MINUTES
UTAH PHYSICAL AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
BOARD MEETING
JUNE 09, 2026 9:00 A.M.

CONVENED: 9:04 A.M. **ADJOURNED: 1:04 P.M.**

DOPL STAFF PRESENT:
Bureau Manager: Lisa Martin
Board Secretary: Brylee Vanderwarf
DOPL: Maryann Penman
DOPL: Colter Rosborough
DOPL: Lindsay Aagaard
Legal Analyst: Lauren Harvey
Compliance Specialist: Tori Sackett
Investigations: Ben Baker

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Jeffery Lau
Linda Scholl
Lyndsay Fait
Shannon Gudowicz
Jacqueline Waring
Elizabeth Cardell

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:
Cortney Heiner

GUESTS:
Zach Boyd, OAI
Steve Allison, APTA
Justin Carrier
Dara Cook, OAI
Alice Schwarze, OAI
Cam Bronson, AOI
Kristen Neville, AOTA
Patrick Walker, NBCOT
Kyle Jones, NBCOT
Courtney Rae, OAI
Katie Mansell, APTA

NOTE: Other guests may have been in attendance electronically but were not identified.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Call Meeting to Order

Ms. Fait called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Read and Approve March 10, 2026 Minutes (Audio 1 - 00:03:26)
Mr. Lau made a motion to approve the minutes with revisions as discussed.
Ms. Waring seconded the motion.
The Board motion passed unanimously.

Investigations Update (Audio 1 - 00:05:10)
Mr. Baker reported 13 total complaints for Physical Therapy this year; 9 were investigated, resulting in two actions being taken. Occupational Therapy has had zero complaints this year. Mr. Baker noted that maintaining professional boundaries is key to avoiding most complaints.

APPOINTMENTS:
Shannon Felts Breaking Barriers, Supervision Requirements (Audio 1 - 00:10:44)
Breaking Barriers was not present for their scheduled appointment.

NBCOT Presentation (Audio 2 - 00:00:08)
Mr. Jones gave a presentation to the Board as provided on the public notice website.

Office of AI Policy (Audio 1 - 01:03:29)
Mr. Boyd stated the Office of AI works with individuals who want to do business in the state using AI with no clear regulatory pathway. This will allow innovative businesses and opportunities for the state to learn and develop up-to-date regulatory pathways.

Ms. Cook stated the Office of AI has created a digital platform that is augmented by AI which is PT-led and intentionally conservative. Ms. Cook stated the platform uses a structured intake based on validated clinical instruments that assess symptoms. Ms. Cook stated the system then follows PT defined decision pathways that were built and developed with Dr. Dugan. Ms. Cook stated the system is using deterministic AI which replicates the same decision tree that would happen in a visit. Ms. Cook stated there are also escalation pathways to refer to in-person pelvic floor PT and telehealth for any high-risk conditions.

Ms. Schwarze stated the system will allow patients to have the option to list their primary care provider, which will then send their primary care provider updates each time the system is used. Ms. Schwarze stated the Office of AI believes this platform is needed.

Mr. Lau asked the Office of AI if this qualifies as physical therapy or just a great program that was created by physical therapists and others. Mr. Lau asked if this would be considered self-help or screening tool that is being generated by AI and is being overseen.

Mr. Bronson stated the Office of AI will be working with Ms. Cook to answer those questions.

DISCUSSION:
FSBPT Update (Audio 1 - 00:14:57)
Ms. Waring stated FSBPT has convened a task force to create a language for code of ethics. Ms. Waring stated continuing competence committee has created a healthy practice assessment; they

are giving licensees CEs to attend this self-assessment. Ms. Waring stated she would like to include Board training at the Board meetings for Chairpersons.

Mr. Lau stated FSBPT has created a survey across jurisdictions regarding licensees and disciplinary action. Mr. Lau stated the disciplinary actions would be available for all states to see.

Ms. Fait stated she will be attending the July conference as a voting delegate.

Mr. Lau will be acting as the alternate delegate for the annual meeting in October.

APTA (Audio 1 - 00:31:45)
Katie Mansell and Steve Allison advocated for physical therapists to perform Department of Transportation (DOT) physical exams.

Mr. Allison stated 13 states currently recognize these exams as within the PT scope of practice. Mr. Allison noted the exams are strictly to certify fitness for duty, not to diagnose or treat. Mr. Allison requested the Board issue a clarification letter to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) stating DOT exams are within Utah's PT scope of practice.

Ms. Martin stated the Division will review the request with legal counsel and revisit it at the September meeting.

PT Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice (Audio 2 - 00:22:42)
Ms. Martin provided the PT Code of Ethics and Standards or Practice draft with the Board as provided on the public notice website. Ms. Martin stated the Division took the concept of the APTA Code of Ethics to create the draft presented to the Board.

Ms. Mansell asked why Utah was attempting to create its own standard rather than adopting the APTA's new Code of Ethics.

Mr. Lau explained that the APTA's revised code contains aspirational language that is legally unenforceable and would create unrealistic professional burdens if adopted into state law

Ms. Martin stated the reason the Division is addressing the Code of Ethics is because the Board previously discussed drafting one since every state has its own regulations. Ms. Martin stated if any complaints are made and it’s found that there is a violation of the Code of Ethics, the investigations team will review the violation.

The Board discussed specific provisions in the Utah draft, including the timeline for when a practitioner may ethically engage in a relationship with a former client and language restricting the treatment of genitalia, which may interfere with pelvic floor physical therapy.

The topic will be brought back in September.

R156-42a (Audio 2 - 01:08:45)

Ms. Martin shared the R156-42a rule draft to the Board as provided on the public notice website.

Ms. Harvey shared recommendations from the Office of Professional Licensure Review (OPLR) to reduce continuing education hours from 24 to 20, and to allow practitioners to count working hours toward their CE requirements.

Ms. Cardell opposed allowing work hours to count for CE, noting it does not align with national OT standards.

Ms. Neville stated that AOTA does not support strict supervision ratios or caps in response to OPLR's recommendation to implement a supervision ratio capping OTAs at four per OT.

Ms. Martin stated the draft will be revised based upon the Board's discussion and will discuss this topic at the September Board meeting.

R156-24b (Audio 2 - 01:37:57)
Ms. Martin shared the R156-24b rule draft to the Board as provided on the public notice website.

Ms. Harvey presented updates, including an OPLR recommendation to reduce PT CEUs from 40 to 30 and reduce ethics CEU requirements for PTAs.

The Board opposed lowering the CE hours and ethics requirements, agreeing that current rules already provide ample flexibility.

Ms. Martin stated the draft will be revised based upon the Board's discussion and will discuss this topic at the September Board meeting.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:
SEPTEMBER 08, 2026 – DECEMBER 08, 2026

ADJOURN:
Meeting adjourned at 1:04 P.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.

Privacy Notice:
This meeting may be recorded. If you attend, join or participate in this meeting, the personal data that you provide, or that is collected from you, is generally classified as a public record pursuant to Utah Code 63G-2-301 of the Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA), and may be made available to the public as provided by Utah Code 63G-2-201, except where the meeting is closed under Utah Code 52-4-205.

9-8-2026 (ss) Jeffery D. Lau

Date Approved **Chairperson, Utah Physical Therapies Board**

9-15-2026 (ss) Lisa Martin

Date Approved **Bureau Manager, DOPL**