

## Board of Physical Therapy Minutes of February 5, 2026, Virtual Meeting

### **1. ROLL CALL**

Dr. Kirk Peck, Chair, called the virtual meeting of the Board of Physical Therapy to order at 1:00 p.m. on February 5, 2026, in the Lower Level, Otoe Conference Room, of the Nebraska State Office Building located at 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were emailed to the Board members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS website at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>, and posted in the Nebraska State Office Building East Vestibule on January 23, 2026.

Peck announced that this is an Open Meeting and that the Open Meetings Act is posted.

**Members Present:** The following members answered roll call:

Dr. Kirk Peck, Chair (via Webex)  
Dr. Betsy Becker, Vice Chair  
Kimberly Oliphant, Member (via Webex)

### **Staff Present:**

Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager  
Kim Hitzel, Board Coordinator  
Marley Sandberg, DHHS Legal (via Webex)  
Abby Hoy-Nissen, Assistant Attorney General (via Webex)  
Trevor Klaassen, Investigations

### **2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Becker moved, seconded by Oliphant, to adopt the agenda. Voting aye: Peck, Becker, and Oliphant. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

### **3. REAFFIRMATION OF MAIL BALLOT**

The minutes of October 16, 2025, meeting minutes were approved by mail ballot by Oliphant, Peck, and Becker. Voting nay: none. Approved October 29, 2025.

### **4. CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION:** Becker moved, seconded by Oliphant, to move into closed session at 1:03 p.m. to hear discussions regarding confidential information and to protect the reputation of individuals named or referenced in such discussions. Voting aye: Becker, Oliphant, and Peck. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

## **5. BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS – OPEN SESSION**

The Board returned to Open Session at 2:03 pm.

A break was held from 2:03 pm until 2:10 pm when the Board meeting returned to Open Session.

There were no recommendations from the Board.

## **6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Motion:** Becker moved, seconded by Oliphant to approve the following slate of officers.

Chair: Dr. Kirk Peck

Vice-Chair: Dr. Becky Becker

Secretary: Kim Oliphant

Investigations Consultant: Kim Oliphant

Education Consultant: Kirk Peck

Voting aye: Becker, Peck, and Oliphant. Voting nay: None. Motion carried.

## **7. VOTING FOR DELEGATES FOR NATIONAL BOARDS AND MEETINGS**

**Motion:** Becker moved, seconded by Oliphant to approve the following slate for Delegates to national and state organization meetings.

Delegate: Dr. Kirk Peck

Alternate: Kimberly Oliphant

Voting aye: Peck, Becker, and Oliphant. Voting Nay: none. Motion carried.

The FSBPT Leadership Issues Forum (LIF) meeting will be held July 18-18, 2026, in Alexandria, VA. The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) annual meeting will be October 22-24, 2026, in Greenville SC.

## **8. PER DIEM**

**Motion:** Becker moved, Oliphant seconded to keep the Per Diem at \$50 per day for the meeting and ½ day of per diem for preparation.

Voting aye: Peck, Oliphant, and Becker. Voting nay, none. Motion carried.

## **9. NOTICE OF MEETING PUBLICATION**

**Motion:** Becker moved, seconded by Oliphant, that, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Open Meetings Act, the notice of meetings of this Board be posted virtually on the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Licensure Board Meeting Agenda page, posted physically on the Board Meeting Agenda billboard in the lobby of the Nebraska State Office Building, and disseminated to a list of stakeholders and interested parties. Voting aye: Becker, Oliphant, Peck. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

## **10. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

There has not been any specific bill that requires the Board attention to date. The Department will keep the Board updated during the Legislative session if any bills require their attention.

## **11. PHYSICAL THERAPY COMPACT UPDATE**

Covert-ByBee reported on the following Physical Therapy Compact news.

Nevada joined the compact in January 2026. The Physical Therapy Compact website at PTCompact.org has been updated and is now more user friendly. There are an eligibility checker and compact verification.

A PT Compact liaison is available to make a presentation if the Board would like to make that request. The Nebraska liaison is Susan Gile. .

The January status report from Jeff Rosa of the Federation of States Board of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) noted that the highest number of privileges being purchased to practice in Nebraska are coming from Texas and Iowa. Nebraska licensees purchase compact privileges in the highest numbers for Iowa and Missouri.

## **12. FSBPT ANNUAL MEETING REPORT**

The annual meeting was held October 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Spokane Washington. Peck, Oliphant, and Covert-ByBee attended.

Peck reported drafting the animal regulations for physical therapists to practice animal physical therapy. The process is moving forward. There is now a document available if states want to use it to draft their own regulations.

Peck reported that he and Jeff Rosa from the FSBPT gave a report on the experience Nebraska had in implementing the Jurisprudence Assessment Module (JAM). That process to change to the JAM in Nebraska involved FSBPT, Board members, and staff and it was very successful.

The Vice-President of the FSBPT Board of Directors, Michele Thorman, has asked Peck and Covert-ByBee if she could attend a Board meeting. Peck will invite her to the next meeting.

## **13. COMMUNICATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

The American Physical Therapy Association Nebraska meeting will be held April 11, 2026, in Omaha, NE.

**Motion:** Becker moved and Oliphant seconded to have Kirk Peck represent the Board at the APTA Nebraska meeting April 11, 2026. Voting aye: Peck, Oliphant, and Becker. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

## **14. LICENSURE APPLICATION PROCESSING REPORT**

Covert-ByBee presented the License Application Processing Report (APR) and stated that it was prepared for informational purposes only.

## **15. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**16. TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING.**

The following topics were identified for the next Board meeting: Application Processing Report, Legislative Update, Physical Therapy Compact Update, Public Comment, Stakeholders Communications Report Out, two Scope of Practice questions, FSBPT Updates, and Michele Thorman will be invited to attend. The meeting will be held April 23, 2026, and it will be an in-person meeting for Board Members.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
(signature on file)  
Kimberly Oliphant, Secretary