

MEETING MINUTES
UTAH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
BACKGROUND & INVESTIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 17, 2025
HEBER M. WELLS BLDG.
GOOGLE MEETS AND NORTH CONFERENCE RM – 9:00 AM
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84114

CONVENED: 9:03 AM

ADJOURNED: 12:29 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cheral Chivers, Chairperson
Heather Chase
Blake Hansen
Jason Hales
Jennifer Morgan-Smith
Karson Kinikini
Lena Gustafson
Jason Hales

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Daniel Chesnut

DOPL STAFF PRESENT:

Jana Johansen, Bureau Manager
Brian Pedersen, Board Secretary
Camille Farley, DOPL Investigations
Paul Scott, Investigator
Brent Ericksen, Investigator
Russell Godfrey, Investigator
Kirsten Shumway, DOPL
Steve Oler, AG
Marcus Anderson
Silmara Charlesworth
Dave Olsen

GUESTS:

Janella Roach
Thane Palmer
Matthew Palmer

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS: (00:00:01) Audio 1
C Chivers called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (00:04:00)

L Gustafson made a motion to approve the January minutes. J Hales seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS: (00:05:00)

MATTHEW ABERNATHY – CH REVIEW

L Gustafson conducted the interview. M Abernathy provided a history of his criminal history, probation, and substance treatment. M Abernathy explained his current support system and answered questions from the committee. L Gustafson suggested approving a license on a 3-year standard probation, including supervision with reports, standard drug & alcohol stipulation, and continued treatment sessions. B Hansen expressed concerns that M Abernathy may not meet the education requirement. J Johansen stated that the Division would hold the license until May when the requirements change for education. C Chivers made a motion to approve the license on a standard 3-year probation as recommended by L Gustafson. K Kinikini seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THANE PALMER – RENEWAL REQUEST

L Gustafson 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. J Hales seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor of closing the meeting. The meeting was closed at 9:36 a.m. The recording of the meeting resumed at 9:45 a.m., the meeting remained closed to the public. The meeting was opened at 11:22 a.m.

L Gustafson made a motion to deny renewal of licensure. H Chase seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BREAK 11:28 – 11:38

INVESTIGATION REPORT

C Chivers 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. K Kinikini seconded the motion. All Board members voted in favor of closing the meeting. The meeting was closed at 11:39 a.m. The recording of the meeting resumed at 9:45 a.m., and the meeting remained closed. The meeting was opened at 12:28 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

July 17th 2025 9:00 AM

Meeting adjourned at 12:29

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.


Cloud Chivers (Jul 19, 2025 09:09 MDT)

Chairperson, Background & Investigations Committee

07/19/2025

Date Approved



Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing

07/19/2025

Date Approved