

**LA BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF MINUTES
BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 9, 2025**

Members Present: Dr. Mark B. Kruse, President; Dr. Michael Traxler, Vice-President; Dr. Kelleigh Payne, Secretary-Treasurer; Dr. James Morvant; Dr. Denise Rollette; Dr. Shay W. Corbin.
Members Absent: Mr. Rafael Azuara, Consumer Member.
Staff Present: Patricia A. Oliver, Executive Director; Shellie Hebert-Schmidt, Administrative Assistant.
Legal Counsel: None.
Audience: Debbie Moore, DC, Picayune, MS; David Duhon, DC, Lake Charles, LA; Derrek Mart, D.C., Lake Charles, LA; Justin Walbom, D.C., Baton Rouge, LA; Tim Chittom, CAL, Baton Rouge, LA.

Meeting called to order at 8:42 a.m., Dr. Mark B. Kruse, President, presiding.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None noted.

MINUTES REVIEW: The draft version of the **minutes** of the 07/24/2025 meeting was emailed to all Board members for review. Motion made by Dr. Payne, seconded by Dr. Corbin to ratify the minutes as prepared. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.

INTEGRITY CHECK: No information reported.

Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Corbin, to amend the order of the agenda for presentation of consent agreement by Celia Cangelosi regarding **Docket 2022-01, Derrek Mart, DC**. Roll call vote: Rollette: Yes, Payne – Yes; Traxler – Yes; Morvant – Yes; Kruse – Yes. 5 yeas, 0 nays, motion carries and agenda order is amended.

Ms. Cangelosi discusses details of complaints, the consent agreement, disciplinary action, fines and costs totaling \$33,194.55 and reinstatement information. Motion made by Dr. Traxler, seconded by Dr. Rollette to approve the consent agreement as presented.

The record will note that **Dr. Francis Jim Morvant** is present at 8:58 a.m.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT by Dr. Traxler and Dr. Rollette:**
 - Dr. Traxler and Dr. Rollette report that 2 complaints were opened, 7 complaints were closed with no action, 1 complaint was closed with disciplinary action.
- **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by Ms. Oliver:**
 - **Monthly financial Statement:** Ms. Oliver discusses reports for July, August, and September 2025. Motion made by Dr. Corbin, seconded by Dr. Payne, to approve the reports as prepared and submitted. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.
 - **CD Report** discussed by Dr. Payne and Ms. Oliver. No new information.
 - **Financial Activity Log of Expense and Expenditures** was presented to and reviewed by the Board as well as all bank statements since the last meeting. All members reviewed the log and signed the cover sheet.
 - **2024-2025 Audit info** – Ms. Oliver notes the audit was completed however the report has not yet been received.
 - **Cash Management Review Report** prepared by Ms. Oliver and presented detailing period of ending 09/30/2025.

Dr. Kruse and Ms. Oliver note 3 items for discussion which are not on the agenda – **Declaratory statement request on “legend devices, IRS Audit, ADA website compliance report.** Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Traxler, to amend the agenda to discuss the 3 items noted by Dr. Kruse and Ms. Oliver. Roll call vote: Rollette – Yes; Payne – Yes; Corbin – Yes; Traxler – Yes Morvant – Yes; Kruse – Yes. With 6 yeas, 0 nays, motion carries unanimously, and agenda is amended.

1. Dr. Kruse notes receipt of a declaratory statement request regarding “**legend devices**” ordering by chiropractors. Dr. Kruse contacted the Legend Device state board and clarified what language was needed. Dr. Kruse prepared a “handout” as follows,

“Chiropractic physicians are authorized to procure from licensed distributors, store and utilize legend devices which are used in the diagnosis and delivery of chiropractic treatment. “

Motion made by Dr. Corbin, seconded by Dr. Payne, to approve the declaratory statement presented. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.

2. Ms. Oliver notes the ongoing **IRS audit** regarding Medicare and Social Security withholding of employee compensation. The IRS is auditing boards and commissions regarding withholding calculations. Ms. Oliver and the Board CPA have been involved in communication with the IRS’s auditor regarding withholding taxes due on Ms. Hebert-Schmidt for years 2022, 2023, and 2024. It was determined the Board owes taxes for those years 2022, 2023 and 2024 on employee Medicare withholding for Ms. Hebert-Schmidt. The IRS did not assess interest or penalties.
3. Ms. Oliver continues discussion previously noted regarding the **Federal ADA requirement** for all boards and commissions will be required to have **ADA accessibility** on all websites. There is a timeline for reporting each step in the implementation process. Ms. Oliver notes the new website design company, Netshapers, has stated they do not provide that service. Ms. Oliver has been approached by companies who are currently working with state boards and commissions. More info to follow.

- **PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT:** No activity to report.

- **STANDARDS & PRACTICES by Dr. Traxler and Dr. Kruse:**

Continued discussion on the request regarding “**ballon nasal cavity adjustment**” by Ross Zahn, DC, Shreveport, LA. Motion made by Dr. Payne, seconded by Dr. Traxler, that this procedure is within the scope of practice.

- **LAW & LEGISLATION:**

- Dr. Corbin continues the discussion held on “**preceptorships**” based on initial request from **Jennifer Sever, D.C.**, Metairie, LA. Dr. Corbin presented language for legislation, as follows:

“Definition: Preceptor is a licensed chiropractor as defined by the LA Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Preceptee is a chiropractic student defined by the LA Board of chiropractic examiners.

(a) A preceptor may delegate responsibility to a preceptee under this section if:

(1) the preceptor has held an active chiropractic license in good standing in Louisiana or another jurisdiction for five years; and

(2) the preceptor has been licensed by the Louisiana Board of Chiropractic Examiners for at least one year.

(b) A preceptor may delegate to a preceptee currently enrolled in an accredited chiropractic college the performance of adjustments or manipulations if the preceptee/student has qualified for admission to the college’s outpatient clinic.

(c) A preceptor shall be physically on-site, but need not be present, when a preceptee performs an adjustment or manipulation.

(d) a chiropractic preceptee performing adjustments or manipulations under this section may not represent to the public that the preceptee is a licensed chiropractor.

(e) A preceptor may not delegate responsibility to render a diagnosis or prescribe a treatment plan to a preceptee under this section.

(f) A preceptor or preceptee who violates this section is subject to disciplinary action.

(g) Preceptor and preceptee shall adhere to recommendations of chiropractic student procedure (Preceptee/Preceptorship) as defined by the LA Board of Chiropractic Examiners. “

Motion by Dr. Corbin, seconded by Dr. Payne, to approve the proposed language. With 6 yeas, 0 nays, motion carries unanimously. Dr. Kruse and Dr. Morvant will research which legislator will agree to author the legislation for the Board in 2026.

- Continued discussion of request from **Justin Walbom, D.C.**, Baton Rouge, LA, regarding requesting of a declaratory statement on “**soft chamber hyperbaric chamber therapy** with new atmospheric pressure limits. Dr. Walbom would like to increase atmospheric pressure limits, and he presents info on advantages to patients by increasing the atmospheric pressure. Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Rollette, to keep current atmospheric pressure limit at 1.5 thus leaving Declaratory Statement 2021-02 intact. With 6 yeas, 0 nays, motion carries.
Further discussion about if hyperbaric chamber therapy training will be allowed to be “distance learning” or “onsite”. Dr. Kruse requests this matter to be kept on agenda regarding “onsite” or “distance” training.
- **TESTING Committee Report:**
 - Ms. Oliver notes the November 2025 administration of **NBCE’s Part IV** will be 11/08-09/2025 and NBCE is soliciting examiner participants. Dr. Denise Rollette would like to participate as LA’s representative. Ms. Oliver will send the necessary paperwork.
 - Dr. **Payne** attended the **NBCE Part I test development** meeting in September in Greeley, CO.
 - **Testing report** handout given to the Board covering the period from 07/01/2025 – 09/30/2025:
 - 8 applications requested
 - 12 licenses issued
 - 9 new applications received, and fees paid
 - 1 applicant ready for an exam
 - -0- applicants pending background reports
 - -0- background information rejected by State Police/FBI
 - -0- application folders are incomplete
 - -0- application for Board review
 - -0- license pending issuance due to a lack of license fees paid.
 - 12 licenses issued
- **ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT Committee (Kruse, Traxler, Payne):**
 - Current leave records of **Ms. Hebert-Schmidt** and **Ms. Oliver** were reviewed and approved by Dr. Payne, and the full Board present reviewed and approved the leave and payroll records of the two employees. Dr. Payne states paperwork and leave records are in order and properly documented.
- **OFFICE PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REPORT:** Office activity/work product 07/01/2025 – 09/30/2025:
 - Phone calls received: 251
 - Licensure Application packets requested & mailed: 8
 - New Applications Received w/Fee: 9
 - New Applications Ready to Take Test: 1
 - New Licenses Issued: 12
 - Complaints Filed & Opened: 24
 - Complaints closed without action: 7
 - Complaints closed with action: 1
 - Complaints Pending: 31
 - DC license renewals received & processed: -0-
 - DC license renewals returned as “incomplete” or “missing CE”: -0-
 - Delinquent license renewal fees paid: -0-
 - License verifications Requested/Reports Issued Via Mail: -0-
 - License verifications Requested/Report Issued Via Email: 197
 - New X-ray certificates issued: 5
 - X-ray certs renewed: 146
 - Public records requests: -0-
 - Subpoenas received: -0-
 - Seminars reviewed: 26
 - CE locate requests received: 11
 - List requests received and processed: 5
 - National licensee alerts received and logged: 5
 - Peer Review Requests: -0-
 - Dry Needling certificates issued: -0-

Performance Indicator Report (Cont'd.)

- Duplicate Licenses Issued: 4
 - Duplicate Xray Certificates Issued: -0-
 - Duplicate Renewal Vouchers: -0-
 - License Renewal Cards Purchased: -0-
 - Blue Books purchased: 1
 - Minutes Subscriptions: -0-
 - “Travel to Treat” temporary licenses: -0-
 - # of Emails Received: 853
 - Xerox copies requested: -0-
- **GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE as received by Ms. Oliver:**
None.
 - **SEMINAR REVIEW by Dr. Payne:**
Dr. Payne has reviewed 26 seminars since the last meeting. There are no programs requiring full Board review currently.

OLD BUSINESS:

Continued discussion by Dr. Kruse on **Board’s webpage** and its maintenance and development. Dr. Kruse has pursued completing the bid process through the LA State Procurement Office to hire Netshapers for Board webpage design with the contract from January 2025. Ms. Oliver notes receipt of the signed contract and further, that the first payment of \$70,000.00 was issued to Netshapers

Continued discussion by Dr. Kruse on **Executive Order JML 25-038** which requires all boards to review existing administrative rules and regulations to determine necessity of each rule. Dr. Kruse made assignments for rules review as follows:

- Dr. Payne: Section 100 through the end of Section 300
- Dr. Kruse: Section 400 through the end of Section 600
- Dr. Morvant: Section 700 through the end of Section 900

Ms. Oliver will prepare and email an Excel spreadsheet to the board members assigned for rules review to facilitate the capture of info requested in **EO JML25 -038 review**. More info to follow at next meeting.

Ms. Oliver notes the federal government’s requirement of **ADA accessibility** on all boards and commissions websites is ongoing. She has been in communication with the Gov’s Office of ADA compliance and also a company who assists state boards in complying. Mr. Jerry Barnett of Netshapers said this is not covered in the Board’s contract for website development, however, they can refer the Board to another company who can accomplish this. Ms. Oliver will provide that info to Dr. Kruse.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request received from **CE Moran, D.C.**, Purvis, MS, to waive CE requirements for 2026 renewal due to health issues. Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Corbin, to grant the request for waiver. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.

Request received from **Harold Ehrenberg, D.C.**, Chandler, AZ, to reinstate his license as “active” for years 2023, 2024 and 2025 and waive CE requirements and fees for those years, due to health issues. Motion made by Dr. Morvant, seconded by Dr. Rollette, to reinstate Dr. Ehrenberg’s license effective today. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.

Scope inquiry from **Tammie Gibson, D.C.**, Gretna, LA, regarding “treatment of dogs. She will be instructed to coordinate this activity with the LA Veterinary Medicine Board.

Request received from **Ned J. Martello, D.C.**, Baton Rouge, LA, to have his reimbursement checks # 18095 and 18857 to be re-issued as the checks were lost and/or destroyed and never negotiated. Ms. Oliver verifies this information. Motion made by Dr. Rollette, seconded by Dr. Morvant, to re-issue the checks noted to Dr. Martello. With no objection, motion carries unanimously.

Discussion of “**artificial intelligence**” in the chiropractic practice. Dr. Kruse notes that “AI” must conform with current advertising laws. Dr. Kruse prepared a statement as follows:

“If “artificial intelligence” is utilized in the practice of chiropractic, it should be evaluated like any other tool the physician employs for its benefits and limitations. Accuracy and privacy/security should be evaluated, and use of an AI must comply with all laws and rules.”

Upcoming Events:

- NBCE Part IV Testing – 11/08-09/2025
- Next Board Meeting – 12/11/2025
- Annual license renewal deadline, 12/31/2025.

Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Traxler, to adjourn. With no objections, the meeting is adjourned at approximately 10:32 a.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED 10:32 a.m.

