

# MINUTES

## FLORIDA BARBERS' BOARD TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Monday, December 1, 2025

The Florida Barbers' Board meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m., by Mr. Hugo Vargas, Chair.

### **Board Members Present**

Hugo Vargas – Chair  
Jorge Rivera  
Stephanie Lewandowski – Vice Chair  
John Carroll

### **Board Members Absent**

Mitchell Schwartz (excused)

### **Other Persons Present**

Ruthanne Christie, Interim Executive Director, Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR)  
Julie Rowland Duckworth, Government Analyst, DBPR  
Andrea Osorio, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, DBPR  
Patrick Cunningham, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General  
Debra Alff, Court Reporter  
Imtiaz Kalani  
Sydney Gartrell  
Karma Kelly  
Christopher Daniels  
Christian Williams  
Marcus Pate

The meeting was opened with a roll call and a quorum was established. Chair Vargas excused the absence of Mr. Mitchell Schwartz from the meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice Chair Lewandowski moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2025, Board meeting with the requested changes. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **DISCIPLINARY MATTERS**

### **Settlement Stipulation**

Imtiaz Kalani; Clearwater; Case No. 2022025722

Mr. Kalani was present for the meeting. Ms. Osorio presented the case for consideration by the Board. Mr. Carroll moved to adopt the Stipulations of the parties as the Board's final action in this matter and incorporate them and all of its terms into a Final Order and impose a fine of \$250 and costs of \$167.66 to be paid within six months. Vice Chair. Lewandowski seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Department Attorney Report**

Ms. Osorio informed the Board that there were 45 open barber cases in the legal section.

## **APPLICATIONS**

### **Licensure Applications**

#### **Informal Hearing**

##### **Sydney Gartrell**

Mr. Gartrell was present for the meeting. Ms. Christie informed the Board that the application was denied at the September 2, 2025, board meeting based on the noted criminal history. After review, Chair Vargas moved to overturn the denial and approve the application. The Board also imposed probation on the license to run concurrent with his criminal probation. The applicant shall provide annually an FDLE criminal background check, and a compliance letter from the authority who is supervising the terms and conditions of the criminal release and/or probation. The applicant shall appear before the board at every license renewal until probation is complete. Mr. Rivera seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Initial Review**

##### **Christopher Daniels**

Ms. Karma Kelly and Mr. Daniels were present for the meeting. After review, Chair Vargas moved to deny the application due to the noted criminal history. Vice Chair Lewandowski seconded the motion, and the motion passed with Mr. Rivera voting against the motion.

##### **Christian Williams**

Mr. Williams was present for the meeting. After review, Mr. Williams requested that the board table the application for a future meeting and waived the 90 day review requirement.

##### **Marcus Pate**

Mr. Pate was present for the meeting. After review, Mr. Pate requested that the board table the application for a future meeting and waived the 90 day review requirement.

### **Executive Director Report**

#### **Financial Report for Period Ending June 30, 2025**

Ms. Christie reported that the balance in the Board's operating account as of June 30, 2025, was over \$3.2 million and the balance in the unlicensed activity account was over \$189,000 for the same period.

### **Correspondence**

#### **Complaints and Investigative Statistics**

Ms. Christie informed the Board that the Complaints and Investigative Statistics Report was included in the agenda for informational purposes.

#### **Barber Examination Summary**

Ms. Christie informed the Board that the Barber Examination Summary was included in the agenda for informational purposes.

#### **Licensure Application Ratification Report**

Chair Vargas moved to approve the application report as provided. Vice Chair Lewandowski seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Dates and Locations of Future Meetings**

February 2, 2026 – Via GoToMeeting (10am)  
April 6, 2026 – Via GoToMeeting (9am)

109 June 30, 2026 – Orlando DBPR Building (9:30am)  
110 September 28, 2026 – Via GoToMeeting (9am)

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112 **ADJOURNMENT**

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114 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m.

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