

These minutes have not been approved by the Board

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Board of Mental Health Practice
May 1, 2026

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Mental Health Practice was called to order by Rebecca Czaja-Stevens, Chair, at 9:01 a.m. in the Lower Level Otoe Room, Nebraska State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE. In accordance with §84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were 1) emailed to the Board members and other interested parties, 2) posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>, and 3) posted on the bulletin board in the Nebraska State Office Building Lobby on April 28, 2026.

The following members answered roll call:

Members Present:

Sara Batter, Vice Chair
Rebecca Czaja-Stevens, Chair
Paul Davies, Secretary
Tammy Erickson
Renea Gernant
Adrian Martin
Jennifer McNally
Susan Meyerle

Members Absent:

Yasmin Henderson
Amanda Milander-Mace

Staff and Others Present:

Maiya Baumann, Program Manager, Licensure Unit
Jessica Dean, Health Licensing Coordinator, Licensure Unit
Mindy Lester, Assistant Attorney General
Katherine Amyot, DHHS Department Legal
Jessie Enfield, IT Business Systems Analyst, Licensure Unit
Scarlett Popevis, DHHS Intern, Licensure Unit
Hayle Alvarado, DHHS Investigator
Randy Clark, DHHS Investigator
Mark Meyerson, DHHS Investigator
Trevor Klaussen, DHHS Investigator
Linda Rohman, General Reporting Service

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Gernant moved, seconded by Martin, to adopt the agenda for the meeting. A voice vote was taken. Voting yes: Batter, Czaja-Stevens, Erickson, Gernant, Martin, McNally, and Meyerle. Absent: Henderson and Milander-Mace. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 6, 2026

MOTION: Martin moved, seconded by Batter, to approve the minutes. A voice vote was taken. Voting yes: Batter, Czaja-Stevens, Davies, Erickson, Martin, McNally, and Meyerle. Abstained: Gernant. Absent: Henderson and Milander-Mace. Motion carried.

Davies entered at 9:06 a.m.
Break at 10:32 a.m.
Back at 10:40 a.m.
Closed session at 10:40 a.m.
Open session at 11:11 a.m.
Closed session at 1:15 p.m.
Open session at 1:30 p.m.
Closed session at 1:34 p.m.
Break at 2:58 p.m.
Back at 3:11 p.m.
Closed session at 3:12 p.m.
Open session at 3:29 p.m.

4. BOARD HEARING – OPEN SESSION

Eric McDougle requested a hearing before the Board regarding his application for reinstatement after revocation of his Mental Health Practitioner license. Katherine Amyot, Department Attorney and Hearing Administrator, requested that the Board go into closed session at 10:40 a.m. for discussion of evidence presented at the hearing. The Board returned to open session at 11:11 a.m. Gernant moved, seconded by Batter, to uphold the denial of reinstatement after revocation of Mr. McDougle's Mental Health Practitioner license due to lack of evidence to support reinstatement.

5. BOARD HEARING – OPEN SESSION

Brooke Wright requested a hearing before the Board regarding her application for reinstatement after revocation of her Independent Mental Health Practitioner, Mental Health Practitioner and Professional Counselor credentials. Katherine Amyot, Department Attorney and Hearing Administrator, requested that the Board go into closed session at 1:15 p.m. for discussion of evidence presented at the hearing. The Board returned to open session at 1:30 p.m. Gernant moved, seconded by Batter, to uphold the denial of reinstatement of Ms. Wright's credentials due to lack of evidence to support reinstatement.

6. CLOSED SESSION – CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Meyerle moved, seconded by Erickson, to enter into closed session at 1:34 p.m. to hear discussions of a confidential nature, and for the prevention of needless injury to individual reputations. A voice vote was taken. Voting yes: Batter, Czaja-Stevens, Davies, Erickson,

Gernant, Martin, McNally, and Meyerle. Absent: Henderson and Milander-Mace. Motion carried.

7. APPLICATION REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Leontyne Evans, PLMHP – Reinstatement Following Suspension

The application review for Leontyne Evans was tabled for more information.

Due to time constraints, the remaining applications originally scheduled for review at this meeting were deferred for discussion to a special virtual meeting scheduled for June 5th, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

8. UPDATES AND REPORTS

Due to time constraints, it was decided to send updates on legislation and associations, if applicable, via email.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m.

Summarized by:
Jessica Dean, Licensure Unit