



ACUPUNCTURE AND EASTERN MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 27, 2025

Committee Members Present: Lisa vanHaagen, AEMP, Chair
Kristine McGinley, L.Ac., AEMP, Vice-Chair
Yiwen Su, AEMP
Phillip Padelford, Public Member

Committee Members Absent: Christina Jackson, AEMP

Staff Present: Adriana Barcena, Program Manager
Trina Crawford, Executive Director
Debbie Gardner, Program Manager
Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)
Catharine Roner-Reiter, Supervising Staff Attorney
Cassandra Gerard, Program Support
Mikala Lord, Policy Analyst

Others Present: Leslie Emerick, Policy Director, WAEMA

OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

The open session of the business meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Lisa vanHaagen, Chair.

1.1 Introductions of committee members and staff.

- The committee members, staff, and audience were introduced.

1.2 Public Comment – The public will have an opportunity to provide comments. If you would like to comment during this time, please limit your comments to two minutes. Please identify yourself and who you represent, if applicable, when the Chair opens the floor for public comment.

- No public comments were directed to the committee at this time.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

- Ms. vanHaagen requested to amend the agenda to include item 5 - Update on Dry Needling/Intramuscular Therapy for Physical Therapists in Washington State.
- A motion was made to approve the January 27, 2025 agenda with the requested amendment.
- The motion was seconded, and the committee unanimously approved the January 27, 2025 agenda as amended.

1.4 Approval of July 26, 2024 revised meeting minutes

- A motion was made to approve the revised July 26, 2024 minutes.
- The motion was seconded, and the committee unanimously approved the revised July 26, 2024 minutes.

1.5 Approval of November 18, 2024 meeting minutes

- Ms. McGinley requested to amend Item 5 to state the committee delegated Kristine McGinley as the 2025 meet me call participant with Lisa vanHaagen as secondary.
- Ms. McGinley requested to amend Item 9 to clarify the Secretary will review unique applications on a case-by-case basis.
- The November 18, 2024 meeting minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting after corrections are made.

2. 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE – the committee received an update on the 2025 meeting locations.

- Ms. Barcena explained there is a state budget freeze in effect and staff are not authorized to travel at this time.
- A motion was made for 2025 physical meeting locations to be held in Tumwater, WA with an option to join virtually.
- The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

3. 2025 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – the committee received an update on legislation that may impact the profession.

- Ms. Barcena provided an update to the committee on the legislative session that started on January 13, 2025.
- The department will notify legislative liaisons of bill updates by email rather than weekly meetings.

- Ms. Barcena described Senate Bill 5254 regarding patient rights to access and protecting their healthcare information.
- Ms. Barcena described House Bill 1507 that proposes limiting healthcare nondisclosure agreements between healthcare providers and patients related to medical malpractice, or any tort or crime.
- Ms. Emerick shared Senate Bill 5242 proposes an interactive screening program to improve access to behavioral health might increase licensure fees.
- Ms. Emerick also shared House Bill 1034 cannot be amended to include physical treatment as a non-opioid drug treatment of pain.

4. NATIONAL CERTIFICATION COMMISSION FOR ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE (NCCAOM) MONTHLY UPDATES – the committee received an update from meetings that occurred from November–January from Ms. McGinley.

- Ms. McGinley attended the NCCAOM town hall meetings on December 4, 2024 and January 22, 2025.
- Ms. McGinley provided the NCCAOM town hall meeting presentations for the committee’s review. She provided a brief description of the topics covered including the AHM coalition, NCCAOM standards, and the current strategy for acupuncturists to become recognized as providers by Medicare.

5. UPDATE ON DRY NEEDLING/INTRAMUSCULAR THERAPY FOR PHYSICAL THERAPISTS IN WASHINGTON STATE – the committee received an update from Ms. vanHaagen.

- Ms. vanHaagen attended the December 9, 2024 Board of Physical Therapy meeting.
- The Board of Physical Therapy has discontinued tracking intramuscular needling endorsement application data.
- Ms. vanHaagen stated it would be useful for the committee to know on an annual basis how many intramuscular needling endorsements have been issued to physical therapists.
- Ms. Barcena will reach out to the HELMS team and Board of Physical Therapy program manager for more details on what intramuscular needling endorsement data will be collected in the new licensing system.
- Ms. Barcena will distribute the Physical Therapist Intramuscular Needling Endorsement Application Packet to the committee members to review.

6. 2025-2027 BUSINESS PLAN – the committee voted to adopt.

- Ms. Barcena provided the committee a copy of the 2025-2027 business plan.
- No suggestions were made by the committee.
- A motion was made to adopt the 2025-2027 business plan.

- The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

7. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT REPORT – information was provided to the committee by the program manager and executive director.

7.1 Interim Operating Budget Report

- Ms. Crawford presented the budget report and answered questions from the committee.

7.2 Updated credentialing and disciplinary report

- Ms. Barcena provided an updated licensing and disciplinary statistics report. The report listed the following:

CREDENTIAL STATUS	AEMP LICENSURE
Active	1,634
Inactive	36
Revoked	3
Voluntary Surrender	3
Suspended	5
Active on Probation	0

7.3 CR 101 Update: WAC 246-803-103 Application requirements for applicants from foreign schools; WAC 246-803-240 Examinations-Occupational English Test

- Ms. Barcena shared the CR-101 package was submitted and is in the internal review process.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND PLANNING FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- Budget report
- HELMS update
- Rules update
- Committee Member Training

8. ADJOURNMENT

- The business meeting was adjourned at 10:24a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025.
- The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 19, 2025.

Updated meeting information will be posted to the Acupuncture and Eastern Medicine practitioner webpage.

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