

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, November 6, 2025

Board Members Present:

Gene A. Garris, D.C., Board Chair
Martia Creighton Thigpen, D.C., Vice Chair
Michael L. Coon, D.C.
Mark W. Thayer, D.C.
Iva Battrell-Hughes, D.C.
Lucian Henry, D.C.
Thomas Stetson, D.C.

Board Members Absent:

Tammy Costello-Hales, D.C

Staff Present:

Mack Williams, Board Executive
Hardwick Stuart, Office of Advice Counsel
Jonathan Owens, Program Coordinator
Prentiss Shealey, Office of Disciplinary Counsel
Yarikza Alexander, 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. Garris, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:01 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: Dr. Coon made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thayer and passed.

Approval or Disapproval of Absent Members

Motion: Dr. Henry made a motion to approve Dr. Costello-Hales absence. The motion was seconded by Dr. Battrell-Hughes and passed.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion: Dr. Thayer made a motion to approve the August 7, 2025 meeting minute-no corrections noted. The motion was seconded by Dr. Battrell-Hughes and passed.

Administrator Report:

Office of Investigations and Enforcement Reports (OIE/IRC)

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

Ms. Alexander presented the IRC report to the Board. Ms. Alexander presented Case#2025-33 and 2025-34 for Formal Complaint and Case#2023-22 and 2025-30 for Letter of Caution.

Motion: Dr. Thayer made a motion to accept the IRC recommendations for Case# 2025-33, 2025-34, 2023-22, and 2025-30. The motion was seconded by Dr. Coon and passed..

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. Garris shared his experience at the 2025 NBCE Annual Meeting. He emphasized the importance of South Carolina Board members to attend national meetings, as they provide opportunities to connect with other Board members, learn about the industry trends, and share the best practices. Also, the board members highlighted the value of having a strong presence at the national Board meetings to ensure a large and diverse group of attendees. It emphasized the importance of networking and building relationships with other members, as this can lead to valuable insights and support for South Carolina Board members in their work.

Application Hearings

David Stoiber, D.C.: Dr. Stoiber made a personal appearance and was not represented by counsel. Dr. Stoiber appeared before the Board for license reinstatement.

Motion: Dr. Thayer made a motion to close the hearing to protect personal health information. The motion was seconded by Dr. Coon and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Coon made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice. The motion was seconded by Dr. Henry and passed.

No votes were taken in executive session.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Henry made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Coon and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Coon made a motion to grant the license reinstatement upon taking and passing the SPEC exam within one (1) year from the date of the Board order. The motion was seconded by Dr. Henry and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Battrell-Hughes made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thigpen and passed.

Jeffrey Ashforth, D.C.: Dr. Ashforth appeared before the board and was not represented by counsel. Dr. Ashforth appeared due to a disciplinary order by the NC Board of Chiropractic Examiners and answered “no” to the question on the application that asks have you been disciplined by another board.

Motion: Dr. Thigpen made a motion to close the hearing to protect personal health information. The motion was seconded by Dr. Coon and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Coon made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice. The motion was seconded by Dr. Stetson and passed

No votes were taken in executive session.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Battrell-Hughes made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thayer and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Thayer made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice. The motion was seconded by Dr. Battrell-Hughes and passed.

No votes were taken in executive session.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Thayer made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Henry and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Coon made a motion to grant the license with the condition of (12) month probationary period and full compliance with all existing requirements known to Dr. Ashforth and the Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thayer and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Battrell-Hughes made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thayer and passed.

Arnie Wynn, D.C.: Dr. Wynn made a personal appearance and was not represented by counsel. Dr. Wynn appeared because of disciplinary action taken by other state boards.

Motion: Dr. Thayer made a motion to close the hearing in order to protect personal health information. The motion was seconded by Dr. Coon and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Coon made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice. The motion was seconded by Dr. Henry and passed.

No votes were taken in executive session.

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

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Thayer made a motion to grant the license to practice as a chiropractor. The motion was seconded by Dr. Henry and passed.

Motion for Relief from Prior Board Order

Matthew Hunter, D.C.: Dr. Hunter made a personal appearance and was represented by counsel, Tracey Perlman, Esq.

Motion: Dr. Thayer made a motion to close the hearing in order to protect personal health information. The motion was seconded by Dr. Henry and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Coon made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice. The motion was seconded by Dr. Battrell-Hughes and passed.

No votes were taken in executive session.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Battrell-Hughes made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Stetson and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Henry made a motion to deny the request for relief from the prior Board order. The motion was seconded by Dr. Battrell-Hughes and passed.

Motion: In closed session, Dr. Battrell-Hughes made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thayer and passed.

Hearing Officer Recommendations

There was discussion with regards the hearing officer's recommendations.

Motion: Dr. Battrell-Hughes made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendations and accept the order. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thayer and passed.

Review Pocket Card / Wall Certificate

Mr. Williams presented the new pocket card and wall certificate to the Board.

Motion: Dr. Battrell-Hughes made a motion to approve the new pocket card and wall certificate. The motion was seconded by Dr. Henry and passed.

Motion: Dr. Thayer made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice. The motion was seconded by Dr. Coon and passed.

No votes were taken in executive session.

Motion: In open session, Dr. Henry made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Thayer and passed.

Hearing Officers

Mr. Williams informed the Board that Dr. Banks, Dr. Garcia, and Dr. Johnson are the current hearing officers. The Board members will provide their recommendations for Hearing Officers at the next Board meeting.

Chiropractic Neurology Specialty

The Board discussed the chiropractic neurology specialty. The Board concluded licensed chiropractor may promote himself as a “chiropractic neurologist” if she holds a Diplomates of the American Chiropractic Neurology Board (DACNB) or designation from the American Chiropractic Neurology Board (ACNB). There are no additional advertising restrictions beyond that related to marketing as a specialist other than those general restrictions in 25-8, as long as the doctor is properly accredited. Chiropractors can only operate in their scope of practice regardless of their designation or certification, any treatment must remain in the scope of chiropractic practice.

Animal Chiropractic Specialty

The Board discussed the animal chiropractic specialty. The Board concluded to practice on animals that collaboration with a licensed veterinary is required.

Motion: Dr. Coon made a motion to not accept the animal chiropractic specialty as continuing education credit. The motion was by Dr. Battrell-Hughes and passed.

Review Renewal Fees

Motion: Dr. Thayer made a motion for the renewal fees remain the same. The motion was seconded by Dr. Coon and passed.

District III & V Meeting Update

Dr. Garris and Dr. Thigpen shared their experiences at the Annual Meeting with the Board.

2026 Election of Officers

Motion: Dr. Henry made a motion for Dr. Garris to remain Chair and Dr. Thigpen to remain as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Dr. Stetson and passed.

2026 FCLB-NBCE Annual Meeting

Motion: Dr. Coon made a motion for Dr. Garris to be the delegate for the NBCE annual meeting and Dr. Thigpen be the delegate for the FCLB annual meeting, Dr. Garris to be the alternate delegate for the FCLB annual meeting and Dr. Thigpen to be the alternate delegate for the NBCE. The motion was seconded by Dr. Battrell-Hughes and passed.

Motion: Dr. Coon made a motion for all Board members, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Stuart to attend the FCLB-NBCE if approved by the agency. The motion was seconded by Dr. Battrell-Hughes and passed.

Adjournment

There being no other Board business, Dr. Stetson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:48pm. The motion was seconded and approved by Dr. Battrell-Hughes.