LA BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS
SUMMARY OF MINUTES
BOARD MEETING – DECEMBER 11, 2025

Members Present:	Dr. Mark B. Kruse, President; Dr. Michael Traxler, Vice-President; Dr. Kelleigh Payne, Secretary-Treasurer; Dr. James Morvant; Dr. Denise Rollette; Mr. Rafael Azuara, Consumer Member.
Members Absent:	Dr. Shay W. Corbin.
Staff Present:	Patricia A. Oliver, Executive Director; Shellie Hebert-Schmidt, Administrative Assistant.
Legal Counsel:	Amy Lowe, Attorney & Board General Counsel; Celia Cangelosi, Attorney.
Audience:	Debbie Moore, DC, Picayune, MS; Baton Rouge, LA; Tim Chittom, CAL, Baton Rouge, LA; Robert Garrity, Attorney, Harahan, LA; Dale Rollette, DC, Hammond, LA.

Meeting called to order at 8:40 a.m., Dr. Mark B. Kruse, President, presiding. Dr. Kruse requests if a board member will be absent, please call or email the Board office prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None reported.

INTEGRITY CHECK: No information reported.

Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Traxler, to amend the order of the agenda to allow discussion of Old Business and New Business items as needed. Roll call vote: Rollette: Yes, Payne – Yes; Traxler – Yes; Morvant – Yes; Kruse – Yes. 5 yeas, 0 nays, motion carries and agenda order is amended.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Update on **Board webpage** report given by Dr. Kruse, who reports our data was sent over and imported and also data tables have been built.

- Regarding required rules review, per **Executive Order JML 25-038**, Dr. Kruse noted in LAC XVII.702., the Chiropractic Manual is listed as a reference guide in our rules regarding Peer Review. He requests Standards & Practices Committee (Dr. Corbin) to discuss this for the next meeting. Ms. Oliver notes the assigned sections of rules review were received from each board member assigned and that she will compile that information into a spreadsheet to submit to the DOA on or before the 12/31/2025 deadline.

The record will note that **Mr. Rafael Azuara Jr.** is present at 8:44 a.m.

- Discussion held on **Artificial Intelligence** statement offered by Dr. Kruse at the October meeting. Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Rollette to issue the "AI" statement as a "board policy". With no objections, motion carries unanimously.

- Continued discussion held based on prior request regarding the format of "**hyperbaric training**" as requested by **Justin Walbom,** DC, Baton Rouge, LA. Should the training be onsite or distance learning – Dr. Kruse located available onsite/in person courses. It remains the Board's position that the format of the training course will be "onsite".

NEW BUSINESS:

- Celia Cangelosi presents a consent agreement offered in the matter of **Docket 2025-01 Benjamin Tekippe, DC**. Dr. Tekippe has offered permanent revocation of his LA license if the Board costs and/or fine are not assessed. Motion made by Dr. Traxler, seconded by Dr. Payne, to accept the settlement agreement. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.

- Request received from **Sandra Marx, D.C**., Crowley, LA, for license reinstatement and waiver of all fees and continuing education requirements regarding her "inactive" license due to her husband's health condition and inability to practice. Motion by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Morvant, to waive all fees for reinstatement and to grant an extension to obtain 15 CE hours in 2025 and 15 CE hours in 2026 and to reinstate her license effective today. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.

- Dr. Kruse notes **Harold Ehrenberg DC,** Chandler, AZ, requested his license reinstatement be revisited. Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Morvant, to amend the agenda to include revisitation of license reinstatement request of Dr. Ehrenberg discussed at the 10/19/2025 meeting. Roll call vote: Rollette – Yes; Payne – Yes; Traxler – Yes; Azuara – Yes; Morvant – Yes; Kruse – Yes. Ms. Oliver notes board action of 10/11/2025 only covered 2025 license renewal. Motion made by Dr. Morvant, seconded by Dr. Payne, to waive the continuing education hours for 2026 renewal for Dr. Ehrenberg. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.

- Presentation by Mr. Robert Garrity, Attorney, Harahan, LA, on behalf of **Michael Haydel, D.C**., Metairie, LA, for reinstatement of his expired license as of 12/31/2024. Mr. Garrity states Dr. Haydel thought the license had been renewed. Ms. Oliver presented documentation of certified mail sent to Dr. Haydel informing him of no renewal for 2025. Ms. Oliver was requested to calculate the fees due, totaling $2050.00. Motion made by Dr. Payne, seconded by Dr. Traxler, to accept the fees to be paid today, grant reinstatement to "active" effective today and grant a 90-day extension to obtain the continuing education required for 2025 practice. Continuing education hours will be due March 12, 2026. With no objection, motion carries unanimously.

MINUTES REVIEW: The draft version of the **minutes** of the 10/09/2025 meeting was emailed to all Board members for review. Motion made by Dr. Payne, seconded by Dr. Kruse, to approve the minutes as prepared. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.

<u>STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>

- **COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT by Dr. Traxler and Dr. Rollette**:
  - Dr. Traxler and Dr. Rollette report that 5 new complaints were opened and one previously scheduled hearing has been re-scheduled. Request for a motion to continue a hearing is presented by Celia Cangelosi in the **Trainor** matter. Motion by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Morvant, to grant continuance to 04/16/2026. With no objections, motion carries unanimously.
  - Ms. Oliver notes info received on **Patrick Haydel, D.C**. from the Office of the Inspector General relative to exclusion from the Medicaid program and a request for information on any disciplinary action taken by the Board. Ms. Lowe states the consent agreement should be sent to that office as action is taken.
  - Clarification that no "**payment plans**" will be offered in disciplinary cases for costs and/or fines.

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by Ms. Oliver:**
  - **Monthly financial Statement:** Ms. Oliver discusses reports for October and November 2025. Motion made by Dr. Payne, seconded by Dr. Rollette, 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. Next maturity dates occur in February 2026.
  - **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 reports the 2024-2025 required audit report was received from the auditor and she discussed 2 exceptions cited by the auditor: 1) the budget should be reviewed at each board meeting; 2) no indication of review of bank statements and reconciliations. Regarding budget review, Dr. Kruse requests "budget review" be added back to each agenda in the future. Regarding banking statements and reconciliations, Ms. Oliver informed the auditor that the secretary-treasurer is emailed the statement and reconciliation report for each month, and she provided the email records to the auditor. The auditor responded there must be documentation that the statement and report was "received and reviewed". Future process will include the secretary-treasurer to sign and date each statement as "received and reviewed" and reconciliation page in the future.
  - **Cash Management Review Report** prepared by Ms. Oliver and presented detailed financial information for period ending 09/30/2025.

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

- **STANDARDS & PRACTICES by Dr. Traxler and Dr. Kruse:**
  Dr. Kruse discusses his review of rules and specifically Section 701.D.2 regarding "**Peer Review school**" attendance by PR Committee members. Ms. Oliver reports an education video by Dr. Warren Jahn is provided to each PR member at initiation of service to the committee. This was deemed sufficient by past legal counsel and Board.

- **LAW & LEGISLATION:**
  Dr Kruse gives update on proposed language regarding **preceptorships** presented by Dr. Corbin at the October 2025 meeting. Ms. Oliver notes proposed language needs refining before submission to Legislature. Dr. Kruse does not know which legislator will "author" the legislation. Dr. Morvant will handle this matter. Item to be kept on the agenda.

  Ms. Oliver continues discussion previously noted regarding the **Federal ADA requirement** for all boards and commissions to 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 contracted, Netshapers, has stated they do not provide that service. Ms. Oliver has been approached by other companies who are currently working with state boards and commissions and has supplied contact info to Dr. Kruse for consideration. Dr. Kruse suggests asking Jerry Barnett w/NetShapers to assist with the report. Next report due on 12/31/2025. More info to follow.

- **TESTING Committee Report:**
  - Ms. Oliver notes the November 2025 administration of **NBCE's Part IV** was held 11/08-09/2025. Dr. Denise Rollette cancelled her participation offer due to prior personal commitment.
  - Ms. Oliver notes examiner/s needed for the May 2026 **NBCE Part IV administration**. Dr. Morvant may attend.
  - Dr. **Payne** will attend the NBCE **Part IV test development** meeting in February in Greeley, CO.
  - **Testing report** handout given to the Board covering the period from 10/01/2025 - 11/30/2025:
    - 3 applications requested
    - 2 licenses issued
    - 2 new applications received, and fees paid
    - -0- applicant ready for an exam
    - -0- applicants pending background reports
    - -0- background information rejected by State Police/FBI
    - 1 application folders are incomplete
    - -0- application for Board review
    - -0- license pending issuance due to a lack of license fees paid.

- **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 and in order.

- **OFFICE PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REPORT:** Office activity/work product 10/01/2025 – 11/30/2025:
  - Phone calls received: 170
  - Licensure Application packets requested & mailed: 3
  - New Applications Received w/Fee: 2
  - New Applications Ready to Take Test: -0-
  - New Licenses Issued: 2
  - Complaints Filed & Opened: 5
  - Complaints closed without action: 1
  - Complaints closed with action: -0-
  - Complaints Pending: 32
  - DC license renewals received & processed: 259
  - DC license renewals returned as "incomplete" or "missing CE": 22
  - Delinquent license renewal fees paid: 1
  - License verifications Requested/Reports Issued Via Mail: -0-
  - License verifications Requested/Report Issued Via Email: 174
  - New X-ray certificates issued: 31
  - X-ray certs renewed: -0-
  - Public records requests: -0-
  - Subpoenas received: -0-
  - Seminars reviewed: 16
  - CE locate requests received: 5
  - List requests received and processed: 3
  - National licensee alerts received and logged: -0-
  - Peer Review Requests: -0-
  - Dry Needling certificates issued: 2
  - Duplicate Licenses Issued: 4
  - Duplicate Xray Certificates Issued: -0-
  - Duplicate Renewal Vouchers: -0-
  - License Renewal Cards Purchased: 36
  - Blue Books purchased: -0-
  - Minutes Subscriptions: 1
  - "Travel to Treat" temporary licenses: -0-
  - # of Emails Received: 570
  - Xerox copies requested: -0-

- **GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE as received by Ms. Oliver**:
  NBCE reports upcoming testing and convention dates for 2026.

- **SEMINAR REVIEW by Dr. Payne:**
  Dr. Payne has reviewed 16 seminars since the last meeting. There are no programs requiring full Board review currently.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Rollette, to amend the agenda to include designation of **FCLB delegate and alternate** and also **NBCE delegate and alternate** for 2026. Roll call vote: Azuara – Yes; Rollette – Yes; Payne—Yes; Traxler -Yes; Morvant -Yes; Kruse – Yes. 7 yeas, 0 nays, agenda is amended.

Request received from **FCLB for designation of delegate and alternate for 2026.** Dr. Kruse names himself as "delegate" and Dr. Corbin as "alternate".

Request received from **NBCE for designation of delegate and alternate for 2026.** Dr. Kruse names himself as "delegate" and Dr. Corbin as "alternate".

Upcoming Events:
- Next Board Meeting – 01/15/2026
- NBCE Part IV Testing nationwide– 05/16-17/2026
- Xray Proficiency Certificate renewal deadline – 07/31/2026
- Annual license renewal deadline, 12/31/2026.

Motion made by Dr. Kruse, seconded by Dr. Traxler, to adjourn. With no objections, the meeting is adjourned at approximately 10:21 a.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED 10:21 a.m.