

MEETING MINUTES
UTAH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
DECEMBER 4, 2025
HEBER M. WELLS BLDG. RM 475
GOOGLE MEETS AND ROOM 475 – 9:00 AM
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84114

CONVENED: AM

ADJOURNED: 12:34 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jared Ferguson, Chairperson
Dr. Phillip Baese
Dr. Shelli Yearsley
Dr. Cade Charlton, Vice Chairperson
Dr. Thomas Higbee
Dr. Elizabeth Fawcett
Dr. Amanda Rapacz
Dr. Verl Pope
Kevin Eastman
Fernando Wilson

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Cheral Chivers

DOPL STAFF PRESENT:

Brian Pedersen, Beau Manager
Avery Wright, Board Secretary
Kelli Jacobsen, UPHP
Sharon Bennett, Compliance Specialist
Jennifer Johnson, Compliance Specialist
Steve Ohler, AG
Camille Farley, Chief Investigator
Brett Erickson, Investigations
Ammon Sorensen, UPHP
Russel Godfrey, Investigations
Lynn Anthony, Investigations
Kristen Shumway, Legal Analyst
Mark Anderson, Investigations

GUESTS:

Yvette Woodland
Matt Posey
Dr. Nanci Klein
Tiana McCall
Dr. Jamie Brass
Nichole Rammell, LCSW
Julie Posey
Sarah Stroup
Colby Robertson
Tanner Berg
Julie Berg
Dr. Amy Fehlberg, QPD Committee

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

J Ferguson conducted the meeting.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL.

Dr. T Higbee made the motion to approve the minutes. Dr. C Charlton seconded the motion. Dr. P Baese abstained from the vote. The motion passed.

PSYCH COMMITTEE REPORT-

B Pedersen presented the report from the committee in place of the committee members. Dr. A Rapacz expressed concerns regarding the motion for David Neville's licensure. Dr. A Fehlberg provided clarification on the decision by the committee. Dr. A Rapacz made the motion to accept the recommendations as stated by the committee. Dr. E Fawcett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

QUALIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT –

Dr. E Fawcett presented the first half of the committee report. Dr. V Pope conducted the second half of the committee report. J Ferguson made the motion to approve the committee's recommendations barring E Berry and J Posey until further review. Dr. C Charlton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

EMILY BERRY:

Dr. V Pope presented the report on E Berry. Dr. V Pope clarified how E Berry met with the BI Committee and the QPD committee. J Ferguson asked if the committee if they had access to the stipulation order. Dr. A Fehlberg confirmed they did not. B Pedersen explained that E Berry met with the BI Committee to review the requirements of licensure reinstatement and that the QPD committee was referred to her to review the education for licensure reinstatement. Dr. V Pope expressed his concern with issuing a license to E Berry without probationary agreements. J Ferguson clarified the timeframe in which E Berry had not been actively practicing. J Ferguson stated that shortcutting the probation is concerning. Dr. Shelli Yearsley stated that she agreed that someone cannot shortcut their probation. Dr. V Pope expressed his concerns with licensing E Berry as a CSW due to the surrendering of the license. Dr. A Fehlberg clarified the thought process behind the QPD committee's recommendations and also brought the concern the lack of accountability and knowledge. J Ferguson made the motion to approve the CSW license with the expectation of the completion of a 3 year probation and current licensure requirements. Dr S Yearsley seconded the motion. Dr. V Pope opposed. The motion passed.

JULIE POSEY:

Dr. E Fawcett presented the report on J Posey. Dr. V Pope brought the concern that she was not properly licensed while accruing the hours. A Wright read the code R156-60c-302a that deterred the committee from accepting the hours after the vote had concluded. Dr. T Higbee made the motion to approve the original recommendation to accept the hours from the completion date of

the educational requirements. Dr. E Fawcett seconded the motion. Dr. V Pope, Dr. S Yearsley, and Dr. C Charlton opposed. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

JULIE BERG – NOAA

J Ferguson opened the NOAA discussion. S Ohler gave a review of the licensing history of J Berg and the probation history. The Division's position regarding J Berg is to revoke the license. J Berg stated that she had not missed any of the required tests and believed there was a period of time in 2023 where she had been in compliance. J Johnson clarified that there were no missed tests but there were missed check ins. K Jacobsen clarified the type of alcohol testing used by the division. Dr. P Baese asked J Berg to state her motivation to stay in the mental health field. J Berg stated that being in the mental health field is her passion. C Farley asked J Johnson for clarification regarding the missed employment verification checks. Meeting closed in accordance with the Open and Public Meetings Act, 52-4-205(1)(a) to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Dr. P Baese, made a motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Open and Public Meetings Act, 52-4-205(1)(a) to discuss the character, professional competence or physical or mental health of an individual. Dr. S Yearsley seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor of closing the meeting. The meeting was closed at 10:26 a.m. The meeting was opened at 11:00 a.m.. J Ferguson made the motion to reopen the meeting. Dr. S Yearsley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The board has voted to uphold the recommendations of the Division. J Ferguson made the motion to uphold the division's recommendation to revoke the license. Dr A Rapacz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting closed in accordance with the Open and Public Meetings Act, 52-4-205(1)(a) to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Dr. P Baese, made a motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Open and Public Meetings Act, 52-4-205(1)(a) to discuss the character, professional competence or physical or mental health of an individual. Dr. S Yearsley seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor of closing the meeting. The meeting was closed at 10:26 a.m. The meeting was opened at 11:00 a.m.

BREAK: 11:00 AM – 11:16 AM

ZACH BOYD – AI REPORT

The board has tabled the AI Report for a later date.

ASSOCIATE LICENSES – RENEWAL AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

B Pedersen asked how the board for the opinions on requiring continuing education. J Ferguson made the motion to accept the division postponing the renewal requirements until the. Dr. T Higbee seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

PSYCHOLOGY EXPERIENCE LIMITATION REMOVAL

The division is seeking feedback from board members, the public, and license holders that are willing to share their input. Dr. A Rapacz expressed mild concerns regarding the time requirement.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

S Stroup legislative chair of the uamft, brought to the attention of the board some of the language that is written in the rule. S Stroup brought to the attention that there is a want to a language change and language added that someone will need to be a qualified supervisor that is in good standing.

Dr. V Pope spoke as a member of the public and not as a board member. Dr. V pope brought to the attention that there are agencies having the student interns call themselves CMHC-I. Dr. E Fawcett and J Ferguson agreed with the concerns of the titles being used and agreed that the ‘Intern’ designation is inappropriate.

N Rammell asked the board if “CMHC-graduate student or CMHC intern” would be appropriate representation of internship students. B Pedersen stated to the board that the division cannot advise on that question due to the division not having jurisdiction over students. Dr. E Fawcett advised, as a member of the public and not a board member, that it is inappropriate to use the term intern without the use of the word student.

FPC REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSES

B Pedersen notified the board that the Division will begin to fingerprint mental health therapists

NEXT MEETING:

02/05/2026

Meeting adjourned : 12:34 PM

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.



Chairperson, Behavioral Health Board

Brian Pedersen

Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing

02/11/2026

Date Approved

02/11/2026

Date Approved