

Minutes
Arkansas Psychology Board
101 East Capitol, Suite 415
Board Room
February 20, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Russell Dixon, Chair, at 9:00 a.m.

Board Members present: Dr. Betty Davis, Dr. Sabra Hassel, Dr. J. Stephen Holt, Dr. Steven Shry, and Mr. Dwight Sowell.

Staff Members present: Mr. James Ammel, Mr. Asheton Carter, Ms. Janet Welsh, and Ms. Rebecca Wright.

Guests present: Ms. Stacy Dixon, Dr. Robert Doyle, and Ms. Elizabeth Glenn.

Meeting Agenda

Dr. Russell Dixon presented the agenda. The motion to accept the agenda passed unanimously.

Minutes

Dr. Dixon presented the January 16, 2004 minutes. Dr. Steven Shry made a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. Stephen Holt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. James Ammel presented the action item complaint reports with a motion to accept case recommendations.

Complaint #01-01 Advisory: A hearing is being scheduled for 3/19/04. Be sure to plan on attending that Board meeting.

Publication of Disciplinary Matters: As a means of informing the public, as well as educating the licensed population, the Screening Committee is recommending that all disciplinary actions taken by the Board be published in the Board's Newsletter. This would include both serious national disciplinary databank reportable resolutions (revocations and suspensions) and lesser-sanctioned matters (letters of reprimand and caution, cease-and-desist advisements, required continuing education, etc.). It would also encompass both heard matters and those resolved through Consent Orders. In other words, any matter found to involve an ethical and /or statutory violation, accompanied by any type of applied sanction or required corrective action, would appear in these

published reports. A summarizing report of such disciplinary actions would appear in each Newsletter issue (covering all actions transpired since the previous issue), with any resolved matter still being subject to a potential appeal being duly noted. Respondents and the case numbers would be identified in the reports, and it would be noted that the case files are subject to application of the FOIA. Within each issue's report, the matters might or might not be grouped into the levels of severity of the disciplinary sanctions involved. The reporting process, if approved by the Board, would commence with the next Newsletter issue to be published after the approval. Dr. Sabra Hassel made a motion to form a Rule and a policy to announce and publish disciplinary actions by print and electronic means. Dr. Betty Davis seconded the motion. Dr. Holt made an amendment that the publications include names and incidents with reportable and non-reportable actions that required corrective action. Dr. Shry seconded the motion. The amended motion passed unanimously. The motion passed unanimously.

Privacy/Confidentiality of Disciplinary Matters: The Screening Committee has been advised by our AG Rep that it could be possible to legislatively amend our licensing statutes to incorporate a provision making preliminary investigative matters and unfounded complaint files an exclusion to the FOIA and thereby keep those matters confidential or private. The Committee suggests that such an amendment be considered and potentially pursued whenever any other amendment(s) to the statutes are under consideration by the legislature. Discussion followed. Dr. Dixon suggested that the Board formulate a policy at the next Board meeting for the next legislative session. No action was taken at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Newsletter

Dr. Dixon stated that Mr. James Ammel's article would be included in the next newsletter. Due to the items of the Complaint Committee report and the motions passed, no disciplinary article will be included. Ms. Janet Welsh's article welcoming new Board member, Dr. Sabra Hassel, will be included in the newsletter. Dr. Holt stated that he would write an article addressing dual licensure in Arkansas.

Oral Examination Questions

Dr. Dixon suggested that Board members have new oral examination questions for the July Board meeting.

Reschedule April Oral Examination Date

The April Board meeting/oral examination will be moved to April 30, 2004.

NEW BUSINESS**Continuing Education Appeals**

Bo Thomas would like to appeal the CEU delinquency fee. He submitted his CEUs after the January 15 deadline. Mr. Dwight Sowell made a motion to collect the fee. Dr. Hassel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Anne Carico would like a four-week extension to submit her CEUs. She will still be required to submit all supporting documentation and to pay the delinquency fee. Dr. Holt made a motion to grant the four-week extension. Dr. Shry seconded the motion. Mr. Sowell opposed. The motion passed.

ArPA Meetings/Luncheons

Dr. Hassel would like to discuss the Board's policies at various ArPA luncheons and meetings, with the support of the Board. The members agreed that she represent the Board concerning its policies.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business at this time.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.