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
September 18, 2026

Present:	
Dr. Glenn Hollingsworth	Board Chair
Anjanette B. Robinson	Board Member
Jacques Austin	Board Vice-Chair
Dr. Sherrionda Crawford	Board Member
Cynthia Hooper	Board Member
Jessie Bowie	Board Member
Elizabeth Sheehan	Executive Director
Vanea Hosea	Board Attorney
Leslie Tomlin	Administrator
Dawn Durick	Licensing Agent
Mike James	Investigator
Darleen Dempster	Education Reviewer
Margaret Anne Davis	Legal Assistant
Karen Entrekin	Investigator

Absent:	
Cindy Hooper	Board Member
DeAnna Tidwell	Board Member

Guests:
Abbie Bagwell – NOBTS Grad Student
Abby Crowe – NOBTS Grad Student
LeKesha Sankey – ALC
Shawndrika Cook – ALCA (LPC)
Dr. Kessiah McDaniel, LPC-S – ALCA
Dr. DeAndrea Jamith – LPC-S
Patrick Cagle – ALC
Dr. Necoal Driver (ALCA/ABEC Liaison)

The Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling (ABEC) held a regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, September 18, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held at 400 S. Union Street, Suite 245 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 10:08 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Ms. Sheehan called the roll and a quorum was established.

Dr. Hollingsworth welcomed Dr. DeAdrea Jamith. Dr. Jamith requested that the Board adopt a rule change requiring all meeting to be held virtually rather than at the discretion of the Board. Ms. Sheehan suggested that the Board could adopt this as a policy but would be uncomfortable creating a rule separate from the Open Meetings Act which provides the criteria in which a Board should conduct its business in regards to public participation.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Dr. Hollingsworth presented a copy of the agenda for the meeting. A copy of the agenda was provided to the board members prior to the meeting. Ms. Robinson moved to amend the agenda to add an ALCA update under Other Business. The motion was seconded by Dr. Crawford. Ms. Bowie then moved to adopt the agenda as amended. Mr. Austin seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINTUES

Dr. Hollingsworth presented the July 10, 2026, meeting minutes. Ms. Robinson requested that board chair be removed from her name. Dr. Crawford moved to approve the amended minutes. This was seconded by Ms. Robinson. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a. **2025 CCE Invoices** – BOA – Ms. Sheehan announced the Board of Adjustment approved the payment to CCE and that this had been processed to be paid.

b. **Database** – Ms. Sheehan announced the RFP is open and will close Monday, September 21st at 5:00 p.m. The staff will rank the RFPs with Procurement. She said she hopes to award the database by January and be operational in the next year.

c. **Scanning Project** – Ms. Sheehan stated the RFP for the Scanning Project has been awarded and the work has begun. The project is large and will take several months.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dr. Crawford made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss general reputation, character, physical condition, professional competence, or mental health of a licensee and any legal matters related to the subject for approximately 15 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Austin. And following a unanimous roll call vote, the board went into Executive Session at 10:32.

Ms. Robinson moved to come out of Executive Session at 10:50. Dr. Crawford seconded the motion; a unanimous roll call vote concluded the Executive Session.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. **Public Hearing** – Ms. Sheehan said we will need a motion to have a public hearing regarding 255-X-6-.03. Ms. Robinson made a motion to hold a Public Hearing and Dr. Crawford seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Ms. Sheehan said the rule change will include language to better understand the rule. No comments were received during the comment period. Mr. Austin moved to certify the amended rule. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

b. **Financial Statement** – Ms. Sheehan stated that reports were added to the financial documents. She explained the amounts do not always match Leslie's reports, because some bills have been submitted for payment but not paid by the Comptroller's Office. Dr. Crawford moved to accept the Financial Statement, and the motion was seconded by Ms. Robinson. The motion passed unanimously.

c. **New License Approval** – The licensee roster was distributed in the board packets. Ms. Robinson moved to accept new licensees, excluding the Special Requests. Mr. Austin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

d. **Special License Request** – Ms. Sheehan stated that Dr. Jamith's request will not be a rule change, so no action is needed. Dr. Crawford made a motion to take no action on the request. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

September 2026-06
A Georgia licensee is applying for ALC and requesting acceptance of current client hours. She is a military spouse whose husband in active-duty military stationed in Alabama. Mr. Austin made a motion to approve the request, and it was seconded by Dr. Crawford. The motion passed unanimously.

September 2026-04
An LPC-S sent in his renewal packet, but it was mailed by certified mail to the old address on Zelda Road. The licensee had proof of the certified mail. The staff allowed the licensee and the ALCs he supervised to remain in effect awaiting board approval. Ms. Robinson moved to approve the LPC-S to remain active. The motion was seconded by Dr. Crawford. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Sheehan explained there were several supervisors who let their licenses lapse. She asked the staff to be given the authority to provide the ALC with a grace period as the consequences of the Supervisor directly affect the ALC. It was decided this would be referred to the Rules Committee.

Dr. Hollingsworth asked for a five-minute recess. The board reconvened at 12:12 p.m.

September 2026-01
An applicant's classes were pre-approved by the previous Education Reviewer but then denied by the current Education Reviewer. Dawn explained the licensee had applied for 2000 hours of reduction of professional experience. She said the Academic Reviewer approved the four classes, but not the EP 500 because "Advanced Educational Psychology" at the University of West Alabama does not directly map to CACREP core content areas, but instead covered general teaching. Ms. Robinson moved to accept the request, which was seconded by Mr. Austin. The motion carried unanimously.

September 2026-02
Licensee is applying for Endorsement from Georgia. She has met the direct client hours of 250 but is 40 hours short of indirect hours. Dr. Crawford moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Austin. The motion passed with 3 ayes, one nay and one abstention.

September 2026-05
Applicant is seeking licensure in Alabama with acceptance of her accrued hours. Ms. Robinson moved to deny the request. Mr. Austin seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

September 2026-03
An applicant is requesting 100% virtual supervision via the Military Exception. Mr. Austin moved to accept her request. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Complaint 2026-012
Ms. Sheehan presented the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge on the Jenna Mudd case. Ms. Robinson moved to accept the recommendation. Dr. Crawford seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The ALCA update was moved up in the Agenda to accommodate Dr. Driver's schedule.

ALCA Update
Dr. Driver said she wanted to thank the Board for consideration of having virtual meetings. She also thanked the board for hosting the Ethics Workshop in July. Dr. Driver thanked the board for working with the legislative body on the Compact. Dr. Driver announced the ALCA fall conference in Mobile November 18th – 20th.

Special Requests (continued)

September 2026-08
Three-year retention – Ms. Sheehan explained that applications that are submitted but never completed are held for three years for the applicant to come back and complete without starting over. Ms. Sheehan said this is too long to hold an application because rules can change during that time. The board said they had already voted on that to change. Ms. Sheehan said she would track that down.

e. **Interagency Agreement** – Ms. Sheehan presented the new interagency agreement. She explained the current agreement expires December 31st. The new agreement increases from $202,000 to $234,000. Ms. Robinson moved to approve the interagency agreement with one correction, to remove her name as the board chair. Mr. Austin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

f. **Presenter Payments** – Ms. Sheehan said we need to vote to compensate the speakers for the July Ethics Workshop. Dr. Crawford moved to compensate $200.00 to each speaker. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. INVESTIGATIONS/COMPLAINTS

Ms. Sheehan went through the cases presented by the IC Committee. Ms. Robinson moved to accept the recommendation as presented. Mr. Austin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Compact Update
Dr Crawford said there is no update until the legislation on the background checks is approved.

b. Supervision Committee Update

Dr. Crawford said guidance is needed on the Supervisory Training. She said the rule allowing only specific trainers to provide the training should be removed. She said the board accepts training from outside Alabama. Dr. Crawford moved to refer this to the Rules Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Austin and passed unanimously.

Dr. Crawford said there are two people waiting on a response from the Board regarding Supervisory Training. Dr. Crawford moved to deny the first proposal because there was no curriculum attached. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Dr. Crawford moved to send the second proposal to the Education Reviewer for approval. The motion was seconded by Ms. Robinson and passed unanimously.

c. Rules Committee Update

Ms. Robinson said the Rules Committee met to discuss two rules. The committee considered Ms. Sheehan's suggestion regarding the rule that does not allow an ALC to be appointed to the board. She said this rule exceeds the authority in the Practice Act. Ms. Robinson said committee was not ready to act on that. The other rule that will need to be addressed involves the Compact will have to be updated to add the fees for privilege.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Meeting dates – Ms. Sheehan asked the board to come to the next meeting with some dates for next year. Ms. Robinson said it is always the second Friday of the month, unless that falls on a holiday.
b. The next meeting is November 13, 2026.
c. The ALCA conference is November 18th – 20th. Ms. Robinson said the board has a Q&A during the conference. Ms. Robinson, Dr. Hollingsworth and Mr. Austin will all attend the conference. Members of the board said they were told previously that they could not be reimbursed for their travel if they were earning CEs. Ms. Sheehan said she would check in to that.
d. Elizabeth reminded everyone to turn in their travel forms.

X. Dr. Crawford made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Ms. Robinson. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Dr. Glenn Hollingsworth
Board Chair

Ms. Elizabeth Sheehan
Executive Director