

**ALABAMA BOARD OF PHARMACY
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2026**

Vice President Stacy S. Giles called the September 16, 2026, meeting of the Alabama Board of Pharmacy to order at 9:06 a.m. to conduct necessary business. The meeting was held at the office of the Alabama Board of Pharmacy, 111 Village Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35242.

The following Board members were present:

Stacy S. Giles	Vice President (Presiding)
Johnny Brooklere	Treasurer
Brandon Hicks	Member
Darrelle Knight Marbury	Member
Jeb Mitchell	Member
Alecia Booker	Member
Honorable Freddie Stokes	Member
Nathan Pinner	Member

Alabama Board of Pharmacy staff members present in person or via WebEx teleconference were:

Aaron Dettling, Gen. Counsel, Disciplinary Division	Peyton Zarzour, Investigator
Scott Daniel, Gen. Counsel, Administrative Division	Anne Marie Nolen, Admin. Supervisor
Jon Linna, Executive Secretary	Rebecca Tindle, Licensing Supervisor
Susan Alverson, Dir. of Regulatory Affairs	Wendy Passmore, Operations Manager
Cristal Anderson, Dir. of Compliance	Patty Wright, Complaints, Investigation
Casey Shaw, Chief Investigator/HR	Phyllis Mathis, Receptionist
Henry Burks, Investigator	Terry Lawrence, IT Manager
Glenn Wells, Investigator	

Members of the public present in person or via WebEx teleconference were:

Michael Garver	Heather McDonald	Tim Rowland
Holt Gray	OXRX, Inc.	Kimberly Chandler
Jim Driskell	Robyn Ledbetter	Vivian Brooklere
Meredith Frazier	Allyson Gilliam	Jordan Beatty
Dani Ottoson	Erlinda Rodriguez	Joy Turner
Valerie Ogle	Ben McDonald	Mary-Coleman Roberts
Jeff Church	Danielle Cole	Vicki Walker
Jim Easter	Leisa Johnson	Felicia Self
Stephen McCormick	Thomas Cobb	Tracy Odom
Beth Sosebee	Patty Hall	Jacey Cox
Joseph Krepes	Lea Wolsoncroft	Jack Wanschek
Logan Gray	Brittany Hester Marsh	Jeenu Philip
Heather Hughes	Scott Young	Paul Menasco
Adam Stucki	Nicole Marshall	Joyce Ambrose
Milicent Yeager	Sovanarath Chi	Tara Queen
Aneatria Leason	Thomas B. Wolsoncroft	Tonya Jones

Berkley Sykes
Dan Gillis
Heather Vega
Kyle Sexton
Beth Sosebee
Cayla Hicks
Heather Vaughn
Grace Stevens
Carla Atchison

Nathene H. Stirtmire
Luis Riera
Tiffany Mitchem
Julie Jordan
Brittany Robbins
Allison Souders
Leisa Sanford
Carly Wolsoncroft
Leigh Ann Ross

Misty Gaddis
Tom McCarthy
Danielle DiCiolla
Kelly Littlejohn Newman
Meeting Notetaker
SP
Call-in User_1
Rebecca

1. INTRODUCTIONS, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

After introductions by individuals present, the invocation was given by Mr. Brooklere followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Executive Secretary Linna called the roll. All eight Board members were present and a quorum was established.

3. AGENDA

Vice President Giles called for a motion to adopt the agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Brooklere and seconded by Dr. Hicks to adopt the agenda. A voice vote was taken and the motion to adopt the agenda passed unanimously. No nays or abstentions recorded.

4. WELLNESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Michael Garver gave the Wellness report as follows:

- Dr. Garver has 14 active cases for ALBOP.
- There are 48 pharmacy health professionals being monitored.
- Dr. Garver will be meeting with Board staff in the first quarter of 2027 about probation status, particularly of technicians.

Current work-Pharmacists:

- Six pharmacists are currently in process, either in residential or outpatient treatment, being held out of practice following treatment, or undergoing evaluations.
- One pharmacist has relapsed and has now entered treatment.
- One pharmacist has been released early from treatment.
- One pharmacist has re-entered treatment.

Current work-Pharmacy Technicians:

- One pharmacy technician is in process, either in residential or outpatient treatment, being held out of practice following treatment, or undergoing an evaluation. This person has recently signed a monitoring contract.
- Three pharmacy technicians have not accepted nor returned Dr. Garver's calls. He is still calling, leaving messages. One technician has not responded to Dr. Garver and will be falling off his roster. One has decided not to continue working with Dr. Garver and one technician is under a final order that has made no contact for two months.

Current work-Pharmacy Students:

- One pharmacy student is in process, either in residential or outpatient treatment, being held out of practice following treatment, or undergoing an evaluation. This person has recently signed a monitoring contract.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Judge Stokes and seconded by Mr. Brooklere to approve the August 19, 2026, interview minutes. A voice vote was taken and the motion to approve the August 19, 2026, interview minutes passed unanimously. No nays or abstentions recorded.

Dr. Mitchell initiated a discussion regarding the wording in the Board minutes stating, “. . . and thanked Ms. Giles for agreeing to assume the presidency of the Board for the remainder of his term.” Following the discussion, the matter was tabled until after the recess to allow for verification of the You Tube recording and transcript.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Brooklere presented the treasurer's report. As of August 31, 2026, total revenues for the fiscal year were 90.93 percent of annual budget. Operating expenses were 83.08 percent of budgeted amounts. Mr. Brooklere also reviewed additional and increasing expenses including fleet repairs, new vehicles, furniture, a full year of legal fees, and increased hearing officer and court reporter expenses due to additional cases and adding CRC discussions during the public meeting.

A motion was made by Dr. Hicks and seconded by Dr. Marbury to accept the treasurer's report. A voice vote was taken and the motion to accept the treasurer's report passed unanimously. No nays or abstentions recorded.

7. CHIEF INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

Chief Investigator Casey Shaw gave his report as follows:

- During August 2026, investigators completed 121 compliance inspections. No violations were identified that warranted the filing of a complaint or possible issuance of a statement of charges. From January 1, 2026, through August 31, 2026, investigators completed a total of 1,074 inspections, with one violation identified for further review.
- During August 2026, the Board received 22 complaints and completed 16 investigations. None of the complaints warranted referral to legal counsel for further review.
- Year to date, the Board has received 153 complaints, of which nine have been referred to legal counsel for further review.
- During the month of August, Board investigators attended the Alabama Narcotic Officers Association training conference in Orange Beach, Alabama. Participation in this conference helps strengthen investigative skills, promotes interagency cooperation, and helps investigators remain current on emerging drug trends, diversion methods, and enforcement practices relevant to the Board's mission.

- No pharmacy burglaries have been reported since the last Board meeting.

8. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Executive Secretary Jon Linna gave his report, which consisted of the following:

- ThoughtSpan was unable to run the closed-facility report this month. August pharmacy closures will be reported at the October Board meeting.
- Gateway opens for yearly license renewals on October 1, 2026.
- The Alabama committee on public health will consider rescheduling medical marijuana to Schedule III at its September 17 meeting in Montgomery. The committee's decision is expected to have no impact on the sale of marijuana or medical cannabis in Alabama. Due to space limitations, the committee encourages participation by conference call.
- Investigator Henry Burks and Jon Linna attended the COACH ADPH Substance Misuse Summit in Huntsville. DEA representatives discussed the prevalence of fentanyl and/or methamphetamine in seized drugs. Counterfeit medications, including Adderall and oxycodone, may contain fentanyl and are often manufactured as pressed tablets that appear similar or identical to the manufacturer's product.

Laura Stack of Johnny's Ambassadors also spoke at the Summit. Johnny's Ambassadors focuses on youth education about the dangers of today's high-potency cannabis products on adolescent brain development, mental illness, and suicidality.

- Medication errors at Ascension St. Thomas Midtown in Nashville revealed critical safety oversights that Alabama providers should review to ensure compliance with procedures designed to protect patients. In the St. Thomas Midtown case, two injectable medications had nearly identical manufacturer labels and two technicians involved in the syringe-filling process performed a manual override of the bar code verification safety check. Additionally, the pharmacist relied on virtual verification without physically inspecting the syringes. The virtual image did not include the vials used in the process.
- The FDA continues to focus on the compounding of GLP-1 receptor antagonists. The agency has reported more than 1,700 adverse event reports associated with compounded semaglutide and tirzepatide. Because there is no formal mechanism for reporting adverse events related to 503A compounding, these events are likely underreported. The FDA has raised concerns regarding multidose vials that may contain more medication than can be safely administered within the 28-day period after first puncture. Additional concerns include product concentrations that differ from FDA-approved products and the addition of other active ingredients, such as vitamins or supplements, which may result in confusing dosing regimens and volumes that may be difficult or impossible to draw with commonly available syringes. Prescriptions may also lack clear discard instructions to patients that would help ensure the products are not administered after an appropriate beyond-use date has passed. The FDA also confirms that retatrutide and cagrilintide have not been shown to be safe and effective for any indication and are not legal to compound.

- Pharmacists have contacted the Board regarding job recruitment ads and targeted emails from Empire Pharmacy Consultants. Mr. Linna has attempted to contact Dr. Michael Chen, listed as the founder of EPC, as well as one of the recruiters, but neither has responded. Pharmacists should assume these offers are bogus and treat them as spam or phishing attempts. Pharmacists should never permit a business to use their professional credentials without their involvement in the business.
- Since the inception of the PDMP compliance program, the number of outstanding PDMP errors has gone from 78,000 to 6,900 as of the end of July 2026. PDMP welcomes calls regarding missing patient information and other reporting issues. Mr. Linna encouraged all pharmacists to respond to Vicki Walker's submission error correction requests and to create a PDMP account if they have not done so.
- The Pharmacy Benefit Manager Compliance Division of the Alabama Department of Insurance investigates complaints and alleged violations of Alabama's PBM laws. Guidance documents and additional information are available through the PBM Compliance Division section of the Alabama Department of Insurance website at pbmcompliance@insurance.alabama.gov.

8. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Dettling did not have any matters to report on at this time.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- A public hearing was held regarding Rules 680-X-1-.06, Officers of the Board, and 680-X-1-.07, Meetings of the Board. In accordance with new LSA guidelines, public hearing comments are due by the date of the public hearing. Mr. Dettling provided edited versions of both rules to consider. As comments on both rules were received on Tuesday, September 15, Board members requested additional time to review the comments before certifying the rules.

A motion was made by Judge Stokes and seconded by Dr. Pinner to table certification of Rules 680-X-1-.06 and 680-X-1-.07 until the October 21 Board meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion to table certification of the rules until the October 21 Board meeting passed unanimously. No nays or abstentions recorded.

- A public hearing was held regarding Rule 680-X-2-.14, The Role of Technicians in Pharmacies. No comments were received. A motion was made by Mr. Brooklere and seconded by Dr. Hicks to adopt Rule 680-X-2-.14 without change. A voice vote was taken and the motion to adopt Rule 680-X-2-.14 without change passed unanimously. No nays or abstentions recorded.
- The following rules are currently in the rulemaking process:
 - Rule 680-X-2-.40, Non-disciplinary Penalties, was amended to develop an administrative fine schedule for non-disciplinary penalties. The rule became effective September 14, 2026.

- Rule 680-X-2-.50, Civil Penalties, was amended to implement a formal advisory scoring mechanism for the imposition of civil penalties. The rule will become effective October 15, 2026.
 - Rule 680-X-A, Appendices, was established to adopt a civil penalty schedule as mandated by Act 2025-372. The rule will become effective October 15, 2026.
 - Rule 680-X-2-.23, Drug Manufacturers; Wholesale Distributors; Private Label Distributors, Repackagers, Third-Party Logistics Providers, Outsourcing Facilities; Reverse Distributors; Retail Medical Oxygen Suppliers, is being amended to amend licensing fees for designated representatives and facilities. The public hearing will be October 21, 2026. Comments are due to Anne Marie Nolen by close of business on October 20, 2026.
 - Rule 680-X-2-.18, Institutional Pharmacies, is being amended to expand the provisions of dispensing medications in an institutional pharmacy setting. The public hearing will be October 21, 2026. Comments are due to Anne Marie Nolen by close of business on October 20, 2026.
- A brief discussion was held regarding Rule 680-X-2-.51, Military Portability. The rule would allow service members and their spouses to begin working in Alabama more quickly following a transfer to the state. A motion was made by Judge Stokes and seconded by Dr. Hicks to begin the rulemaking process on Rule 680-X-2-.51, Military Portability. A voice vote was taken and the motion to begin the rulemaking process on Rule 680-X-2-.51 passed unanimously. No nays or abstentions recorded. The public hearing will be November 18, 2026.
- The electronic signature rule is currently in the rulemaking process. However, an error resulted in the issuance of two rules numbered 680-X-1-.06, and the LSA portal does not allow the Board to change a rule number. Mr. Dettling recommended allowing the current electronic signature rulemaking process to expire and initiating a new rulemaking process under the correct rule number, 680-X-1-.05. A motion was made by Judge Stokes and seconded by Dr. Hicks to begin the rulemaking process on Rule 680-X-1-.05, Electronic Signatures. A voice vote was taken and the motion to begin rulemaking on Rule 680-X-1-.05 passed unanimously. No nays or abstentions recorded. The public hearing will be November 18, 2026.
- After being sworn in, Mr. Jim Easter provided an update on the computer conversion process of Baptist Health/Orlando Health on August 1. Mr. Easter stated that the organization appreciated the Board's support throughout the conversion process. All campuses are now operating on a common information system with a common formulary and common competencies. Mr. Easter stated the organization is in a much better position to serve the citizens of Alabama.
- Potential meeting dates for 2027 and early 2028 were presented for consideration. Board members will review the proposed dates and check their calendars to identify and resolve any scheduling conflicts. The meeting schedule is expected to be voted on at the October 21, 2026, Board meeting.
- Dr. Mitchell suggested using matters reviewed by the complaint review committee as educational opportunities for licensees and permit holders. During CRC discussions,

Board members will identify matters that may be appropriate for educational purposes. Before any complaint is shared, all identifying information will be removed to ensure that neither the type of pharmacy nor the individuals involved can be verified. Dr. Anderson clarified that the CRC typically reviews matters that do not rise to the level of an administrative hearing. Dr. Holt Gray of the Alabama Dental Board stated the Dental Board had implemented a similar process over the past year by publishing cases in an email newsletter. He noted their process had helped protect the public and reduce future administrative issues.

- There were no new Board travel requests.

10. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Logan Gray reported that significant activity is occurring in Montgomery. He noted that due to the upcoming elections, a reorganization is expected to take place in January 2027. New members of the Sunset committee will be appointed at that time.

11. RECESS

A brief recess was held from 10:17 a.m. to 10:36 a.m.

12. NEW BUSINESS

A discussion was held regarding the definitions of chain versus independent pharmacy in Rule 680-X-2-.05. The Board has been made aware of a potential gap in the current definitions. Board members attending NABP and Maltagon will discuss the matter with other attendees and bring recommendations to the Board at the October meeting.

13. MEETING MINUTES

An earlier discussion in the meeting was held regarding whether the August Board meeting minutes accurately reflected the statements made during that meeting concerning Ms. Giles' role as president of the board. Specifically, the discussion focused on whether Ms. Giles would serve as president or assume the role of president. The transcript of the August meeting was reviewed to verify Dr. Cobb's exact wording regarding Ms. Giles' position.

A motion was made by Judge Stokes and seconded by Dr. Hicks to approve the August 16, 2026, Board meeting minutes. A voice vote was taken and the motion to approve the August 16, 2026, Board meeting minutes passed with aye votes from Ms. Giles, Mr. Brooklere, Dr. Hicks, Judge Stokes, Ms. Booker, and Dr. Pinner. Dr. Marbury and Dr. Mitchell voted nay. No abstentions recorded.

14. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.


Stacy S. Giles, Vice President (Presiding)
10/21/24
Date


Jon M. Linna, Executive Secretary