TEXAS BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 5, 2026

The meeting was called to order Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 9:05 a.m. by Sam G. Marshall, Ph.D., RCP, Presiding Officer. Other board members present were Samuel L. Brown, Jr.; Timothy R. Chappell, M.D; Matthew J. Goldwater, RCP; Latana Jackson, RCP, Secretary; Kandace D. Pool, Treasurer; Hammad N. Qureshi, M.D.; Nathan "Nate" Rodrigues, RCP; and Sonja K. Sanderson *(at 9:31 am).* Staff members present were Brint Carlton, Executive Director; Christopher Palazola, Deputy Director of Operations; Scott Freshour, J.D., General Counsel; and various other board staff.

Agenda Item #2, Board Member Report. There was nothing to report.

Agenda Item #3, Executive Director's Report.

A. **Exam requirements.** Mr. Freshour provided an update on staff's research on amending the rules with possible new exam requirements. Mr. Freshour recommended temporarily delaying further research and new rules, pending the next legislative session and the legislature's potential work on changing licensure exam requirements under statute. The Board directed staff accordingly.

B. **New Documentation.** Mr. Carlton gave an update on lawful presence documentation required for new licensees and license renewals.

C. Mr. Estrada provided a budget report.

D, Mr. Palazola gave an update on CE Broker.

Agenda Item #4, Medical Director's Report. There was nothing to report.

Agenda Item #5, Consideration and possible action regarding pending litigation.
Mr. Freshour gave an update on pending litigation.

Agenda Item #6, Texas Physician Health Program (TXPHP)

A. **Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding referrals.**
After discussion, **Dr. Chappell moved, Ms. Poole seconded, and the motion passed to accept the recommendation and return case 24-0902A and allow it to remain with TXPHP.**

B. **Report on Emergent Referrals.** There were none.

C. **Program Activity Report.** A TXPHP Program Activity Report was provided.

Agenda Item #7, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding applicants appearing concerning eligibility.

Applicant 2648 – was referred to appear before the Committee due to criminal and disciplinary history. The applicant presented a brief summary, and the Board members asked questions. After discussion, **Ms. Jackson moved, Dr. Chappell seconded, and the motion passed to issue the license conditioned upon successful resolution of a private referral for the applicant to PHP.**

Agenda Item 8, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding proposed orders offered by the Executive Director. There were none.

Agenda Item #9, Report and discussion regarding the Investigation, Litigation, and Compliance Departments.

A. **Enforcement Activity Report.** Mr. Palazola gave a report on Enforcement Activity.
B. **Warning Letters Report.** Mr. Palazola gave a report on Warning Letters.
C. **Criminal Case Review Report.** Mr. Palazola gave a report on Criminal Case Review.
D. **Report Regarding Cases Over One Year.** Mr. Palazola gave a report on Cases Over One Year.
E. **Report on Auto Orders.** Mr. Palazola gave a report on Automatic Orders.
F. **Report Request Rehearing.** There were none.

There were no items for Agenda Items #10-12.

Agenda Item #13, Cases Recommended for Dismissal.

a. **Non-Standard of Care**
b. **Standard of Care**

After discussion, **Mr. Brown moved, Dr. Qureshi seconded, and the motion passed to dismiss all cases recommended for dismissal, with the exception of 26-0367.**
After discussion, **Dr. Chappell moved, Ms. Poole seconded, and the motion passed to dismiss case 26-0367 with a warning letter.**

There were no items for Agenda Items #14.

Agenda Item #15, Consideration and approval of Determination of Default.

a. **Ronald Wayne Kaufman, RCP, SOAH Docket No. 503-25-24883. RCP**

Viana Hodge, Staff Attorney, gave a brief summary of the case. Mr. Kaufman was not present and no one was present on his behalf. After discussion, **Dr. Qureshi moved, and Dr. Chappell seconded to accept the Determination of Default and staff's recommendation of Proposed Order including revocation. All voted in favor and the motion passed.**

There were no items for Agenda Items 16-17.

Agenda Item #18, Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding Agreed Orders. After discussion, **Ms. Sanderson moved, Dr. Qureshi seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Agreed Order for Chetan Suresh Patel, RCP.**

There were no items for Agenda Items 19-22.

Agenda Items #23, Consideration and approval of Consent Orders. After discussion, **Mr. Brown moved, Dr. Qureshi seconded, and the motion passed to approve the Consent Orders for Shaka M. Ford, RCP and Frank Nelson Harmon, RCP.**

There were no items for Agenda Items 24-26.

Agenda Item #27, Open forum for public comments. No one made public comments.

Agenda Item #28, Consideration and Approval of the September 18, 2025, Respiratory Care Board meeting minutes and action items. After consideration, **Dr. Chappell moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the motion passed to approve the September 18, 2025, Respiratory Care Board meeting minutes and action items.**

Agenda Item #29, Adjourn. There being no further items, **Ms. Jackson moved, Dr. Qureshi seconded, and the motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m.**