STATE OF IOWA

BOARD OF EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS

400 E. 14th Street

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Minutes

April 17, 2026

The Board of Educational Examiners (Board or BoEE) held a meeting on April 17, 2026. Kathy Behrens, Board vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. due to a delay in having a quorum. Members attending were Pam Bleam, Dr. Davis Eidahl, Eric St Clair, Dr. Daniel Zylstra, Paige Thorson and Jennifer Sammons. Also in attendance was Mike Cavin, Executive Director, Beth Myers, Attorney, Lori Lavorato, Diane Dennis, Matthew Barron, and William Rector, Investigators, Lindsey Browning, Assistant Attorney General. Dr. Michael Pyevich, Miranda Brus, and Chad Janzen were unable to attend.

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, to approve the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Eric St Clair to approve the consent agenda (minutes for March 13, 2026). **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of discussing closed session minutes whether to initiate licensee disciplinary proceedings, the decision to be rendered in a contested case, confidential health information, and mental health information, pursuant to Iowa Code sections 21.5(1)(a), (d), and (f). Roll call vote: Behrens – yes; Bleam – yes; Eidahl – yes; St Clair – yes; Zylstra – yes; Thorson – yes; Sammons – yes; **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Board returned to open session at 1:09 p.m.

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 25-159**, the Board and find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(1) b (1), 25.3(1) b (2), 25.3(1) e (4) 1, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Pam Bleam moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, that in **case number 25-184** the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(1) e (4) 3, 25.3(6) c & d, and 25.3(8) a, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, that in **case number 25-291**, the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 282 IAC rules 25.3(1) e (4) (3), 25.3(8) a, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Eric St. Clair moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 26-23**, the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(1) b (1), 25.3(6) k, 25.3(8) a, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, that in **case number 26-64**, the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(1) e (4) 3, 25.3(6) c & d, 25.3(8) b, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 25-213**, the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(1) e (1), 25.3(6) c, 25.3(8) b, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 25-292**, the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional

Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(2) a & b, 25.3(8) b, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 26-02**, the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(2) b, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 26-03,** the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rules 25.3(2) b, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 26-04**, the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(2) b, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 26-05,** the Board find probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(2) b, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that in **case number 25-279**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, that in **case number 26-17**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the

complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 26-41**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Pam Bleam moves, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, that in **case number 26-31,** the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 26-68**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, that in **case number 26-48,** the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. Roll call vote: Behrens – no; Bleam – yes; Eidahl – yes; St Clair – yes; Zylstra – yes; Thorson – yes; Sammons – yes; **MOTION CARRIED**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 26-21**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 26-09**, the Board finds probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(6) c and 25.3(8) a, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 26-10**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that in **case number 26-11**, the Board finds probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(8) a, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. Roll call vote: Behrens – yes; Bleam – no; Eidahl – no; St Clair – yes; Zylstra – no; Thorson – yes; Sammons – yes; **MOTION CARRIED**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 25-259**, the Board finds probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(5) a (4), 25.3(6) o, q, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 25-260**, the Board finds probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(5) a (3), 25.3(6) r, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Lindsey Browning recused from closed session discussion of case number 25-295. Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 25-295**, the Board finds probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(5) a (3), 25.3(6) l, m, 25.3(8) a, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Lindsey Browning recused from closed session discussion of case number 25-296. Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 25-296**, the Board finds probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(5) a (3), 25.3(6) l, m, 25.3(8) a, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Lindsey Browning recused from closed session discussion of case number 25-297. Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 25-297**, the Board finds probable cause to establish a violation of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics, 282 IAC rule 25.3(3) a, 25.3(5) a (4), 25.3(6) m, & o, and 25.3(8) a, and order the Board staff to proceed with the case. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that in **case number 25-280**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that in **case number 25-281**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that in **case number 25-282**, the Board finds that the evidence gathered in the investigation, including witness statements and the documentary evidence, does not substantiate the allegations in the complaint, and that the Board therefore lacks probable cause to proceed with this matter. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that the Board accept the respondent's waiver of hearing and voluntary surrender in **case number 25-99** and

that the Board issue an order permanently revoking the license with no possibility of reinstatement. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that the Board accept the respondent's waiver of hearing and voluntary surrender in **case number 25-240,** and that the Board issue an order permanently revoking the license with no possibility of reinstatement. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, that the Board accept the respondent's waiver of hearing and voluntary surrender in **case number 25-277,** and that the Board issue an order permanently revoking the license with no possibility of reinstatement. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, that in **case number 25-59**, the Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order incorporating the agreement and imposing the agreed upon sanction. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 25-124,** the Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order incorporating the agreement and imposing the agreed upon sanction. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 23-152**, the Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order incorporating the agreement and imposing the agreed upon sanction. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in **case number 25-64**, the Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order incorporating the agreement and imposing the agreed upon sanction. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that in **case number 24-57,** the Board reject the agreement submitted by the parties, and return the cases for further proceedings consistent with this decision. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, that in **case number 24-93**, the Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order incorporating the agreement and imposing the agreed upon sanction. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that in **case number 25-224**, the Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order incorporating the agreement and imposing the agreed upon sanction. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that in case **number 24-250**, the Board accept the agreement submitted by the parties, and issue an Order incorporating the agreement and imposing the agreed upon sanction. Roll call vote: Behrens – yes; Bleam – yes; Eidahl – yes; St Clair – yes; Zylstra – yes; Thorson – yes; Sammons – recused; **MOTION CARRIED**

Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that the Board accept the dismissal order from the ALJ in **case number 25-07**, In the Matter of Erin Meyer, and allow the dismissal to become the final decision of the Board. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Eric St Clair moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, that the Board not initiate review of the proposed decision in **case number 24-134**, In the Matter of Jakob Bauer, and allow the proposed decision to become the final decision of the Board unless an appeal is taken by one of the parties within the time allowed by rule. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that the Board not initiate review of the proposed decision in **case number 25-28 & 25-40**, In the Matter of Michael

Thomas, and allow the proposed decision to become the final decision of the Board unless an appeal is taken by one of the parties within the time allowed by rule. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, that the Board not initiate review of the proposed decision in **case number 24-23**, In the Matter of Patrick Honkomp, and allow the proposed decision to become the final decision of the Board unless an appeal is taken by one of the parties within the time allowed by rule. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Daniel Zylstra, to accept the signed consents to waive the deadline in **case numbers 25-232, 25-233, and 25-237**, and issue an order extending the deadline. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-225**, based on the need to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an opportunity to object. Retaining this pending licensing matter reinforces the significance of due process for both the complainant and the respondent within the licensing disciplinary system. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Jennifer Sammons, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-226**, based on the need to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Respondent does not object to the extension. Dismissal of the case would undermine public trust in educational licenses and would result in disparate treatment of similar ethical violations. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-228**, based on the need to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an

opportunity to object. Justice would not be served by dismissing a pending complaint concerning alleged ethical wrongdoing of an educator given the need to maintain safe learning environments for Iowa students. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-230**, based on the need to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an opportunity to object. Dismissal of the case would undermine public trust in educational licenses and would result in disparate treatment of similar ethical violations. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-238**, based on the need to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an opportunity to object. Retaining this pending licensing matter ensures that any potential threats or risks to students are thoroughly evaluated while also guaranteeing the educator has the opportunity to dispute the alleged ethical wrongdoing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-239**, based on the need to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Respondent does not object to the extension. Justice would not be served by dismissing a pending complaint concerning alleged ethical wrongdoing of an educator given the need to maintain safe learning environments for Iowa students. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Jennifer Sammons moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-241**, based on the need to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an

opportunity to object. Retaining this pending licensing matter reinforces the significance of due process for both the complainant and the respondent within the licensing disciplinary system. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-245**, based on the need to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an opportunity to object. Retaining this pending licensing matter ensures that any potential threats or risks to students are thoroughly evaluated while also guaranteeing the educator has the opportunity to dispute the alleged ethical wrongdoing. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Eric St Clair, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-249**. The seriousness of the accused violation is of such a magnitude, additional time is required to complete a comprehensive investigation and conclude the contested case process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an opportunity to object. Justice would not be served by dismissing a pending complaint concerning alleged ethical wrongdoing of an educator given the need to maintain safe learning environments for Iowa students. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Pam Bleam, to extend the 180-day deadline for issuance of the final decision in **case number 25-254**, based on the need to schedule the hearing or negotiate settlement and conclude the contested case process. Respondent did not file an objection to the extension even though given an opportunity to object. Retaining this pending licensing matter reinforces the significance of due process for both the complainant and the respondent within the licensing disciplinary system. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Davis Eidahl moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, to approve the closed session minutes for March 13, 2026. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Request for Reinstatement- Case No. 23-106 Joel Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan was alleged to have made inappropriate, demeaning and belittling comments to student athletes. He received a sanction of: a written reprimand, 2-year suspension of his K-12 Athletic Coach Endorsement, with the suspension becoming deferred after 60-days if settlement requirements met, ethics course, a course in teaching and modeling behavior and a course in exploring sport coaching and psychology. Mr. Sullivan's coaching endorsement was reinstated to a deferred suspension on April 23, 2024. He filed an application for full reinstatement of his license and coaching endorsement on March 12, 2026. Mr. Sullivan completed the required coursework and believes he has met the requirements. The Board noted that he had met the timeline of the suspension and fulfilled the requirements of the disciplinary order. Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Paige Thorson, that the Board grant the application for reinstatement as the reason for the suspension no longer exists and reinstatement is in the public interest. It was further moved that the Board authorize the Executive Director to sign the reinstatement order consistent with the Board's discussion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Request for Reinstatement- Case No. 22-59 David Harms. Mr. Harms was charged with converting public funds to private use, not using public for what they were intended and soliciting student or parents to make purchases. He received a reprimand, a 6-month suspension of his license and was required to complete an ethics course. Mr. Harms filed an application for reinstatement of his license on April 2, 2026, completed the required coursework and believes he has met the requirements. The Board noted that he had met the timeline of the suspension and fulfilled the requirements of the disciplinary order. Daniel Zylstra moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, that the Board grant the application for reinstatement as the reason for the suspension no longer exists and reinstatement is in the public interest. It was further moved that the Board authorize the Executive Director to sign the reinstatement order consistent with the Board's discussion. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

<u>Communication from the Public:</u>

None

Board Member Reports:

None

Executive Director's Report:

Legislative Report:

A few bills have a direct impact on the BoEE. One of the bills relates to the verification of legal status, including US citizens upon initial application and renewal for licensure. Another bill related to grooming has passed both houses. There may be rules to review at the June or August meeting.

Agency Update:

Second interviews will be held for the open Administrative Support Assistant 3 position soon. Geri McMahon, BoEE Education Program Consultant, retired last month and her position has been posted. Dr. Michael Pyevich has decided to step down from his position on the Board, effective immediately. Two new members have been appointed and arrangements are being made to contact them and conduct an orientation.

Financial Report:

Income is currently lagging due to cost reductions in other areas. Options for the future are still being discussed.

License Report:

Application processing time has increased to approximately 3 weeks, due to having 2 unfilled staff positions.

The June retreat and board meeting will be held in Des Moines at the Grimes building and topics for discussion are being finalized.

Reports and approvals:

Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, to approve the FY 27 BoEE Board meeting calendar. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

There being no further business, Paige Thorson moved, with a second by Davis Eidahl, to adjourn the meeting at 1:52 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**