

Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners
Regular Board Meeting
Friday, October 10, 2025 at 12:00 PM
194 Hernan Cortez Ave. Terlaje Professional Building Ste 209
Hagatna, Guam 96910-5052
Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84591296130?pwd=djdXuPBbqxYzRKtluiSfvU2NgRwivb.1>
Meeting ID: 845 9129 6130
Passcode: 331515

MINUTES

Item		Discussion	Responsible Party	Reporting Timeframe	Status
I	Call to Order	Meeting Chaired by Dr. Balajadia	Chair	1202	Call to Order
	Proof of Publication	10/03/2025 and 10/08/2025 GuamPDN and GovGuam Public Notice Portal	Chair	1204	Confirmed
	Roll Call	GBAHE Members <u>Present:</u> ☒ Dr. Mamie Balajadia, Clinical Psychology, Chair ☒ Vince Pereda, Licensed Mental Health Counselor, Vice-Chair ☒ Rosalind S. Taitingfong, Occupational Therapist, Treasurer ☒ Dr. Dennis Triolo, Audiology ☒ Dr. Velma Harper, Veterinarian ☐ Dr. Gregory Miller, Chiropractic ☐ Catherine San Nicolas, Clinical Dietitian ☐ Gregory Cruz, Respiratory Therapist <u>Virtually Present:</u> ☒ Nadine Cepeda, LPC, LMHC, LMFT, Secretary ☒ Dr. Richard Chong, ACOM Other Attendees <u>Present at HPLO:</u> Kaysie Lee, DPHSS/HPLO <u>Virtually Present:</u> PeterJohn Camacho, DPHSS/HPLO Breanna Sablan, DPHSS/HPLO Julienne Duenas, Public Member Sibyl Crisostomo, Public Member Hiroshi Ishii-Adajar, Public Member Uriah Aguon, Guam PDN Jolene Toves, Guam Daily Post	Chair	1206	Quorum Established
II	Adoption of Agenda	<i>Motion to Adopt the Agenda; N. Cepeda; 2nd: R. Taitingfong.</i>	GBAHE	1204	Unanimously Adopted Agenda
III	Approval of Minutes	Draft Minutes Dated: 09/05/2025 <i>Motion to Approve; N. Cepeda; 2nd: R. Taitingfong.</i>	GBAHE	1204	Unanimously Approved as Amended
IV	Treasurer's Report	As of today, the Contractual Appropriation has been zeroed out. Supplies and Equipment remain unchanged at \$450, as not funds were expended in the last fiscal year. The Miscellaneous and Payments, which covers primarily covers Board stipends, has \$2,325 available. There has been no information from the Department of Administration (DOA). DOA has not provided the Treasurer's reports for the last four months of the previous fiscal year (June-September). The amount remains the same at \$89,799.	R. Taitingfong	1206	Noted

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V	Administrator's Report	No report.	No Report	1220	No Report
VI	GBAHE Complaints	A. GBAHE-CO-22-03 MFT Received 02/21/22 Complaint 2203 MFT has been submitted to Legal Counsel and is currently under review.	Dr. Balajadia	1221	Ongoing, Awaiting Legal Guidance
		B. GBAHE-CO-23-02 Veterinarian Received 12/28/23 Dr. Balajadia explained that procuring essential and miscellaneous services, even locally, remains a significant and challenging bottleneck for the HPLO. This difficulty in securing necessary contracts is currently hindering office functions. Due to the ongoing procurement difficulties, they are continuing to solicit an off-island consultant.	GBAHE		Ongoing, Awaiting Off Island Consultant
		C. GBAHE-CO-23-03 Veterinarian Received 12/28/23 The Board is continuing to solicit an off-island consultant.	GBAHE		Ongoing, Awaiting Off Island Consultant
		D. GBAHE-CO-24-03 SLP Received 08/06/24 N. Cepeda reported she has three initial recommendations regarding 2403. She requested that the Board's Attorney review these recommendations for legal guidance before they are formally presented to the full Board for discussion and a vote. The recommendations will be shared with the Administrator, Breanna, prior to the Board meeting.	N. Cepeda		Ongoing, Further Guidance Needed
		E. GBAHE-CO-25-03 Acupuncture Received 03/28/25 Dr. Balajadia addressed the ongoing discussion regarding, Dr. Hiroshi Ishii-Adajar seeking to use the "Doctor" title publicly. Dr. Balajadia confirmed that Legal Counsel had reviewed the case, affirming the applicant's right to use the title based on the submitted doctoral diploma. However, Dr. Chong, Acupuncture Representative, expressed continued concern over the degree's legitimacy, citing the simultaneous possession of a master's and a doctorate degree as "unusual" and unreasonable. He stated he would contact Five Branches University directly to verify the doctoral program. Dr. Balajadia confirmed that all concerns had already been forwarded to Legal Counsel prior to the issuance of the legal opinion. Given the clear legal affirmation, Dr. Balajadia proposed to close the case, and the motion was opened for formal Board discussion and a vote. <i>Motion to Close; D. Triolo; 2nd: R. Taitingfong</i>	Dr. Balajadia		Ongoing, Pending Legal Guidance
		F. GBAHE-CO-25-08 Veterinarian Received 04/28/25 Dr. Balajadia stated due to a conflict of interest, the GBAHE has reached out to the Territorial Veterinarian to assume responsibility for reviewing the complaint. A formal request was sent, and the Board is currently awaiting the Territorial Veterinarian's confirmation of availability to take on the case.	V. Harper		Ongoing, No Update
		G. GBAHE-CO-25-09 LPC Received 04/29/25 Dr. Balajadia indicated that 2509 is remains pending and is under review. D. Triolo raised a concern regarding the pending SLP complaint, noting that because the board lacks an appointed SLP representative, non-SLP members (like himself, an audiologist) are	Dr. Balajadia		Ongoing, Pending Response or Order

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		reviewing the case. He stressed this presents a "very bad precedent" as he is unqualified to judge an SLP-specific complaint despite signing off on applications. N. Cepeda clarified that the core issue in the complaint is related to ethical conduct and code of conduct violations, not technical specialty qualifications, which makes the case less dependent on SLP clinical expertise. She is seeking legal counsel's guidance before bringing presenting it to the Board. Dr. Triolo agreed to postpone further discussion until the legal input is received but maintained his strong objection to taking final action on a professional complaint without peer review. The Board agreed to ask legal counsel to specifically address whether the current membership has the authority (purview) to rule on this particular case without a dedicated SLP board member.			
VII	OLD Business	A. Updates to Qualification Requirements for Dietitians and Nutritionists (10 GCA CH12, Article 21): On behalf of absent Clinical Dietitian Representative C. San Nicolas, Dr. Balajadia shared with the Board the proposed amendment to the Dietitian/Nutritionist licensing requirements. The amendment is to increase the minimum educational requirement for licensure from a Bachelor's degree to a Master's degree, in alignment with current national standards. This change is being addressed via Bill 197-38, introduced by Senator Jesse Lujan. The Board noted that while the intent is to adopt national standards across all professions, this specific change requires a direct amendment to the law to reflect the master's degree minimum. The current Guam law still stipulates the former, lower qualification.	C. San Nicolas	1237	Noted
VIII	NEW Business	A. Initial/New Applications		1240	
		i. DeBord, Arlene (SLP) (D. Triolo) <i>Motion to Approve; N. Cepeda; 2nd: D. Triolo</i>	GBAHE		Unanimously Approved
		ii. Punprk, Pearl (SLP) (D. Triolo) <i>Motion to Approve; N. Cepeda; 2nd: D. Triolo</i>	GBAHE		
		iii. Shields, Londell (CRT) (G. Cruz) <i>Motion to Approve; N. Cepeda; 2nd: D. Triolo</i>	GBAHE		
		iv. Ormond, Ashley (CP) (M. Balajadia) <i>Motion to Approve; N. Cepeda; 2nd: D. Triolo</i>	GBAHE		
		v. Howard, Roselin (PT) (R. Taitingfong) <i>Motion to Approve; N. Cepeda; 2nd: D. Triolo</i>	GBAHE		
		vi. Arevalo-Alas, Karla (PT) (R. Taitingfong) <i>Motion to Approve; N. Cepeda; 2nd: D. Triolo</i>	GBAHE		
		vii. Garillos, Llewelyn (OT) (R. Taitingfong) <i>Motion to Approve; N. Cepeda; 2nd: D. Triolo</i>	GBAHE		
		viii. Kenny, Kevin (Chiropractic) (G. Miller) <i>Motion to Approve; N. Cepeda; 2nd: D. Triolo</i>	GBAHE		
IX	Next Board Meeting	Announcements – Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: Friday, November 07, 2025 at 12:00 PM.	GBAHE	1244	Set Date
X	Adjournment	<i>Motion to Adjourn: V. Harper; 2nd: R. Taitingfong</i>	GBAHE	1241	Adjourned

Minutes Drafted by: HPLO Staff

Date Submitted: 10/30/2025

Submitted by the GBAHE Secretary:

Date:

Approved by the GBAHE with or without changes:

Date: 11/07/2025

Certified by or Attested by the Chairperson:

Meganie Chalegadia

Date: 11/07/2025