



State of Idaho

Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners

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Board Meeting Minutes of 07/08/2025

Board Members Present: Aaron Harris, Ph.D. – Chair
Jill Breitbach, Ph.D.
Eric Silk, Ph.D.
Denton Darrington, Public Member

Division Staff: Orin Duffin, Executive Officer
Nicki Chopski, Bureau Chief, Health Professions
Russ Spencer, General Counsel
Candace Villarreal, Board Support Specialist

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM by Aaron Harris, Ph.D.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 11/15/2024 minutes. The motion carried.

DIVISION BUSINESS

Financial Update: Mr. Duffin presented the financial report for the third quarter of the fiscal year and encouraged questions from the Board members. The financial report indicated that the Board had a cash balance of \$146,545.85 as of April 11, 2025.

2025 Legislative Update: Mr. Duffin delivered the final 2025 Legislative Session update, accompanied by the Legislative Tracker which shows pertinent legislation to the Division.

License Renewal Transition Plan: Mr. Duffin indicated that starting July 1, 2025, the Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses (DOPL) is in the process of transitioning all Boards and Commissions under its purview from an annual license to a biennial birthdate license. Correspondence has been provided to all licensees of the Board with official guidance posted on the website under Board News. Licensees born in an odd year may be eligible for a biennial license if renewed after July 1 of 2025. Those born in an even year will only be granted a one-year license, however, in 2026 all one-year licenses will be transitioned to a biennial license. Any new applicant looking to be licensed in Idaho will be issued a two-year license with an expiration that corresponds with their date of birth. Fees will be updated to reflect the biennial timeframe. Prescribing psychologists will be required to pay an initial fee for the prescribing privilege, however, no future renewal fee will be assessed for that privilege so long as the psychologist maintains an active license and continues to renew their underlying psychologist license on time.

BOARD BUSINESS

Board Elections: A motion was made and seconded to re-elect Dr. Harris as Board Chair, and Dr. Breitbach as Vice-Chair. The motion carried.

Idaho Code Clean Up Proposals (House Bill 14) Mr. Spencer explained the purpose of the Idaho Code Clean Up Act, enacted this year as House Bill 14. It is a targeted clean-up of obsolete, outdated, and unnecessary language that has accumulated in statute. The purpose is not to reexamine legislative

intent, make major policy changes, or overhaul the statutes. The Division is responsible for making a review of all code sections relevant to the Boards, identifying sections that have become obsolete, outdated, or unnecessary and so could be repealed or modified, and provide a report by September 1, 2025, to the Legislature. Mr. Spencer stated that the legal team had completed its initial review of the Board's practice act and presented the Board with a draft of proposed changes. These changes will not be presented as Executive Agency Legislation (EAL) for the upcoming legislative session but will be incorporated into the report.

National Board Consolidation Trends: Within recent years other states have opted to consolidate mental health professionals under one licensing entity to improve operation efficiency, provide standardization of regulation for mental health providers, lower licensure fees, and decrease meeting frequencies. The State of Utah, Texas, Kansas and others provide examples of successful board mergers that have occurred. Dr. Chopski, the Bureau Chief for Health Professions, provided an Idaho specific example of the Board of Midwifery being integrated into the Idaho Board of Nursing and the accompanying benefits of licensure alignment, diversification of board expertise, fee reductions and enhanced public protection. This Board chair noted that this discussion was done proactively to better understand national consolidation trends and the impact it might have if the Legislature were to take such steps in Idaho.

Conference Attendance and Updates: The Board discussed attendance at upcoming conferences and reported regarding recent travel. A motion was made and seconded to support upcoming travel as presented. The motion carried.

Public Comment: Dr. Harris opened the floor for public comments. Lance Giles, Lobbyist Idaho Psychological Association (IPA), expressed appreciation to the Board for reviewing the legislative recommendations related to House Bill 14. He emphasized the importance of maintaining current quorum requirements and noted that the association will seek input from its members.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:47 AM.

The next meeting will be held on 09/5/2025.