



**Tennessee Board of Osteopathic Examination
Regular Board Meeting**

Wednesday November 5, 2025

MINUTES

The regular board meeting of the Tennessee Board of Osteopathic Examination was called to order at 9:03 a.m. in the Poplar Room, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243 by Dr. Michael Wieting, Board President.

Board members present: Michael Wieting, D.O. President
Michael Bernui, D.O. Vice President
Shant Garabedian, D.O.
Penny Judd, Secretary
Otis Rickman, D.O.

Staff present: Michael Varnell, Office of General Counsel
Stacy Tarr, Executive Director
Brandi Allocco, Administrative Director
R. Brock Mann, Board Administrator

Dr. Wieting called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board was presented with two sets of minutes. Dr. Wieting first called for discussion on the minutes from August 13, 2025 regular Board Meeting. Dr. Garabedian motioned to approve the minutes. Dr. Bernui seconded and the motion passed. Dr. Wieting then called for discussion on the minutes from October 10, 2026 Summary Suspension Hearing. Ms. Judd made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Garabedian seconded and the motion passed.

OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS REPORT

Ms. Angela Esaw was present from the Office of Investigations to give the report.

Ms. Esaw reported YTD for 2025, there were one hundred fifteen (115) new complaints opened and one hundred ten (110) were closed for the following reasons: thirty one (31) closed for insufficient evidence, ten (10) referred to the Office of General Counsel, sixty (60) closed with no action, two (2) closed with a letter of concern, and seven (7) closed with a letter of warning.

There were no new complaints opened for Osteopathic X-Ray operators, DO Office based surgery, or DO special training.

With there being no questions, Ms. Esaw concluded her report.

REPORT FROM THE FINANCIAL OFFICE

Mr. Matt McSpadden introduced himself as the new Financial Director for the Division. Mr. McSpadden presented the Board its FY 2025 Financial Report. Total Board Expenditures were \$540,055.50, Fee revenue was \$492,530.98, the change in reserve balance position was -\$47,521.52. The new reserve balance was \$1,279,567.57. Mr. McSpadden further broke down expenditures and revenue by type. Dr. Wieting noted the payroll expense for FY 2025 was noticeably lower than FY 2024. Ms Tarr explained that the Board Office remains fully staffed, however each member of staff from the Administrative Office, Financial Office, Investigations Office and Office of General Counsel bill their payroll based on time spent working for each Board. Mr. McSpadden continued his report by comparing current yest totals to previous years. The Board's total reserve balance was greater than a 3-year average of operating expenses. He explained that with the reserve balance being that high, they would normally begin discussing fee reduction, however, with the previous two FY finishing in the red and a projected expense of \$163,000 for technological improvements coming soon, he did not feel a fee reduction was warranted at this time. With there being no questions, Mr. McSpadden concluded his report.

REPORT FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Ms. Brandi Allocco was present to give the Administrative Office report.

The activities that have transpired in the administrative office between August 1, 2025 and October 31, 2025 concerning Osteopathic Physicians are as follows:

New Applications Received:

- Osteopathic Physician: 139
- Locum Tenens: 0
- Telemedicine: 0
- Special Training: 2

New DOX Applications Received: 0

Total New Licenses Issued

- Osteopathic Physician: 72

- Telemedicine: 0
- Locum Tenens: 0
- Special Training: 1
- DOX: 0
- Compact: 77

Total Number of Reinstatement: 9

Total Number of Renewals: 298

Online 266 – 89%

Total number of active licensees as of July 31, 2025:

Osteopathic Physicians 3,730

Osteopathic Physicians with a Tennessee mailing address 1,904

Special Training 16

Telemedicine 24

Osteopathic X-Ray Operators 4

Professional Midwives 111

REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Michael Varnell was present to give the report.

Mr. Varnell began his report by reviewing the Board Conflict of Interest Policy.

Mr. Varnell informed the Board the emergency rules for the Graduate Physician Act, PC470, was currently in effect until February 2026. The permanent rules for this Act related to the Graduate Physician Act had gone through a rule making hearing earlier in this meeting and would move forward. Mr. Varnell said the Board' retrospective rule review as well as the rule review for Osteopathic X-ray operators pursuant to Public Chapter 328 were currently in the internal review process with the Office of General Counsel.

Litigation- No updates since the last meeting.

Discipline:

The total number of Osteopathic Physicians being monitored for discipline is 9.

The total number on reprimand is 0.

The total number on probation is 8.

The total number on suspension is 0.

The total number that has had their license revoked or surrendered is 1.

The total number of Osteopathic X-Ray Technicians being monitored is 0.

TENNESSEE MEDICAL FOUNDATION UPDATE

Dr. Michael Barron was present to provide an update on the Tennessee Medical Foundation. Dr. Barron discussed a recent survey study completed by TMF participants. The survey asked about services provided by TMF and how helpful they found those services. Dr. Barron stated they had received 138 of these surveys back and 84 of those had at least 2 years of sobriety. Advocacy was found to be the most helpful service provided. TMF advocates for their participants who are in good standing with their monitoring agreements to licensing authorities, employers, the DEA. Caduseus meetings were the second most helpful. These meetings provide a safe setting for physicians and other medical professionals to discuss not only addiction and mental health, but also personal and work-related issues with others in their field. Dr. Barron stated a study of former participants monitored for substance use showed a success rate of 89%, with 11% experiencing a return to use. Dr. Garabedian asked if TMF charges fees for participants. Dr. Barron answered that if it was Board orders, no, but the participant is responsible for paying for their toxicology. Participants who are self-referred or referred from other sources are charged \$120 per month, with residents and students fees being waived for the first six months.

RATIFICATION OF NEW LICENSES

Dr. Rickman made a motion to approve the list of new licensees. Dr. Garabedian seconded and the motion passed.

ATTENDANCE FOR TRAUMA-INFORMED REGULATION CONFERENCE

The Board had been invited to attend a conference in New Orleans on February 27, 2026 titled Trauma-Informed Regulation: From Theory to Practice. One Board Member and one member of staff could attend. Ms. Tarr explained that after discussion, it had been decided this conference would be better attended by a member of the Office of General Counsel if the Board approved. Dr. Wieting expressed interest in attending. Ms Judd made a motion to send Dr. Wieting to represent the Board and Mr. Varnell to represent staff. Dr. Garabedian seconded and the motion passed.

ATTENDANCE FOR 2026 FSMB ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. Wieting stated this was the annual meeting for the Federation of State Medical Board Meeting in Baltimore Maryland on April 20-May 2, 2026. Ms. Tarr explained there were three sponsorships available for this meeting, one for a voting delegate Board Member, one for a senior staff member, and one additional for either Board or Staff. Ms. Judd asked if the Board had to name Members or staff or just approve the number of attendees. Ms Tarr explained that she did need to know the voting delegate, but the other Board Members or staff could be named later. Ms. Judd made a motion for three Board Members or Staff attend under the FSMB sponsorships with Dr. Wieting acting as the voting delegate and one additional Board Member be allowed to attend with expenses paid by the Board. Dr. Rickman seconded and the motion passed.

Ms. Judd mentioned before moving to the next agenda item that she would be attending the IMLCC Annual Meeting in Denver in the coming weeks. Ms. Judd currently serves as Treasurer for the IMLCC and would be up for nomination as Vice Chair.

PRESENTATION OF DISCIPLINARY ORDERS

Ms. Patrea Morgan, Office of General Counsel, presented two consent orders for Ms. Cameron Rai, CPM. Ms Morgan gave some brief background before presenting the consent orders. A complaint had been received regarding Ms. Rai and agreement was made between her and the Office of General Counsel. Prior to the signed consent order being approved by the Midwifery Council, a second complaint was received which led to the second consent order. Since the Midwifery Council only meets twice each year, both orders were ratified by the MWC at the same time and were now before the Osteo Board for approval.

Ms. Morgan began with the first Consent Order. During investigation of a complaint, it was discovered that Ms. Rai failed to ensure a Group B streptococcus positive patient received intrapartum IV antibiotic prophylaxis which aligns with the standard of care. The signed informed consent documents indicate the medication prescribed would be provided by the respondent, but she told the patient she would have to purchase the IV medication in bulk if she wanted the medication. The terms of the consent order would reprimand Ms. Rai's Certification; Ms. Rai would pay one Type A civil penalties totaling \$1000 and case-related costs not to exceed \$3000. The order will be reported to the National Practitioners Database. Ms. Rai has been represented by Counsel and The Midwifery Council has previously ratified the order. Dr. Rickman made a motion to ratify the order. Ms. Judd seconded and the motion passed.

Ms. Morgan presented the second Consent Order. During investigation of a complaint, it was discovered that Ms. Rai had an initial appointment with a patient on November 16, 2023, however the emergency care plan was not completed and signed until March 20, 2024 and did not include documentation of the initial consultation with a physician. Ms. Rai's record did not include a collaborative care plan with a physician. After delivery, the patient required emergency medical services and was taken to a hospital. Responded did not accompany patient to the hospital, did not call to speak with the receiving provider, or send medical records to the hospital. The terms of the consent order would place Ms. Rai's Certification on probation for at least 2 years; Ms. Rai would pay one Type A civil penalties totaling \$1000 and case-related costs not to exceed \$3000; During the period of probation, Ms. Ria would be required to annually submit an affidavit that she has read the Tennessee rules and statues and the TMA Practice guidelines that govern her profession, she shall not serve as a Midwifery Preceptor, and submit proof within 30 days that she has notified the North American Registry of Midwives of this discipline. The order will be reported to the National Practitioners Database. Ms. Rai has been represented by Counsel and The Midwifery Council has previously ratified the order. Dr. Rickman made a motion to ratify the order. Dr. Garabedian seconded and the motion passed.

Ms. Regan Cothron, Office of General Counsel, presented a Consent Order for Dr. Paul Dillaway. Dr. Dillaway obtained his Tennessee License through the Interstate Medical Licensing Compact, and his state of Principal license is Florida. Dr. Dillaway also held a Wyoming license, which was suspended on August 1, 2025. Based on the Wyoming suspension and in following the IMLCC Rules, Dr Dillaway's Tennessee License was temporarily suspended on September 29, 2025. Under the terms of the Consent Order, Dr. Dillaway has agreed to voluntarily surrender his Tennessee license which will have the same effect of revocation. Dr. Dillaway will also be required to pay case related costs up to \$5,000. This action

will be reported to the National Practitioner's Databank. Dr. Bernui motioned to approve the Consent Order. Dr. Rickman seconded and the motion passed.

Ms. Regan Cothron, Office of General Counsel, presented an Agreed Order for Dr. Jeffrey Taylor. Dr. Taylor's Tennessee license was granted by the Board contingent on the extension of his existing TMF monitoring agreement for an additional 5 years and that he maintain TMF advocacy for the duration of the agreement. On April 9, 2025, the TMF Physician Health Quality Improvement Committee voted to revoke Dr. Taylor's advocacy after a return to use event. Dr. Taylor has since signed a lifetime monitoring agreement and regained TMF advocacy on July 7, 2025. He is currently compliant with his monitoring agreement. The terms of the Agreed Order would reprimand Dr. Taylor's license, he would be required to maintain compliance through his lifetime monitoring agreement; he would be required to maintain TMF Advocacy; authorize TMF to release quarterly reports to the Board's Medical Director; Comply with all recommendation of the TMF PHP; and allow TMF to notify the Board of any loss of advocacy. Dr. Taylor will pay case related costs up to \$2,000. If Dr. Taylor loses TMF advocacy or otherwise violates this order, his license will be automatically summarily suspended pending a hearing before the Board. This order will be reported to the National Practitioner Databank. Dr. Rickman motioned to approval the Order. Dr. Garabedian seconded and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments

Meeting adjourned at 10:22 am.