

These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the Board.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Board of Cosmetology, Electrology, Esthetics, Nail Technology, and Body Art
January 26, 2026

1. ROLL CALL

The Board of Cosmetology, Electrology, Esthetics, Nail Technology, and Body Art was called to order by the Chair, Shannon Bingham, at 9:09 a.m., at the Nebraska State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lower Level Morrill Room, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was conducted In-Person and by WebEx. The following members answered roll call.

Shannon Bingham, Chair
Matt Bavoulian, Member
Siobhan "Chevy" Kozisek, Member
Leslie Reed, Secretary
Bridget Anderson, Member
Marie Nordboe, Member
Lydia "Jane" Nims, Member
Carmela Battistelli, New Member
Judith Wendt, New Member

Absent: Samantha "Sam" Bain, New Member

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened. Also present were: Sean Loving, Program Manager; Heather Ord, Health Licensing Coordinator; Chelsea Dignman, Administrative Technician; Jessie Enfield, ITBSA; Marly Sandberg, Department Legal; T.J. O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General; Tricia Allen, Alexandria Belcher, Randy Clark, and Mark Meyerson, Investigators from the Investigations Unit.

Bingham announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Board members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx> and posted in the Licensure Unit on January 12, 2026.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Anderson moved, seconded by Reed, to approve the agenda as presented. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavoulian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none. Absent: Bain and Nordboe. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

Nordboe arrived at 9:25 a.m.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 3, 2025

Anderson moved, seconded by Nordboe, to approve the minutes with the following corrections:

Page 13. Under the heading “Medial Supervision”: “Doctors may be taken advantage of the estheticians” changed to “Doctors may be taking advantage of the estheticians”.

Anderson moved, seconded by Nord, to approve the agenda as presented. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavoulian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Bain, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Battistelli and Wendt Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

4. INVESTIGATIONAL & CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION/REPORTS – CLOSED SESSION

Anderson moved, seconded by Reed, to go into closed session at 9:15 a.m. for the purpose of review and discussion of investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavoulian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

5. OPEN SESSION Application review and recommendations (initial licensure, reinstatement, convictions, administrative penalties, and mail ballot reports)

The Green House – Cosmetology Salon

Nordboe moved, seconded by Anderson, to request more information to be reviewed at the next meeting. Request information includes an updated insurance policy. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavoulian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

Eyebrow Threading and Lashes (4801 S 50th St Omaha) - Esthetics Salon

Anderson moved, seconded by Nordboe, to recommend requesting more information. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavoulian, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Kozisek Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

Eyebrow Threading and Lashes (18460 Wright Street Omaha) – Esthetics Salon

Anderson moved, seconded by Nordboe, to recommend requesting more information. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavoulian, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Kozisek Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

Skin by Moriah – Esthetics Salon

Anderson moved, seconded by Bingham, to recommend the approval of the application for a Esthetics Salon Consideration Certificate with censure, \$500 civil penalty to be paid over 1 year, and completion of the jurisprudence exam for the owner, Moriah Barela, within 90 days. The basis for the censure, civil penalty, and the completion of the jurisprudence exam for the owner is due to operating for one hundred seventy-nine (179) days without an active license. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavoulian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

Bali Bar Nails and Spa – Nail Technology Salon

Reed moved, seconded by Nordboe, to recommend approval of the application for a Nail Technology Salon Consideration Certificate with censure, \$2,000 civil penalty to be paid over 2 years, and completion of the jurisprudence exam for all owners, Jenny Nguyen, Dinah, and Byron Rivas, within 90 days. The basis for the censure, civil penalty, and the completion of the jurisprudence exam for all owners is due to operating for seven hundred and twenty (720) days without an active license. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavougian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

Jessica Wilson – Tattoo Artist/Body Piercer

Reed moved, seconded by Nordboe, to recommend denial of the application for the initial Tattoo Artist and Body Piercer license. The basis for the denial is due to conviction history and the nature of the convictions, failure to provide sufficient evidence of good character, and lack of good character. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavougian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

Xolotl Tattoo – Body Art Facility

Bavougian moved, seconded by Nordboe, to recommend approval of the application for a Body Art Facility license with censure, \$3,000 civil penalty to be paid over 3 years, and completion of the jurisprudence exam for the owner, Daniel Rodriguez, within 90 days. The basis for the censure, civil penalty, and the completion of the jurisprudence exam for all owners is due to operating for one thousand four hundred (1,400) days without an active license. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavougian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

Alexis Konfrst - Cosmetologist

Nordboe moved, seconded by Anderson, to request more information to be reviewed at the next meeting. Request information includes all court documents with disposition pertaining to convictions. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavougian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

The board returned to Open Session at 12:20 p.m.

Judith Wendth left at 12:35 p.m.

6. UPDATES/FOLLOW UP**a. Legislation**

LB 720- Create a temporary event license for body artists under the Uniform Credentialing Act – Individuals applying would need to hold a valid, unrestricted license or permit showing the individual is active in another state. Loving mentioned there was a hearing the week of January 19, 2026 pertaining to LB 720, there will be an amendment coming for the bill.

LB 961 – Adopt the Collateral Sanction Relief Act – Amended sections 29-2264 and 29-3005, to change provisions relating to set asides; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

LB 82 – Adopt the Cosmetology Licensure Compact – This bill is to provide opportunities for interstate practice by cosmetologists who meet uniform requirements for multistate licensure.

b. National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC)

Nordboe presented the following information pertaining to the National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC):

In 1936, the Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology was established.

In 1956, the group merged with the National Council of Boards of Beauty Culture to form the National Interstate Council of State Boards of Cosmetology (NIC).

In 1969, NIC founded the National Examination Program.

In 1990, examinations for Barbers began.

In 2024, Nic's National Examination Program is the predominant national exam for licensing Cosmetologists, Barbers, and related fields throughout the US and Guam.

The exams are now available in English, Korean, Persian, Farsi, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Our board has previously discussed giving exams in other languages.

NIC recently completed its legislative guide. Many states had asked for this type of informational material during the 2025 national convention. It could be very valuable for us as we move ahead with our future legislation.

There are now 12 different types of exam overviews available for purchase for practical testing by students.

Subject experts were needed for micro pigmentation. These people help create test questions for the exam.

The national convention will be held October 19-22 in Billings, Montana. Originally, it was planned for Missoula.

c. Statistics: Examination, Licensing, disciplinary/non-disciplinary information, and renewals

The board reviewed the statistics without discussion.

7. DESIGNATION OF THE METHOD BY WHICH THIS BODY GIVES PUBLIC NOTICE OF ITS MEETINGS

Loving informed the Board that the Department currently sends notifications via email to interested parties, posts meeting agendas to the Department's Public website, and posts a paper agenda inside the State Office Building.

Anderson moved, seconded by Nordboe, to continue the current method of which this body gives public notice of its meetings. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavougian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Anderson moved, seconded by Kozisek, to keep Char the same. Appoint Reed as Vice-Chair and Bavougian as Secretary. The slate of officers is as follows: Bingham – Chairperson, Reed – Vice-Chairperson, and Bavougian – Secretary. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavougian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

9. Investigative Consultant

Anderson moved, seconded by Kozisek, to appoint Kozisek and Bavougian as consultants for the investigation unit. Voting aye: Bingham, Bavougian, Kozisek, Reed, Anderson, Nordboe, Nims, Battistelli, and Wendt. Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: Bain. Vacant positions: 3 Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

*Erin Jenkins
Canvas Salon and Day Spa
11513 S 42nd
Bellevue, NE 68123*

I own a salon and have a cosmetologist who would like to add structured gel nails and with that use drill work. I have called DHHS and spoke the cosmetology section and she said they can do that under their license but also transferred me to the nail department. She said my employee needs a nail license. My employee went to talk to the owner of Envy nail school and the owner said she didn't need a separate license. I need clarification please. Would she just need drill hours?

7. ADJOURNMENT

The board discussed the next meeting to be scheduled for March 16, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. and declared the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Submitted,

Board of Cosmetology, Electrology, Esthetics, Nail Technology, and Body Art

Summarized by Heather Ord, Health Licensing Coordinator, Licensure Unit