McWhorter also reported that he had a great meeting in Washington DC with Federation of Podiatric Medical Boards Executive Director Russell Stoner. They have connected on a great level and he is looking forward to getting good ideas and assistance from them.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was presented by McWhorter and Barrows. They went over the printed financial summaries distributed to members and explained several areas of expenses. A copy of the full financial report is found in the Book of Minutes. McWhorter explained that it had been necessary to reprint materials which contained the former management company's information. Staff also explained the fact that there were funds discovered which had not been carried over from the previous fiscal year. Those have now been moved, which must be done with the approval of the state Budget Office, into the current fiscal year accounts. Motion was made by Dr. Caillier, seconded by Dr. Werner to approve the financial report. Roll call voting in favor: Drs. McPhillips, Werner, Alston, Caillier, Brown and Lee Sanders. Approved 6-0.

LICENSE APPROVALS

The Board presented a listing of regular and controlled substances licenses received during the period of March 25, 2026, through this date, July 24, 2026. The Board discussed some issues regarding reciprocity, for which requests are increasing. Chair called for a motion to approve and accept the new licenses. Motion made by Dr. Caillier, seconded by Dr. Brown. Roll call voting in favor: Drs. McPhillips, Werner, Alston, Caillier, Brown and Lee Sanders. Approved 6-0.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

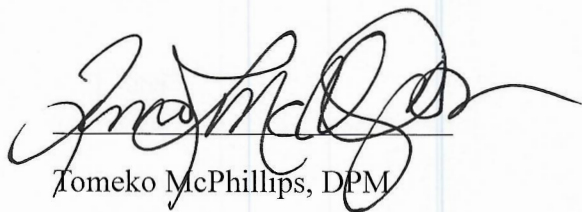
Ben Seiss, Board Counsel from the Attorney General's Office, presented his Legal Counsel Report. From the previous discussion raised as to the need for background checks to be conducted on licensees, Attorney Seiss reported that if determined to be necessary, this issue would likely have to be addressed in legislation we are discussing. Seiss will work with staff to report back at the next meeting. Attorney Seiss reported as a follow up from the last meeting that he had communicated with the doctor who filed the complaint against the Good Feet Store that there was nothing our Board could do. It appears there is an exception in the law which would apply to them.

The focus then turned to the Board of Adjustment claim presented to the Board by Smith Warren Management Services, Inc. for services rendered while there was no contract. Attorney Seiss explained the Board of Adjustment process to members. McWhorter reported that staff had discovered over \$12,000.00 in unpaid invoices from previous years which they have now paid out of the current fiscal year budget. And there may be still more discovered going forward. Attorney Seiss asked the Board for a motion first to approve payment of an outstanding invoice due to the Office of Information Technology. Motion made by Dr. Alston, seconded by Dr. Caillier. Roll call voting in favor: Drs. McPhillips, Werner, Alston, Caillier, Brown and Lee Sanders. Approved 6-0.

Discussion then moved to the outstanding Smith Warren claim for services rendered during the period with no contract and presented to the Board of Adjustment, documents for which can be found in the Book of Minutes. Staff reported that they had checked but found no evidence of these services being previously billed as per previous discussions. Attorney Seiss agreed that there was evidence that Smith Warren may not have been satisfying all the duties of the job since the beginning of the year. Mail was not forwarded during a month or more while they were relocating, during which mail was not processed. He also agreed that upon Mr. Barrows review there were several applications started during that period that were at least not worked on as they should have been. And there may have been licenses that could have been issued but weren't. Bottom line: there was things that could have been done but were not done in his opinion. Attorney Seiss suggested that he could suggest to Mr. Warren that an agreement might be reached for a lesser amount than requested to avoid a Board of Adjustment hearing. After considerable discussion, Attorney Seiss suggested that he be given a range within which to negotiate with Mr. Warren. A motion was made by Dr. Alston, seconded by Dr. Werner, to authorize the attorney and the Chair to negotiate with Mr. Warren within a range of \$17,500.00 to a maximum of \$20,000.00. (Dr. Brown left the meeting at 3:19 pm) Roll call voting in favor: Drs. McPhillips, Werner, Alston, Caillier, and Lee Sanders. Approved 5-0.

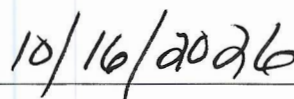
It was reported that the next meeting would be October 23, 2026.

There being no further business before the Board, motion was made at 3:22 pm by Dr. Lee Sanders, seconded by Dr. Werner to adjourn. Roll call voting in favor: Drs. McPhillips, Werner, Alston, Caillier, and Lee Sanders. Approved 5-0.



Tomeko McPhillips, DPM

Board Chair



Date Approved