

**Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners  
Regular Board Meeting  
Allied Health Examiners – Regular Board Meeting  
Friday, May 1, 2026 at 12:00 PM  
194 Hernan Cortez Ave., Terlaje Professional Building Suite 209  
Hagatna, Guam 96910  
Join Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84268576050?pwd=mdt8rAeYPO2yoIqKWM8jXI30r7HaML1>  
Meeting ID: 842 6857 6050  
Passcode: 721067**

**MINUTES**

Item	Discussion	Responsible Party	Reporting Timeframe	Status	
<b>I</b>	<b>Call to Order</b>	Meeting Chaired by Dr. Balajadia	Chair	1208	Call to Order
	<b>Proof of Publication</b>	04/24/2026 and 04/29/2026 Guam PDN and the Government of Guam Public Portal	Chair		Confirmed
	<b>Roll Call</b>	<p><b>GBAHE Members</b></p> <p><u>Present:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Mamie Balajadia, Clinical Psychology, Chair</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Velma R. Harper, Veterinarian, Secretary</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Richard Chong, ACOM</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vincent Pereda, Licensed Mental Health Counselor</p> <p><u>Not in Attendance:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nadine T. Cepeda, LPC, LMHC, LMFT, Vice-Chair</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rosalind S. Taitingfong, Occupational Therapist, Treasurer</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gregory J. Cruz, Respiratory Therapist</p> <p><u>Virtually Present:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Julienne Duenas, Physical Therapist</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catherine San Nicolas, Clinical Dietitian</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Gregory Miller, Chiropractic</p>	<p><b>Other Attendees</b></p> <p><u>Present at HPLO:</u></p> <p>Kaysie Lee, DPHSS/HPLO</p> <p>Sibyl Crisostomo, Public</p> <p><u>Virtually Present:</u></p> <p>Breanna Sablan, DPHSS/HPLO</p> <p>Millie Nice, Public</p> <p>Amanda Perez, Public</p> <p>Jordan Tingson, Public</p>	Chair	
<b>II</b>	<b>Adoption of Agenda</b>	<i>Motion to Adopt the Agenda: Dr. Harper; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Miller.</i>	GBAHE	1209	Unanimous Adopted Agenda
<b>III</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	<b>Draft Minutes Dated: April 10, 2026</b> <i>Motion to Approve: Dr. Harper; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Miller.</i>	GBAHE	1210	Unanimous Approved
<b>IV</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	In the absence of the Treasurer, the Board reviewed a report showing that the current balance remained at \$6,435, with no expenditures having been made. Dr. Balajadia noted that further	R. Taitingfong	1211	Noted

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		discussion on the financial report would be deferred until the Treasurer could provide a complete reading.			
V	Administrator's Report	B. Sablan informed the Board that Bills 276-38 and 277-38 concerning acupuncture would be heard for public testimony and public hearing before the Guam Legislature on May 6, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. Members interested in submitting testimony were advised that submission information had been provided via email to Senator Salas-Matanane's office. The Board was also notified that the confirmation hearing for M. Camacho regarding the Speech-Language Pathology membership position on the Board would take place on the same day.	GBAHE	1212	Noted
VI	GBAHE Complaints	A. <b>GBAHE-CO-22-03 MFT Received 02/21/22</b> Still pending legal counsel assistant and awaiting answer or reply from OAG.	Dr. Balajadia	1213	Ongoing, Pending Ref from OAG
		B. <b>GBAHE-CO-23-02 Veterinarian Received 12/28/23</b> Still pending legal counsel assistant and awaiting answer or reply from OAG.	GBAHE		Ongoing, Pending Ref from OAG
		C. <b>GBAHE-CO-23-03 Veterinarian Received 12/28/23</b> Still pending legal counsel assistant and awaiting answer or reply from OAG.	GBAHE		Ongoing, Pending Ref from OAG
		D. <b>GBAHE-CO-24-03 SLP Received 08/06/24</b> Still pending legal counsel assistant and awaiting answer or reply from OAG.	N. Cepeda		Ongoing, Pending Ref from OAG
		E. <b>GBAHE-CO-25-09 LPC Received 04/29/25</b> Still pending legal counsel assistant and awaiting answer or reply from OAG.	Dr. Balajadia		Ongoing, Pending Ref from OAG
VII	Old Business	A. <b>Review of Pending Bills</b>		1213	
		i. <b>Bill No. 276-38: "Relative to including dry needling and spinal manipulation as authorized activities for licensed practitioners of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine"</b> . Dr. Balajadia reiterated information provided in the Administrator's report regarding the public hearing scheduled for May 6, 2026, concerning Bill 276-38, which relates to dry needling and spinal manipulation as authorized activities for licensed practitioners of acupuncture and oriental medicine. The Board was then asked if there were any additional questions regarding the matter.  Dr. Miller raised concerns that this was the third Board meeting in which the matter had been discussed and that a previously approved motion required the Board to withhold any recommendation or action regarding the legislation until adequate proof of education and training in spinal manipulation had been provided by the acupuncture representative, Dr. Chong. It was stated that no sufficient documentation regarding	GBAHE		Ongoing Scheduled Public Hearing for May 6, 2026

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	<p>educational standards, safety standards, or related qualifications had yet been submitted for Board review. As a result, Dr. Miller emphasized that the Board could not formally endorse the bill or take an official position until the required information had been analyzed in accordance with the prior motion. It was further noted that, in the absence of such documentation, concerns remained regarding whether adequate educational preparation existed to support the proposed scope of practice.</p> <p>During the discussion, D. Harper questioned whether proposed legislation was required to receive Board approval prior to submission to the Legislature and suggested that this procedural issue may have contributed to the ongoing confusion. In response, D. Miller clarified that the primary concern centered specifically on the bill authorizing spinal manipulative therapy and the qualifications necessary for an acupuncturist to perform such procedures. D. Miller further explained that the Board was requesting objective proof of adequate education and training standards comparable to established professional benchmarks and reiterated that the requested information had not yet been provided.</p> <p>Dr. Chong stated that supporting information regarding educational qualifications and training had already been provided to the Board and asserted that spinal manipulation was included within the scope of practice under the Allied Health Practice Act for acupuncture and oriental medicine practitioners. Dr. Chong further referenced educational hours completed in Western medicine science and acupuncture-oriented medicine training, maintaining that the practice fell within the profession's recognized modalities and was distinct from chiropractic practice.</p> <p>In response, Dr. Miller reiterated concerns that the Board had not received formal written documentation sufficient to satisfy the previously approved motion requiring proof of education and training standards related to spinal manipulative therapy. It was emphasized that verbal explanations alone were insufficient and that the Board required written analyses, curricula, syllabi, and documentation from accredited educational institutions demonstrating the number of hours and scope of training specifically related to spinal manipulative therapy. Additional discussion focused on the need to compare oriental medicine educational standards with chiropractic standards, particularly because spinal manipulative therapy is recognized under chiropractic law and involves specific educational and clinical requirements.</p>			

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	<p>Dr. Harper raised questions regarding whether the proposed scope expansion sought to duplicate or overlap with chiropractic practice and whether the terminology used in the legislation created confusion between traditional oriental medicine modalities and chiropractic spinal manipulation. Dr. Miller further asserted that any determination by the Board must be based on objective documentation from accredited institutions rather than personal statements regarding qualifications. The Board also discussed obtaining copies of transcripts and related paperwork for formal review.</p> <p>Dr. Chong maintained that acupuncture and oriental medicine practitioners are not chiropractors and therefore should not be held to chiropractic educational standards, emphasizing that spinal manipulation is only one component of broader oriental medicine training. It was further explained that the proposed language was intended to clarify that acupuncture and oriental medicine practitioners may perform spinal manipulation within their existing scope of practice.</p> <p>Dr. Miller concluded with renewed emphasis that the Board’s prior motion required formal written proof and analysis of accredited educational standards before any endorsement or recommendation regarding the bill could be considered. It was reiterated that, until such documentation was submitted and reviewed, the Board could not take an official position on the legislation due to insufficient information regarding qualifications and training standards.</p> <p>Dr. Balajadia reminded that the public hearing would take place the following Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. before the Legislature, and members interested in discussing the matter were encouraged to attend and provide testimony. Dr. Miller indicated that his testimony would reflect the concerns previously discussed by the Board. Dr. Balajadia stated that her attendance at the hearing would be as Board Chair but noted that no official statement or position could be represented on behalf of the Board by her in that capacity.</p>			
VIII	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p><b>A. Initial and New Applications for Licensure</b></p> <p><b>i. Licensed Psychology Associate</b></p>		1227	<p>Ongoing, Scheduled Public Hearing on May 6, 2026</p>
	<p><b>ii. Bill No. 277-38: “Relative to authorizing and regulating Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Assistants”.</b></p> <p>Dr. Balajadia noted that the scheduled legislative public hearing would be held on Wednesday, May 6 at 1:00 p.m. at the Legislature and Congress Building under the Health Committee chaired by Senator S. Salas-Salas-Matanane.</p>			

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		a) <b>Otero, Christopher</b> <i>Motion to Approve: V. Pereda; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Harper.</i>	GBAHE		Unanimous Approved
		<b>B. Approval of Clinical Supervisors</b>			
		i. <b>Licensed Professional Counselor</b>			
		a) <b>Delos Reyes, Beverly Grace (LPC-147) Proposed Supervisee(s):</b> • Nice, Millie <i>Motion to Approve: V. Pereda; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Harper.</i>			Unanimous Approved
<b>IX</b>	<b>Next Board Meeting</b>	Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting: <b>Friday, June 12, 2026 at 12:00 PM.</b>	GBAHE	1231	Set Date
<b>X</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>	<i>Motion to Adjourn: Dr. Harper; 2<sup>nd</sup>: V. Pereda.</i>	GBAHE	1232	Adjourned

Minutes Drafted by: FLAME TREE Freedom Center, Inc.

Date Submitted: 05/15/2026

Submitted by the GBAHE Secretary:

Date:

Approved by the GBAHE with or without changes:

Date: 06/12/2026

Certified by or Attested by the Chairperson:

*Manie Obalagada*

Date: 06/12/2026