

INDIANA BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS
Indiana Government Center South
402 West Washington St.
ROOM W064
Indianapolis IN 46204

MINUTES OF JANUARY 15, 2026

Diane Vuotto, D.C., Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. and declared a quorum in accordance with IC 25-10-1-1.5(f), pursuant to public notice posted at the principal office for the Board, online at the board's website and on the state calendar at least forty-eight (48) hours before the time of the meeting.

Member(s) Present:

Diane Vuotto, D.C., Chair
Richard Mason, D.C., Member
Emily Shoemaker, Consumer Member
Derek Dyer, D.C., Vice Chair

Staff Present:

Jody Edens, Board Director
Professional Licensing Agency
James Green, Assistant Board Director
Professional Licensing Agency
Brad Repass, Litigation Specialist
Professional Licensing Agency
Clarence Leatherbury, J.D., Deputy Attorney
General, Office of the Attorney General

The Board voted to APPROVE the Agenda.

Dyer/Shoemaker, 4/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker, Derek Dyer
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

The Board voted to APPROVE OCTOBER 9, 2025, minutes as written.

Mason/Dyer, 4/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker, Derek Dyer
The following board members objected: none

The following board members abstained: none

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

Rebecca M. Schulke, D.C., License No. 08002703A, Cause No. 202511 CHI 0007

Respondent did not appear in person and was not represented by counsel, regarding an Administrative Complaint scheduled before the Board. The State of Indiana was represented by Carah Rochester, Deputy Attorney General and the court Reporter sworn in for this matter was Ashley Rodriguez, for Accurate Reporting Services.

A settlement agreement between the Respondent and the Attorney General's Office was presented to the Board for review. The settlement agreement included a LETTER OF REPRIMAND.

After reviewing the settlement agreement and having considered the evidence presented, and taking official, judicial notice of the pleadings, evidence, and orders in this matter, the Board moved to APPROVE the Settlement Agreement.

Dyer/Shoemaker, 4/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker, Derek Dyer
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

Christi Houtz, D.C., License No. 08002314A, Cause No. 202508 CHI 0005

Respondent did not appear in person and was not represented by counsel regarding a request to DISMISS the Administrative Complaint scheduled before the Board. The State of Indiana was represented by Hilary Brown, Deputy Attorney General and the court reporter sworn in for this matter was Ashley Rodriguez, for Accurate Reporting Services.

After having considered the evidence presented, and taking official, judicial notice of the pleadings, evidence, and orders in this matter, the Board moved to APPROVE the DISMISSAL.

Mason/Shoemaker, 4/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker, Derek Dyer
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

James M. Pucka, D.C., License No. 08001350A, Cause No. 2021 IBEC 0004

Respondent appeared in person and was represented by counsel, Scotty Teal regarding a Petition to Withdraw Probation scheduled before the Board. The State of Indiana was represented by Ryan Eldridge, Deputy Attorney General and the court reporter sworn in for this matter was Ashley Rodriguez for Accurate Reporting Services.

Respondent's Exhibit N – Copy of CE Certificate

Dr. Pucka informed the Board that he has fulfilled all the requirements in his probationary order and is requesting to have the probation lifted.

He submitted proof of the four (4) hours of Risk Management, has appeared for all of his Quarterly Probationary Appearance (completed 4 at this time), completed the MMPI II, has submitted copies of the forms used by staff during female patient exams on a form approved by the Board.

The Board asked Dr. Pucka if he would continue to use a female chaperone with his female patients. His response was that a chaperone is not required by statute so it would be if the situation warrants a chaperone, then he would use one.

After having considered the evidence presented, and taking official, judicial notice of the pleadings, evidence, and orders in this matter, the Board moved to DENY the request to Withdraw the Order of Probation.

Shoemaker/Dyer, 4/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker, Derek Dyer
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

Aaron King, D.C., License No. 08003194A, Cause No. 202506-CHI-0004

Respondent appeared in person and was not represented by counsel, regarding an Administrative Complaint/Renewal of Summary Suspension and a Motion to Disqualify Dr. Dyer scheduled before the Board. The State of Indiana was represented by Carah Rochester, Deputy Attorney General, and the court reporter sworn in for this matter was Ashley Rodriguez for Accurate Reporting Services.

A motion to Disqualify Dr. Dyer was filed by the Attorney General's Office. After reviewing the motion, the Board moved to APPROVE the Motion to Disqualify Dr. Dyer. He will not be participating in this matter.

Mason/Shoemaker, 3/0/0

Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

State Exhibits:

- 1 – Facebook messages
- 2 – Core records
- 3 – Axis records
- 4 – Phone extractions
- 5 – Axis records
- 6 – Phone extractions
- 7 – Ring photo
- 8 – Facebook messages
- 9 – Facebook messages
- 10 – Police report
- 11 – Protective order
- 12 – Axis records
- 13 – Phone extraction
- 14 – Axis records
- 15 – Phone extractions
- 16 – Transcript
- 17 – Email & paper scan
- 18 – Axis facebook
- 19 – Axis social media
- 20 – Youtube short
- 21 – Email Axis
- 22 – Email
- 23 – Axis social media & website
- 30 – Axis website
- 31 – Facebook post

Respondent Exhibit

- A – Emails and Pictures

The following were sworn in as witnesses:
Andrea Mills, Investigator with the AG's Office
Jeffrey Stucke – Dr. King's Therapist

Ms. Mills testified that she was assigned to do the investigation into the matter of Dr. King. She obtained screen shots of social media posts, text messages, and she obtained patient records from Core Chiropractic.

Ms. Rochester reminded the Board of information contained in Professional Licensing's

records. Dr. King has messaged a patient under the age of eighteen (18). Patient 2 worked at Core Chiropractic, and he messaged her on Facebook and snap. Patient 4, he admitted was a patient of his. Patient 5, he asked out on a date and were Facebook friends. He had a sexual encounter with patient 5. There were text messages with a fourteen/fifteen (14or15) year old.

Dr. King admitted to the Board that he has had sex with at least four (4) patients. Then explained it could be more depending on how you define a patient. He explained that he would date a woman, have sex and then invite her to become a patient.

Jeffrey Stucke, MHC, appeared virtually as a witness for Dr. King. Mr. Stucke informed the Board that he is Dr. King's therapist. He indicated that Dr. King's issues are Sexual Predation and Boundaries. He stated Dr. King has a low level of intelligence from his childhood issues. He doesn't see Dr. King as a threat of sexual inappropriateness or sexual predation. He also indicated Dr. King is a work in progress.

After discussion, the Board found the Respondent to be in violation of the following Counts: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9 10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22 and 23.

After discussion, the Board found the Respondent to not be in violation of count 8.

Mason/Shoemaker, 3/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

After having considered the evidence presented, testimony of the witnesses and taking official, judicial notice of the pleadings, evidence, and orders in this matter, the Board moved to REVOKE Dr. King's license.

Mason/Shoemaker, 3/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

The Board further moved to EXTEND the SUMMARY SUSPENSION for ninety (90) days

Shoemaker/Mason, 3/0/0

Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

PROBATION APPEARANCE(S)

James Pucka, D.C., License No.08001350A, Cause No. 2021 IBCE 0004

Dr. Pucka appeared in person for his probation appearance and was not represented by counsel.

His order states the following:

- James Pucka is ordered to complete his four (4) hour continuing education requirement in public health or risk management, as specified under 846 Ind. Admin. Code 1-8-1, focusing on courses that address professional boundaries.
- James Pucka shall appear for QUARTERLY appearances before the Board.
- James Pucka is ordered to never treat female patients without a non-family female staff member being present in the treating room at all times. The staff member shall sign a document created by the Spine Worx Company that affirms their oversight for each female patient James Pucka treated. The affirmations for each treatment shall be available for the board to review at each quarterly appearance.
- Any complaint associated with inappropriate comments or touching by James Pucka made on the Spine Work Patient Experience form or the Employee Complaint Form or analogous form shall be submitted to a neutral party not associated with the Spine Worx business and said neutral party shall submit the Complaint to IPLA Board Director Jody Edens. Any complaint can be emailed to clerk@pla.in.gov or mailed to the Indiana Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Room W072, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

Dr. Pucka brought in a binder of completed forms for all female patients he has seen since his last appearance.

He indicated that yes, he is dry needling.

The Board asked the Board Director, Jody Edens, if she has received any complaints regarding Dr. Pucka. She stated she has not received any.

The Board asked if his acupuncture license has been activated. He indicated that it too is on probation, but he is not doing acupuncture.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES

Mark McClure, Initial Application – Positive Response:

Dr. McClure appeared in person and without counsel regarding the positive response on his initial application.

He apologized for answering “no” on his application as he does have action in Ohio. He explained that the issue was that he was not present when an unlicensed supportive personnel member performed laser treatments. He knows he should have been there.

He paid a fine of \$2,500 and took continuing education classes. He still practices in Ohio but wants to teach part-time at Purdue University.

After discussion, the Board moved to APPROVE his application.

Dyer/Mason, 4/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker, Derek Dyer
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

DISCUSSION

Det James, D.C., License No. 08001191A, Cause No. 2020 IBCE 0002 – Probation Appearance:

Dr. James did not appear in person and was not represented by counsel regarding his probationary appearance scheduled before the Board.

Dr. James has been informed that he no longer needs to appear but must email in reports for the Board to review.

The Board reviewed his report. The report indicated that he has not had any changes, he is still working with his brother. Things are going well.

Matthew Wise, D.C., License No. 08003511A, Cause No. 202504 CHI 0003 – Probation Appearance

Dr. Wise did not appear in person and was not represented by counsel regarding his probationary appearance scheduled before the Board.

Dr. Wise does not need to appear but must email in reports for the Board to review.

He has the following terms on his probation order:

- The Applicant shall report any future arrests or instances of substance abuse to the

Board immediately in writing.

- Applicant shall submit quarterly reports to the Board to advise the Board on such topics as the Applicant's Illinois and Missouri license status and his criminal probation status.

His report was available to the Board for review. He indicates he has not had an incidents or interactions involving anything illegal or with alcohol, drugs or intoxication to report. Also, he has not had any complaints related to patient care.

The Board thanked him for his report.

Late Fee Rule:

Ms. Edens explained that we have always had a \$50 late fee, but now it must be put in all Board's fee rules.

After discussion, the Board moved to APPROVE the \$50 late fee rule.

Mason/Dyer, 4/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker, Derek Dyer
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

CE Approval Request:

A Dry Needling Education course has been submitted by Katie Anderson with Structure & Function.

The Board reviewed the information submitted and indicated the programs were PACE approved.

After discussion the Board APPROVED the CE for 52 hours.

Mason/Dyer, 4/0/0
Motion carries

The following board members voted aye:
Diane Vuotto, Richard Mason, Emily Shoemaker, Derek Dyer
The following board members objected: none
The following board members abstained: none

There being no further business, the Board ADJOURNED at 3:43 p.m.

Diane Vuotto, D.C., Chair