

These minutes have not been approved by the Board

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Board of Psychology
July 17, 2026

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Psychology was called to order by Stacy Waldron, Chair, at 10:01 a.m. in the Lower Level Morrill 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 July 6, 2026.

The following members answered roll call:

Members Present:

Thomas Cardwell, Secretary
Jennifer Dreibelbis
Deborah Hoffnung
Tomeka Johnson
Katherine Linder, Vice Chair
Stacy Waldron, Chair

Staff and Others Present:

Maiya Baumann, Program Manager, Licensure Unit
Jessica Dean, Health Licensing Coordinator, Licensure Unit
Milissa Johnson Wiles, Assistant Attorney General
Katherine Amyot, DHHS Department Legal
Jeanette Peterson, Compliance Monitor, Licensure Unit
Trevor Klaussen, DHHS Investigator
Hayle Alvorado, DHHS Investigator

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Linder moved, seconded by Cardwell, to adopt the agenda for the meeting. Voting yes: Cardwell, Dreibelbis, Hoffnung, Johnson, Linder, Waldron. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 15, 2026

MOTION: Dreibelbis moved, seconded by Hoffnung, to approve the minutes for the May 15, 2026 meeting. Voting yes: Cardwell, Dreibelbis, Hoffnung, Johnson, and Waldron. Abstained: Linder.

4. CLOSED SESSION (INVESTIGATION REPORTS AND APPLICATION REVIEW)

MOTION: Cardwell moved, seconded by Hoffnung, to enter into closed session at 10:04 a.m. for the purpose of reviewing and discussing investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputations of the individuals involved. Voting yes: Cardwell, Dreibelbis, Hoffnung, Johnson, Linder, and Waldron. Motion carried.

Break at 11:11 a.m.

Back at 11:22 a.m.

Open session at 11:23 a.m.

5. APPLICATION REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Nishma Ramos Gonzalez, Provisionally Licensed Psychologist

MOTION: Linder moved, seconded by Johnson, to recommend denial of the application due to not meeting educational requirements. Voting yes: Cardwell, Dreibelbis, Hoffnung, Johnson, Linder, and Waldron. Motion carried.

6. UPDATES

a. Legislation

There were no updates.

b. Association Updates

i. Association of State Provincial Psychology Boards <https://www.asppb.org>

At previous meetings the board had discussed possibly sending three delegates to the annual ASPPB conference in September 2026, including a representative from DHHS Legal. ASPPB offers financial assistance for plane fare and hotel room costs for the voting delegate. Per Baumann, the state will only reimburse costs for one board member or staff member to attend. At the Board of Psychology meeting on May 15, 2026, the board voted to approve funding for Cardwell to attend the conference.

Therefore, Linder and Cardwell will both attend the conference, with ASPPB covering the costs for Linder, and the state covering the costs for Cardwell.

During the discussion of the advantages of having a staff attorney attend the ASPPB conference, the question of updating the Nebraska psychology regulations came up. Waldron said that there are certain updates that could be made the next time the regulations open up, such as adopting a more recent version of the APA code of ethics, which may not be possible due to political sensitive topics such as gender identity and sexual orientation. Other than updating regulations pertaining to ethics, there are not necessarily other updates that need to be made to the regulations. Waldron said that an update would not be needed to reflect upcoming changes to the EPPP board exam. Amyot reiterated that when the regulations are next scheduled for review, they do not necessarily have to be opened if there are no changes needed at that time.

ii. PSYPACT <https://www.asppb.net/page/PSYPACT>

Baumann said that she attended the Commission Mid-Year meeting on July 13th, 2026. There was a general discussion of various compacts and how there have been struggles with third party payers such as private insurance companies and state Medicaid programs accepting compact licenses. She said that PSYPACT is using the same financial advisors as the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC). She said that Iowa, Louisiana, and Alaska have enacted legislation to join PSYPACT and that Alaska should begin issuing credentials by September. New York and Massachusetts have introduced legislation to join PSYPACT but neither state has passed anything yet. Baumann said that the only states/territories left that have not introduced legislation or joined PSYPACT are California, Guam, New Mexico, Oregon, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. She said that Nebraska is either the third or fourth largest state compact.

iii. American Psychological Association <https://apa.org>

Linder said that she will be presenting at the upcoming APA conference scheduled for August 6th-8th, 2026, in Washington, D.C.

iv. Nebraska Psychological Association <https://www.nebpsych.org>

Linder said that the NPA was named as a recipient of the National Register 2026 SPTA (State, Provincial, and Territorial Psychological Associations) Advocacy Award and she will be accepting the award. Illinois and Ohio also received awards.

c. RxP (Prescribing Psychologists)

There was a brief discussion of when or if legislation might be introduced in Nebraska to allow psychologists to prescribe medications. Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Utah currently allow prescriptive authority for psychologists; Hawaii and Vermont have enacted legislation which has not yet taken effect. The licensing exam for RxP is the Psychopharmacology Examination for Psychologists, or PEP. Linder said that the past, psychologists would have to complete a separate degree in order to prescribe, but it is now an option to complete while also obtaining the psychology doctorate. She said that NPA had a committee working on the issue through the 407 process which was interrupted when there were changes to 407; she is not sure what the current status is. The regulating board for RxP in states which currently offer the privilege is different from state to state. If legislation were passed to allow RxP in Nebraska, the regulating board could either be the Board of Medicine or the Board of Psychology, depending on how the statute is written. The wording of the legislation would also affect whether regulations would need to be updated.

vi. Licensure statistics (attached to agenda)

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Summarized by:

Jessica Dean, Licensure Unit