



STATE OF ALABAMA
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
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Kathy Miller
Executive Director

January 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes

The Alabama Board of Physical Therapy met on Thursday, January 8, 2026, at the RSA Union Building at 100 N. Union Street in Montgomery in Suite 779. Notice of the meeting was posted on the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.alabama.gov, and the Board's website, www.pt.alabama.gov, in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair T-Michael Dougherty at 9:03 am. Board Members present were T-Michael Dougherty, Robin Irwin, Margaret Hemm, Robert Fleming, Zach Nelson and Dana Daniel Blake. Also present were Kathy Miller, Executive Director, Angela Warr, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary, and Kristi Mullins, Accounting Specialist.

A quorum was established.

- II. Open Discussion:** The date for the upcoming Alabama APTA meeting was discussed.

- III. Minutes:** The minutes from the November 13, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Chair T-Michael Dougherty noted two typographical errors in the spelling of his last name and Dana Daniel Blake noted a typographical error regarding the year that the topic of scholarships would be taken up again. A motion to accept the minutes with revision from the November 13, 2025 meeting was made by Robin Irwin and seconded by Robert Fleming. Robin Irwin, Margaret Hemm, Robert Fleming, T-Michael Dougherty, Dana Daniel Blake and Zach Nelson voted in favor, and none were opposed. The minutes from the November 13, 2025 meeting were approved as revised.

Robin Irwin provided a devotional.

- IV. Reports:**

A. Licensee Report: See attached Licensee Report.

B. Financial Report: See attached Financial Report. A motion to accept the Financial Report as presented was made by Dana Daniel Blake and seconded by Zach Nelson. Robin Irwin, Margaret Hemm, Robert Fleming, T-Michael Dougherty, Dana Daniel Blake, and Zach Nelson voted in favor, and none were opposed.

C. Violations Committee Report:

2025-14 – VC recommended a \$500 fine for working while impaired.

2025-15 – VC recommended no probable cause.

2025-16 – PT worked with an expired license. VC recommended acceptance of Consent Order and fine.

2025-17 – VC recommended no probable cause.

2025-18 – VC recommended no probable cause.

2025-19 – VC recommended no probable cause.

Zach Nelson moved that the recommendations of the VC be approved, and Robert Fleming seconded the motion. Robin Irwin, Dana Daniel Blake, Zach Nelson, and Robert Fleming voted in favor. None were opposed. The motion passed. T-Michael Dougherty and Margaret Hemm abstained from voting.

D. Executive Director Report: See attached Executive Director Update.

E. Wellness Report: See attached Wellness Report.

V. Unfinished Business:

A. Direct Access: J. Matt Bledsoe via Kathy Miller reported that he was meeting with his contact at the Medical Association and taking our revised legislation. Robin Irwin reported that she had been working to possibly secure a sponsor and to determine what the Board could accomplish. Chair T-Michael Dougherty clarified that the Board is not lobbying the Legislature, merely attempting to clean up the language from the 2024 Direct Access bill that excluded some Alabama licensed PTs. An updated 2026 Working Group was created to include Dana Daniel Blake, Robin Irwin, and T-Michael Dougherty to continue researching this matter and how best to proceed to correct the 2024 Direct Access bill.

B. Scholarship Opportunities: Tabled to 2027 but will remain on future agendas as unfinished business.

C. CE Rule Change:

F. Chair T-Michael Dougherty provided a draft of an Administrative Rule Change to reflect that continuing education minimum duration per course would be lowered to increments of 15 minutes or .25 hours to allow for different learning formats. Dana Daniel Blake made a motion to approve the draft Rule Change and Robin Irwin seconded the motion. Robin Irwin, Margaret Hemm, Robert Fleming, T-Michael Dougherty, Dana Daniel Blake, and Zach Nelson voted in favor, and none were opposed.

VI. New Business:

A. Winter Newsletter:

All articles for the Winter newsletter are due to Angela Warr by February 13, 2026.

B. FSBPT Delegate Selections

Robin Irwin volunteered to continue as the Board's FSBPT Voting Delegate with Dhrumil Patel being designated as the alternate.

VII. Announcements

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be March 12, 2026, at 9:00 AM at the Board Offices.

The meeting adjourned at 11:09 AM.

T-Michael Dougherty

T-Michael Dougherty
Chair

Angela Warr

Submitted by: Angela Warr
Recording Secretary on March 12, 2026

To request a copy of any report referenced in this set of Minutes, please contact the Board at info@pt.alabama.gov or (334) 242-4064.