



Board of Podiatry Examiners

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OFFICIAL BOARD MINUTES FOR JULY 17, 2026 VIDEO CONFERENCE

Members Present: Scott Torness, DPM, President
Adam Nichols, DPM, Member (joined at 11:33)
Rylan Johnson, DPM, Member
James Johnston, DPM, Secretary-Treasurer
Jeanie Blair, Lay Member

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Brooke Tellinghuisen Geddes, Executive Secretary
Emily Greco, General Counsel
Peter Bellezza, Avera Health

Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions: Torness called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. MDT.

Roll Call: Tellinghuisen Geddes called the roll. Torness, yes; Johnston, yes; Nichols, absent; Johnson, yes; Blair, yes. A quorum was present.

Approval of the agenda: Johnston made a motion to approve the agenda. Blair seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of the Minutes from April 17, 2025: Blair made a motion to approve the minutes from April 17, 2025. Johnson seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

FY Financial Update: Tellinghuisen Geddes reported fiscal year-end figures as of June 30, 2026: revenue of \$30,456.69; expenditures of \$22,609.75 and cash balance of \$47,742.31. It was noted that these reports were based on soft closing numbers and some deposits may have come in after, which would slightly modify the revenue.

Annual Review of Open Meeting Laws (SDCL 1-25-13): Greco presented an overview of the guide to South Dakota's Open Meeting Laws, prepared by the Attorney General's Office as required by SDCL 1-25-13.

Continuing Education Reporting Discussion: Tellinghuisen-Geddes informed the Board that the current process for collecting and reporting continuing education (CE) is not functioning effectively. The system does not accurately calculate CE hours when licensees have carryover credits, requiring Board staff to manually review each renewal, recalculate CE hours, and enter the information into the database. For ease of administration and improved tracking, Tellinghuisen-Geddes recommended returning to a biennial CE reporting schedule based on the year a license was originally issued. Licensees issued a license in an even-numbered year would report CE in even-numbered years, while those licensed in an odd-numbered year would report in odd-numbered years. Licensees would be required to maintain copies of their certificates of attendance and report CE only in their designated reporting year. During years when CE reporting is not required, the system would not allow CE documentation to be uploaded. The Board agreed this would be a better method of reporting. Board staff will make sure licensees are notified of the change prior to the 2027 renewal period.

Schedule Next Meeting: The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 9, 2026, at 11MT/12CT via Teams. The board will evaluate as it gets closer if it needs to meet on this date considering there was a special meeting in July. The following meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 23, 2027, at 11MT/12CT via Teams.

Any other Business: None.

Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2: Johnson made a motion to enter executive session at 11:26 a.m. MDT. Blair seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote. Nichols joined the meeting in Executive Session at 11:33 a.m. MDT. President Torness declared an end to executive session at 11:40 a.m. MDT.

Petition for Declaratory Ruling 2026-1: Torness made a motion that the board declare the TTT surgical procedure is within the scope of podiatric practice as defined in SDCL 36-8-1. Nichols seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote. It was further discussed that this decision does not authorize any specific practitioner to perform the TTT surgical procedure; licensed podiatrists are expected to take into account their individual training and competencies, principals of ethics promulgated by the American Podiatric Medical Association, as well as hospital policies and privileges as applicable, when making treatment decisions

Torness made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 a.m. MDT. Nichols seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Brooke Tellinghuisen Geddes
Executive Secretary

unapproved, draft minutes of any public meeting held pursuant to § 1-25-1 that are required to be kept by law shall be available for inspection by any person within ten business days after the meeting. However, this section does not apply if an audio or video recording of the meeting is available to the public on the governing body's website within five business days after the meeting. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor. However, the provisions of this section do not apply to draft minutes of contested case proceedings held in accordance with the provisions of chapter 1-26.

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