

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING & REGULATION**  
**South Carolina Board of Chiropractic Examiners**  
**Board Meeting Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building**  
**110 Centerview Drive Columbia SC 29210 Low Country Room**  
**Thursday, May 15, 2025**

**Board Members Present:**

Gene A. Garriss, D.C., Board Chair  
Martia Creighton Thigpen, D.C., Vice Chair  
Michael L. Coon, D.C.  
Patricia Garcia, Public Member  
Mark W. Thayer, D.C.  
Tammy Costello-Hales, D.C.  
Lucian Henry, D.C.  
Thomas Stetson, D.C.

**Board Members Absent:**

Iva Battrell-Hughes, D.C.

**Staff Present:**

Mack Williams, Board Executive  
Hardwick Stuart, Office of Advice Counsel  
Jonathan Owens, Program Coordinator  
Prentiss Shealey, Office of Disciplinary Counsel  
Amelia Leeks, Office of Investigation & Enforcement

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the South Carolina Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC 29210 and is provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

**Call to Order**

Dr. Garriss, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. The meeting was held in the Low Country Room located at the Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building at 110 Centerview Drive, in Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

**Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Costello-Hales made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Coon.

**Approval or Disapproval of Absent Members**

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Coon made a motion to approve Dr. Battrell-Hughes's absence. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Henry.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Coon made a motion to approve the February 6, 2025 meeting minute-no corrections noted. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Thigpen.

### **Administrator Report:**

#### **Office of Investigations and Enforcement Reports (OIE/IRC)**

Ms. Leeks presented the statistical report to the Board. The Board accepted the report as information.

Ms. Leeks presented the IRC report to the Board. Ms. Leeks presented Case #'s 2024-1, 2024-16, 2024-24, 2025-1, and 2025-3 for dismissal.

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Thayer made a motion to accept the IRC recommendations for Case #'s 2024-1, 2024-16, 2024-24, 2025-1, and 2025-3 for dismissal. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Coon.

Ms. Leeks presented one Letter of Caution, Case # 2025-7 to the Board.

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Thayer made a motion to accept the IRC recommendations for Case # 2025-7 for Letter of Caution. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Costello-Hales.

**Office of Disciplinary Counsel:** Ms. Shealey, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, presented the ODC report to the Board. The Board accepted the report as information.

**Financial Report:** Mr. Williams, Board Executive, presented the financial report. The Board accepted the finance report as information.

### **Board Chair Remarks**

Dr. Garriss and Dr. Thigpen shared their experiences at the 2025 FCLB/NBCE Annual Meeting in St. Louis with the Board.

### **Sherman College Presentation**

Dr. Christopher Kent discussed some issues that directly effect their students. There is an issue regarding taking the NBCE Part IV exam. The new requirement will require students to travel to Greeley, CO to take the exam. Dr. Kent stated that the travel expenses along with the fees to take the exam have created stress and hardship for the students. Two current students discussed their issues with the travel and other expenses necessary to take the Part IV exam with the Board. Dr. Kent discussed the preceptorship issues with the Board including jurisdictions and charging for services.

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Coon made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Costello-Hales.

(9:52am – 11:23am) – No votes were taken in executive session.

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Coon made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Thigpen.

### **Board Certification Integrity**

The Board discussed the letter of request regarding Board certification integrity.

### **2025 NBCE Part IV Fall Exam (Approve Members to Attend)**

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Coon made a motion for Dr. Battrell-Hughes and Dr. Henry to attend the NBCE Part IV Fall Exam and Dr. Garriss and Dr. Costello-Hales as alternates. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Thigpen.

### **2025 District III & V Annual Conference (Approve Members to Attend)**

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Thayer made a motion for Dr. Garriss, Dr. Thigpen, and Mr. Williams to attend the 2025 District III & V Annual Conference and Dr. Henry as the alternate. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Costello-Hales.

### **Jurisprudence and Rules and Regulations PowerPoints**

**Motion:** In open session, Mrs. Garcia made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice on the Jurisprudence and Rules and Regulations exam. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Coon.

(11:58am – 12:08pm) – No votes were taken in executive session.

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Thayer made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Costello-Hales.

**Motion:** In open session, Mrs. Garcia made a motion to accept the recommended changes provided by the advice counsel to the Jurisprudence and Rules and Regulations PowerPoints. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Thayer.

### **Dr. Beth Ehlich, FCLB, Presentation on Recognized Chiropractic Specialty Program**

Dr. Ehlich, FCLB District V Director presented the Board with the Wiley/Pennebaker Outstanding Board Award. Dr. Ehlich gave a presentation on the Recognized Chiropractic Specialty Program (RCSP) to the Board. The FCLB launched the new program to help member boards vet specialty programs. In years past, some state boards have had an issue with licensees not having proper credentials for post-graduate work or some post-graduate work did not have standards by which they granted credentials.

A task force was created several years ago to evaluate the need that was shared by many state Boards and from this the current RCSP Committee was developed. The first phase is to get adoption by the state Boards to accept RCSP similar to PACE for continuing education. The next phase is to vet the programs to would like to have RCSP recognition.

**Motion:** In open session, Dr. Henry made a motion the Board has further interest in the FCLB RCSP program. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Coon.

### **Mobile Chiropractic**

Dr. Stetson updated the Board with the poll results for mobile chiropractic clinics from the FCLB. Nevada has mobile chiropractic and has regulations. Oklahoma, Oregon, and South Dakota responded that they do not have any regulations for mobile chiropractic clinics. The Board and Mr. Stuart discussed the Board's stance on mobile chiropractic.

### **2025 Chiropractic Practice Analysis (NBCE)**

The Practice Analysis of Chiropractic is a comprehensive report and analytical overview based on a survey of the chiropractic community within the U.S. initiated by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners. The Board discussed various topics from the report.

### **2025 FCLB/NBCE Annual Meeting Update**

Dr. Garriss, Dr. Thigpen, and Mr. Williams shared their experiences at the 2025 FCLB/NBCE Annual Meeting with the Board.

### **Adjournment**

There being no other Board business, Dr. Thayer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:31pm. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Stetson.