

**Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists
Minutes of August 13, 2010 Board Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 8:35 a.m. and adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

Members Present: Ryan Melton, LPC, Chair Julia Smith, LPC Nila Epstein, LMFT	Linda Gray, LPC, Vice Chair LeeAnne Wichmann, LMFT Elizabeth Hartshorn, LPC
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Others Present: Becky Eklund, Executive Dir. Brian Johnson, Board Staff Lonnie Knotts, Board Staff	Kelly Gabliks, AAG Opal Bontrager, DAS/SCS Suzanne Primm, DAS/SCS
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Not Present: Suzan Turley, Public Member

PUBLIC SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists was called to order by Chair Ryan Melton pursuant to ORS 192.660(3) at 8:35 a.m. in the first floor large conference room of the Morrow Crane Building, 3218 Pringle Road SE, Salem, Oregon.

Becky Eklund joined the meeting by phone at 8:45 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES

Julia Smith moved and Linda Gray seconded a motion to remove the names of individuals disclosed in the compliance section of the minutes for June 4, 2010.

At a future Board meeting, Board Members would like to re-visit and discuss the supervision requirement for interns who have completed their hours.

LeeAnne Wichmann moved and Nila Epstein seconded a motion to remove the name of an individual on the June 12, 2009 minutes who was placed into the impaired professional program. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board directed staff, in the future, to remove all names from the compliance/discipline area of the Board's minutes and that case numbers would be used to identify the cases.

Nila Epstein moved and Linda Smith seconded a motion to approve the minutes, with corrections, for the April 2, 2010 and June 4, 2010 Board meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Opal Bontrager, the accountant assigned to the Board from the Department of Administrative Services, presented the financial report. Ms. Bontrager has accepted a new job and introduced Suzanne Primm as the Board's temporary accountant.

Ms. Eklund informed the Board that the limitation of expenditures set forth by the legislature will be surpassed as a result of the costs associated with the criminal background checks and attorney general costs. Ms. Eklund stated that there may be a need to go before the legislative Emergency Board in December to request an increase in the Board's expenditure limitation.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Reciprocity work group

Ms. Eklund reported that the work group was making progress and at the next meeting recommendations would be prepared for the full board's review and action. The reciprocity work group is also looking at the National Credentials Registry. The registry is administered by the American Association of State Counseling Boards. The registry would gather and qualify applicants for licensure. When an applicant applies to a state for licensure the registry would forward their documentation to the state board. The work group is looking at how closely the registry's requirements are to Oregon's requirements for licensure and is conducting research before making a recommendation to the Board regarding whether to accept for licensure those individuals who meet the registry's requirements.

Supervisor registry

Ms. Eklund reported that the examination and application for the supervisor registry are being finalized. The application has been sent to a test group of supervisors for comment. Once the application is finalized an email will be sent, notifying licensees that they can apply to be placed on the Board's registry.

SUPERVISOR TRAINING CONTENT

The Board discussed guidelines for supervisor training. The Board directed that the guidelines be placed on the Board's website and sent to the colleges and universities in Oregon that provide supervisor training.

2011-13 AGENCY BUDGET REQUEST

Ms. Eklund summarized the 2011-13 agency request budget. The budget includes a full-time investigator position, a half-time clerical position and a request for approval of the fee increase to cover criminal background checks. Ms. Eklund explained the budget process to the Board. Ms. Eklund also reported that the current Governor is considering combining health licensing boards. Several work groups are exploring the possibility of combining the boards. Board Member Elizabeth Hartshorn asked to be part of the Department of Justice work group.

2010 CUSTOMER SERVICE SURVEY RESULTS

The Board and Ms. Eklund were happy with the increased number of positive comments from the 2010 customer service survey. Ms. Eklund asked if there were any comments from the survey that the Board would like staff to follow-up with. The biggest issue brought up by the survey was difficulty finding information on the Board's website. The Board directed staff to work towards making the website easier to negotiate. The Board recommended that Ms.

Eklund contact the local colleges and universities to find a student who may be willing to donate time to help with the website. Another issue of concern from the survey is the posting of the Board's minutes. The Board asked that the procedures for posting the meeting minutes be explained on the website. The Board asked Ms. Eklund to compare previous surveys for the Board to review.

REVIEW OF BOARD-APPROVED GRADUATE PROGRAMS

The work group currently consists of Ryan Melton and Julia Smith. The Board reviewed the notes and questionnaire developed by the work group. The Board agreed that by the end of September, the questionnaire should be sent to five board-approved programs that are not nationally accredited.

The Board discussed the merits of putting information on the website that may assist potential students in selecting a graduate program. The information would include questions that may be asked to help assist in the selection process. Ms. Eklund volunteered to put something together for the Board's review.

The Board discussed the merits of online graduate programs and CACREP accreditation. Ms. Eklund relayed that the director of CACREP stated that there is no "CACREP equivalent" and that the term should not be used.

LICENSE STANDARDS FOR COUNSELOR-EDUCATORS

The Board discussed the merits of licensing counselor-educators. The Board decided that a work group should be formed to look at the issue and to report back to the Board with their findings. Ryan Melton and Julia Smith volunteered to be part of the work group. Ms. Eklund will send invitations to Oregon Board approved schools asking for volunteers for the work group.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Department of Human Services has scheduled a meeting to discuss a "step down" version of an impaired professional program. The meeting is scheduled for September 30 and Ms. Eklund will attend.

Ms. Eklund will attend a workshop scheduled for Friday, October 1 entitled Rumors and Reports, Ethics, Professional Relationships and Oregon law. The presenters asked Ms. Eklund to be part of the workshop and to explain the Board's reasons for not participating in the Impaired Professional Program. The workshop is for LPCs, LMFTs, LCSWs, and other professionals. Ms. Eklund will report on the content of the workshop at the October Board meeting.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

Brian Johnson asked the Board for direction regarding a registered intern applicant's start date. Staff has been backdating the start date and not allowing the criminal background check to interfere with the intern's ability to collect clinical hours. The Board directed staff to continue the practice of not allowing the criminal background checks to interfere with the collection of hours and supervision.

BREAK: 10:10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board convened in Executive Session at 10:28 a.m. to discuss complaints and investigations under ORS 192.660(2)(k).

BREAK: 12:20 p.m.

RECONVEYED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION: 12:44 p.m.

PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened in Public Session at 1:24 p.m.

COMPLIANCE ISSUES

The Board took the following actions on license applications and compliance cases:

Resolved: Case #2009-012 – Julia Smith moved and Linda Gray seconded a motion for a final order by default and to deny license renewal. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2009-014 – LeeAnne Wichmann moved and Nila Epstein seconded a motion to accept the settlement agreement and stipulated final order. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2009-025 – Nila Epstein moved and LeeAnne Wichmann seconded the motion to accept the final order by default imposing discipline set forth in the notice. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2009-029 – LeeAnne Wichmann moved and Julia Smith seconded the motion for a final order of default revoking her license. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2010-006 – LeeAnne Wichmann moved and Linda Gray seconded the motion for a final order of default denying licensure as a LPC and LMFT. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2010-007 – Nila Epstein moved and LeeAnne Wichmann seconded the motion to impose discipline in the form of supervision and ethics training. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2010-009 – Linda Gray moved and Julia Smith seconded the motion to dismiss the case. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2010-012 – LeeAnne Wichmann moved and Linda Gray seconded the motion to dismiss the case. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2010-014 – Julia Smith moved and LeeAnne Wichmann seconded the motion to impose discipline in the form of a written reprimand and training on mandatory reporting of child abuse. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2010-017 – LeeAnne Wichmann moved and Julia Smith seconded the motion to dismiss the case. The motion passed unanimously

Resolved: Case #2010-019 – Linda Gray moved and LeeAnne Wichmann seconded a motion to impose discipline in the form of an assessment for fitness to duty, supervision and ethics training. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2010-020 – Nila Epstein moved and LeeAnne Wichmann seconded the motion to dismiss the case. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Case #2010-021 – LeeAnne Wichmann moved and Julia Smith seconded the motion to dismiss the case. The motion passed unanimously

Resolved: Case #2010-031 – Linda Gray moved and LeeAnne Wichmann seconded the motion to dismiss the case; to issue a letter of concern; and, to issue a license. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff requested an extension for the investigation in cases #2010-016, #2010-018, #2010-023, #2010-024, #2010-025, #2010-026, #2010-027, #2010-028, #2010-029, #2010-030 and #2010-032 due to caseload. Julia Smith moved and Nila Epstein seconded the motion to grant an extension for investigation. The motion passed unanimously.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Michael Hammond – Mr. Hammond wrote a letter to the Board regarding his application for renewal of license. The Board will send a letter to Mr. Hammond upholding the expiration of his license.

Carol Gray – Ms. Gray requested that the Board reconsider the denial of her intern hours. LeeAnne Wichmann moved and Linda Gray seconded a motion denying Carol Gray's intern hours.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ryan Melton adjourned the meeting at 1:51 p.m.