



Meeting Minutes



Meeting Title:	Mississippi Council of Advisors in Occupational Therapy Meeting	
Meeting Location:	Zoom - CC/PL Conference Room – 143B LeFleurs Square, Jackson, MS 39211	
Meeting Date:	January 14, 2026	
Time:	1:00 P.M.	
Called to Order:	1:03 P.M. by Dr. Cole, Quorum was established.	
Next Meeting Date/Time/Location:	29 April 2026 1:00 P.M. Zoom - CC/PL Conference Room / 143B LeFleurs Square, Jackson, MS 39211	
Meeting Adjourned	1:34 P.M.	
Attendees:	<u>Council Members Present</u> Cynthia Cochran Foster Maurice Allen Kristy Cole Cheri Harbour	<u>Council Members Absent</u> Cynthia Senior
	<u>MSDH Staff Present</u> Amirah Saleem Felicia Wang	
	<u>Attending Via Phone Conference</u>	
	<u>Members of the Public Present</u>	



Meeting Minutes



	New Business	NOTES
1.	Approval of January 15, 2025 minutes	A motion was made by Ms. Cochran and seconded by Ms. Harbour to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2026 meeting. The motion passed.
2.	Election of Officers	Mr. Allen volunteered for chairperson. A motion was made by Ms. Cochran, and seconded by Ms. Harbour. The motion passed for Mr. Allen as chairperson for 2027. Mr. Allen nominated Ms. Cochran for secretary, and made a motion. Ms. Harbour seconded the motion. The motion passed for Ms. Cochran as secretary for 2027.
3.	Reappointments/Nominations	Ms. Wang informed the Council that Dr. Peter Giroux, president of MSOTA has nominated Alicia Knotts for the public member position, and has sent a letter of recommendation on behalf of MSOTA. Ms. Wang will be reaching out to Ms. Knotts for an interest statement and CV. Ms. Wang also informed the Council that both Ms. Harbour and Dr. Cole's 2 nd terms will be ending 12/31/2026, and the Council will need nominations for replacements, and if the Council has nominations, to provide me with contact information so the individual can be reached, or have the nominee send their interest statement and current CV. The Department will need a letter of recommendation for new nominees from MSOTA.
4.	Compact Update	Ms. Wang informed the Council that MSDH is current in beta testing with Compact Connect, and once that process is finalized, Mississippi can go live with offering and accepting privileges. Three (3) states are currently operationalized: Minnesota, Ohio, and West Virginia.
5.	Renewal Reminder	Ms. Saleem informed the Council of the upcoming renewal that will open on March 1, 2026, and both OTs and OTAs will be able to renew online until April 30, 2026. Ms. Wang informed the Council that a renewal reminder will go out to the email address on file to the licensees on March 1, 2026. Dr. Cole states that MSOTA also provides a reminder as well.
6.	Complaint	Ms. Wang informed the Council there have been no complaints.

	Old Business	NOTES
1.		
2.		
3.		

Minutes Submitted by:



Meeting Minutes



	Public Comments	NOTES
1.		
2.		
3.		

	Other Business	NOTES
1.	NBCOT presentation	Ms. Wang informed the Council that Francielle Pineda reached out to MSDH for a NBCOT update presentation. If the Council is interested, MSDH will let her know for a future date.
2.	Dry Needling	Dr. Cole stated that the requirements for dry needling will need to be updated in the Regulations, and the Council members will meet to discuss and provide proposed updates to MSDH at the next scheduled meeting.
3.		

Kristy Cole

Council Chairperson

Felicia Wang

MSDH Representative

04/29/2026

Date