



ALABAMA BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN COUNSELING

400 South Union Street, Suite 245·Montgomery, Alabama, 36104

Post Office Box 305030, Montgomery, Alabama 36130

MINUTES Board Meeting May 29, 2026

Present:

Dr. Glenn Hollingsworth
DeAnna Tidwell
Jessie Bowie
Anjanette B. Robinson
Jacques Austin
Dr. Sherrionda Crawford
Elizabeth Sheehan
Leslie Tomlin
Dawn Durick
Mike James
Karen Entrekin
Vania Hosea

Board Chair
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member
Board Vice-Chair
Board Member
Executive Director
Administrator
Licensing Agent
Investigator
Investigator
Board Attorney

Absent:

Cynthia Hooper

Board Member

The Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling (ABEC) held a regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, May 29, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held at 400 S. Union Street, 4th floor conference room in Montgomery, Alabama. The regularly scheduled meeting was advertised to the public on the Board's website (www.abec.alabama.gov) as well as the Secretary of State's website, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Hollingsworth, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Roll call established a quorum present.

Ms. Sheehan introduced Joshua Howell, who requested to address the Board. He surrendered his license 3 years ago and wants to reapply and enter the wellness program. Ms. Hosea advised Mr. Howell to apply for licensure for the Board to consider his request. Ms. Sheehan thanked Mr. Howell for coming.



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II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Dr. Hollingsworth presented a copy of the agenda for the meeting. Dr. Crawford made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Robinson. The motion was passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINTUES

Dr. Hollingsworth presented the April 17, 2026, meeting minutes. Ms. Tidwell made a motion to accept the minutes and that was seconded by Ms. Bowie. The motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a. Rules Revision: Ms. Sheehan explained the rule revision had not been filed because ABEC did not have an account set up with Legislative Reference Services. She has been working on getting that done. She will have the changes submitted before the June 20th deadline. Ms. Sheehan explained a public hearing must be held within ninety days of submission.

b. Document Revision: Ms. Sheehan stated the Board does not have a statute or rule requiring document retention. The rules states that licensees are encouraged to have a document retention policy. Should questions arise regarding document retention those individuals should consult their business plans or seek the advice of counsel.

c. Vehicle Purchase: Ms. Sheehan presented the numbers for purchasing a new vehicle. She explained we are currently reimbursing Ms. Entrekin for an average of \$820.18 monthly for travel expenses. A new Ford Explorer would cost \$39,000; liability insurance will run \$659 yearly and physical damage insurance will run \$658 yearly. Ms. Tidwell moved to purchase a vehicle for the Investigator. Ms. Bowie seconded the motion. Following discussion, a vote was held. The motion passed four to one with one abstention.



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d. CCE 2025 Invoices: Ms. Sheehan reported that the outstanding CCE invoice from 2025 has not been filed with the Board of Adjustment yet. She said as soon as the claim is filed, the Board will respond with a consent to payment. She explained that although the Board was consenting to payment, the Board of Adjustment could still deny payment.

e. CRBS Conference: The CRBS Conference is next month. Mr. Austin indicated that he would be traveling to the conference. Dr. Crawford said she will not be able to attend, and Ms. Robinson said she will be attending virtually. Ms. Sheehan informed the board that pre-approval is required when traveling out-of-state and asked Mr. Austin to send his travel information to Leslie.

f. Database: Ms. Sheehan reported the new database will have to go out on RFP. Since it is such a lengthy process, she does not anticipate it going live until the first of the year.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Financial Statement: Ms. Sheehan presented the financial statement. Ms. Bowie moved to accept the financial statement, and it was seconded by Ms. Robinson. The motion passed unanimously.

b. License Roster: Ms. Sheehan presented the license roster for approval. Ms. Robinson asked if the people we had already licensed are on the list and Ms. Sheehan told her they were. Ms. Tidwell moved to adopt the roster, and this was seconded by Ms. Robinson. No further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

c. Special Requests:

- i. **April 2026-07:** This special request was carried over from the last meeting to obtain transcripts. Ms. Durrick explained that the transcripts met the educational requirements. Dr. Crawford motioned to approve the request and Ms. Tidwell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.



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- ii. **May 2026-01:** An LPC by Endorsement applicant is requesting that the Board allow his experience practicing in another state to be applied to his hour's requirement in Alabama. Dr. Crawford moved to deny the request. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- iii. **May 2026-02:** An ALC is requesting that the Board determine if a dual relationship prevents her from working at a business where she was formerly a therapy client. She explained she would not be working with her former therapist and is no longer receiving services. Ms. Tidwell moved to grant the Special Request. Mr. Austin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

d. LPC Supervisor Letter: The Board reviewed a letter from a group of LPC Supervisors who are asking the board to specifically communicate Board actions affecting licensees as soon as practical. After some discussion, the Board agreed to post minutes on its website immediately following their approval so the information could be readily accessible to all licensees. The Board also discussed that ordinarily a representative from the association attends meetings to help share information with licensees.

e. Supervisor Fee Complaint Letter: The Board reviewed a letter from a licensee complaining of the fees charged by supervisors. Ms. Sheehan explained that several licensees have complained about the supervision fee practices. After discussion, the Board agreed to look at better defining the role of a supervisor but there would be no capping of rates. Dr. Hollingsworth stated the current Supervision Committee consisted of himself, Dr. Crawford and Ms. Robinson.

Ms. Robinson made a motion to remove herself from the committee and add Mr. Austin. Ms. Bowie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A second motion was made by Dr. Crawford that the Supervision Committee will meet to discuss defining standards, apart from fees. The motion was seconded by Mr. Austin and passed unanimously.



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A break was called at 11:30. The meeting resumed at 11:44.

f. Scanning Project: Ms. Sheehan reported the boxes of Board files will have to go out for RFP for scanning. Since there is such a large number of files, she expects the cost will be over \$50,000.

VI. INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Sheehan presented the Investigation Committee recommendations with the detailed statements requested at the last meeting to the Board and asked for a motion to approve the recommendation. The motion was made by Ms. Robinson and seconded by Dr. Crawford. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Sheehan called for an Executive Session to discuss the general reputation, character, professional competence of an applicant and potential litigation for approximately 20 minutes and to reconvene the regular meeting following the executive session. A motion was made by Mr. Austin at 11:57 and seconded by Dr. Crawford. Following a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, and the Board entered Executive Session.

At 12:36 Dr. Crawford moved the Board to resume its regular meeting, and the motion was seconded by Ms. Tidwell. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. Crawford to approve the ALC application for J.W.G. pending the execution of a consent agreement stipulating the applicant's license would be placed on probation for the remaining period of his legal probation; monthly reports of good standing of legal probation would be submitted to the Board; and upon application of an LPC license, the applicant would physically appear before the board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Austin and passed unanimously.



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VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. **Compact Update:** Dr. Crawford gave a Compact update. She said 4 other states have passed their compacts. Our background legislation will be in the next session and must become law before we can move forward. The Rules Committee will set the standards, including the privilege fee. The Rules Committee is made up of Ms. Robinson, Dr. Hollingsworth and Mr. Austin. Mr. Austin asked who would lobby the bill and Ms. Sheehan said the Association would need to do the lobbying.
- b. **Training Committee:** Ms. Robinson gave an update on the Training Committee. A virtual training will be held on July 17th from 8:30 to 4:30. The speakers are lined up. Topics will include the following:
 - Ethical Use of AI
 - Supervision
 - Child Sex Trafficking – Children’s Aid Society
 - Ethical Billing Practices

Ms. Robinson explained she will use her business zoom account and the committee will monitor the chat. She asked the staff to send the information and evaluation. There will be 6 hours total, with a working lunch and open Q&A. Dr. Crawford is handling the CE requirements. It will go out to ABEC licensees first before opening to the public.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Meeting dates
 - i. July 10, 2026
 - ii. September 18, 2026
 - iii. November 13, 2026
- b. Reminder to submit travel reimbursement forms.



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X. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Tidwell made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Ms. Robinson. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn Hollingsworth".

Dr. Glenn Hollingsworth
Board Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth Sheehan".

Elizabeth Sheehan
Executive Director