

**MINUTES**  
**UTAH STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY**  
**November 18, 2025 | 8:30 A.M.**  
**Room 474, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**160 E 300 S Salt Lake City UT**  
**Hybrid Meeting-In Person and Electronic**  
**Electronic attendance was available.**

**CONVENED: 8:33 A.M.**

**ADJOURNED: 11:54 A.M.**

**DOPL STAFF PRESENT:**

**Bureau Manager:** Jim Garfield  
**Board Secretary:** Tina Marshall  
**Pharmacy Specialist:** Maddy Holt  
**Investigator:** Travis Drebing

**CSD Admin:** Jeff Henrie  
**Compliance Specialist:** Bernice Palama  
**Legal Analyst:** Lauren Harvey

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Chair:** Christopher Sheard, Pharm.D.  
**Vice Chair:** Gary Hale, R.Ph.  
Karen Gunning, Pharm.D.  
Sabrina Ouk, Pharmacy Technician  
Cheyenne Cunningham, Pharm.D.

Matthew Higley, Pharm.D.  
Shaun Curran, PA CS, Public Member

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

**DOPL STAFF NOT PRESENT:**

**Investigation Supervisor:** Ben Baker  
**Bureau Manager:** Larry Marx

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Kathy Varley, MedQuest Pharmacy  
Jolene Evans, DOPL Investigator  
Jeanne Brennan, Law Office of Jeanne Brennan  
Ryan Young, MedQuest Pharmacy  
Adam Jones, Utah Pharmacy Association  
Lawanda Esquibel, DHHS HEART Program  
Sara Whitt, Strive Pharmacy

Jessica Covaci, Albertsons  
Kim Farley, DHHS HEART Program  
Sara Watson, Cardinal Health  
Cheri Robinson, Roseman University

*Note: Other guests may have been in attendance but were not identified.*

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**Dr. Sheard called the meeting to order at 8:33 A.M.**

**REVIEW AND APPROVE October 21, 2025 MINUTES (Audio 00:03:13)**

**Dr. Sheard made a motion to approve the minutes with noted corrections.**

**Dr. Higley seconded the motion.**

**The Board motion passed unanimously.**

**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT—Travis Drebing (Audio 00:04:50)**

Mr. Drebing stated that in October, 12 cases were received, 39 cases were closed, 24 pharmacy inspections were completed, and 5 citations were issued.

Mr. Drebing explained that half of the citations issued were due to late PIC or designated representative change or annual controlled substance inventory violations.

**CSD UPDATE—Jeff Henrie (Audio 00:08:45)**

Mr. Henrie explained they are in the middle of the UPUP transition, which is to be completed by the end of December 2025. It was advised to complete the transition sooner rather than later, as fines could be imposed if the transition to the UPUP system is not completed on time.

Mr. Henrie explained that the controlled substance database rule has undergone a rule revision and the legal counsel has asked if the Board would like to review the changes or create a subcommittee and provide their comments. The Board decided to review the changes and discuss them at the December 2025 meeting as a Board.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**PEP/PrEP – UTAH DHHS (Audio 00:26:30)**

Ms. Esquibel explained that she is with the Department of Health and Human Services and the HIV/STD Elimination, Analysis, Response and Treatment (HEART) program. DHHS has been working on updating the PEP/PrEP guidance documents that can be found on DOPL's website.

Ms. Esquibel provided the background of the guidance documents and explained the changes made to the forms. Some of the changes that were made included creating two separate documents for PEP and PrEP instead of one large form, creating a fillable PDF for completion, additional medications that could be prescribed and links to guidance tools and handouts.

The Board and Ms. Esquibel discussed the different medications that were listed and why other medications were not listed on the form, how the labs needed would be obtained and how the guidance documents are more of a bridge to help the individual to receive the care that they need.

The Board and Ms. Esquibel discussed providing the full guidance documents to the Board to review and then continue the discussion in January 2026.

#### **FLUORIDE GUIDANCE UPDATE** *(Audio 01:09:23)*

Dr. Sheard explained that the FDA updated the age recommendations for fluoride treatment. The new recommendation is for ages three and above. With the new recommendation there were changes made to the fluoride guidance document to reflect the new guidelines.

The Board discussed the proposed changes to the fluoride guidance document.

**Dr. Hale made a motion to accept the amended Fluoride Guidance Document.**

**Dr. Higley seconded the motion.**

**The Board motion passed unanimously.**

#### **DOPL CITATIONS PUBLIC POLICY PROJECT** *(Audio 01:18:17)*

Mr. Sipes explained that he is looking for feedback from the Board about citations and how they are being treated by DOPL. Mr. Sipes explained the current process for citations being issued. The following three potential solutions with an explanation of the solution were presented to the Board: a lower class of citations, a new case resolution process, and allowing for petitions to remove citations from the website if procedures change.

The Board and Mr. Sipes discussed the different solutions, the impact the different solutions could present, and the impact on public safety and the profession.

Mr. Sipes will return in the December meeting to continue the discussion with updates to the potential solutions and for a Board recommendation on a solution.

#### **NABP UPDATE** *(Audio 01:51:12)*

Dr. Sheard explained that he and several DOPL staff attended the NABP executive forum in October. The main takeaways from the forum were pharmacy and staff shortages, burn-out among staff and staff ratios among pharmacy staff. The Universal MPJE is currently being piloted in select states and the NABP will also offer state specific exams as well. Another pilot program the NABP is currently doing is letting students take the MPJE in the last year of schooling and if the Board would like to participate in this program, a request can be made to NABP. The NABP also stated that an open book exam is not an option.

#### **NEWSLETTER** *(Audio 02:00:18)*

Dr. Sheard stated that the next deadline for the newsletter is December 31, 2025.

Dr. Sheard and the Board discussed doing an article on compounding and a controlled substance inventory reminder.

#### **APPOINTMENT ITEMS:**

##### **DAVID SCHWARTZ, HOUR REDUCTION REQUEST** *(Audio 00:00:40)*

Dr. Sheard asked Dr. Schwartz to explain his reason for coming before the Board.

Dr. Schwartz explained that he was able to pass both the MPJE and NAPLEX exam. Dr. Schwartz explained that in interviews he has had with potential employers, he has explained the 400 hours required by the Board, but the employers have stated that they are unable to supervise Dr. Schwartz for that amount of time.

The Board and Dr. Schwartz discussed the minimum hours that the employers may be able to accommodate, the Board's reasoning for requiring the 400 hours and other options that the Board may consider.

The Board requested that Dr. Schwartz meet with the Board at the December 2025 meeting to discuss options further after they received the information the Board requested from DOPL.

**Dr. Sheard made a motion to deny the request to reduce the total number of hours from 400.**

**Dr. Hale seconded the motion.**

**The Board motion passed unanimously.**

**ALA SHWANI, PHARMACY INTERN EXTENSION REQUEST** *(Audio 00:37:39)*

Dr. Sheard asked Ms. Shwani to explain the reason for coming before the Board.

Ms. Shwani explained that she is requesting an extension on her Pharmacy Intern license to make sure that she completes the hours required for licensure. Ms. Shwani explained that she is close to the hours but wants to make sure the hours are completed.

Dr. Hale asked Ms. Shwani if she had completed the exams.

Ms. Shwani explained that she has not yet completed the exams.

Dr. Sheard and Ms. Shwani discussed the confirmed hours that have been completed and the plan to confirm the hours that have been completed since that time. It was also discussed crediting hours to Ms. Shwani due to the pharmacist hours she has worked in Iraq since 2010.

The Board and Ms. Shwani discussed Ms. Shwani's plans for when she plans on taking the NAPLEX and MPJE to determine how long to extend the Intern license.

**Dr. Hale made a motion to extend Ms. Shwani's Intern license until the end of March 2026 and credit up to 500 hours.**

**Dr. Gunning seconded the motion.**

**The Board motion passed unanimously.**

**STEPHANIE HOLT, PROBATIONARY INTERVIEW** *(Audio 00:51:27)*

Ms. Palama explained that the supervisor reports have been received, continuing education is to be completed by June 27, 2026 and Dr. Chris Torgersen is to be interviewed as a second supervisor.

Dr. Gunning asked Dr. Torgersen to describe his supervision of Dr. Holt and his understanding of Dr. Holt's Stipulation and Order.

Dr. Torgersen explained that he will be a back-up supervisor for Dr. Holt if Dr. Robb is not available.



Dr. Gunning asked Dr. Torgersen about his understanding of the supervision that is required.

Dr. Torgersen explained that his understanding is to be available by face-to-face interaction or verbally by electronic means.

Dr. Gunning asked Dr. Holt how things are going and how the process is going to find the continuing education that is needed.

Dr. Holt explained things are going well at the pharmacy and the difficulties of finding continuing education that is needed but will keep looking.

**Dr. Gunning made a motion to accept Dr. Chris Torgersen as a secondary supervisor.**

**Dr. Hale seconded the motion.**

**The Board motion passed unanimously.**

**Dr. Gunning made a motion that Stephanie Holt is in compliance with their Stipulation and Order.**

**Dr. Higley seconded the motion.**

**The Board motion passed unanimously.**

Tentative next meeting will be on December 16, 2025.

**CODY HYMAS, PROBATIONARY INTERVIEW** *(Audio 00:59:40)*

Ms. Palama explained that supervisor audit reports have been received.

Dr. Hale asked how the pharmacy is doing and if anything is new.

Dr. Hymas explained things are going well at the pharmacy and there is nothing new.

The Board and Dr. Hymas discussed the hours Dr. Hymas works as a pharmacist and what duties that he performs during those hours.

**Dr. Hale made a motion that Cody Hymas is in compliance with their Stipulation and Order.**

**Dr. Higley seconded the motion.**

**The Board motion passed unanimously.**

Tentative next meeting will be in February 2026.

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 11 :54 A.M.**

*Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.*

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** *December 16, 2025*

**2026 Tentative Board Meeting Scheduled:**

**January 27, February 24, March 24, April 28, May 19, June 23, July 28-29 Hearing, August 25, September 22, October 27, November 17, December 15**



**Chairperson**

12/16/25

**Date**



**Bureau Manager**

12/16/25

**Date**