

Minutes
Arkansas Psychology Board
101 East Capitol, Suite 415
Board Room
January 21, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

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

Board Members present: Dr. Betty Davis, Dr. Russell Dixon, Dr. Sabra Hassel, Mr. Larry Lawrence, Mr. Dwight Sowell, and Dr. Michael Wyrick.

Staff Members present: Ms. Amy Ford, Ms. Janet Welsh, and Ms. Rebecca Wright.

Guests present: Dr. Robert Doyle.

Meeting Agenda

Dr. Shry presented the agenda. Dr. Sabra Hassel requested that FOIA clarification be added to Old Business. Dr. Betty Davis made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Larry Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board agreed to approach the agenda items out of order.

Minutes

Dr. Shry presented the December 17, 2004 minutes and the January 12, 2005 conference call minutes. Dr. Michael Wyrick made a motion to approve each of the minutes. Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion. Mr. Dwight Sowell abstained. The motion passed.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Complaint #04-02 Action: The Board previously derived a “minimally acceptable” set of sanctions that could be used in a negotiated resolution. Respondent has rejected that proposal, so this matter should now be set for a hearing to determine the appropriate sanction, if any, to be applied to the Respondent for the admitted violation. The Committee recommends that the hearing be scheduled for April 2005.

OLD BUSINESS

Criminal Background Checks – Legislative Bill Draft

The Board received before the Board meeting, by electronic mail, the final draft of the Criminal Background Legislative Bill. Discussion followed. The two main changes of the background check procedure would include broadening background checks and requiring re-checks of licensees. Dr. Hassel stated that this change might have come about due to homeland security issues. She stated that many other professions have stricter rules and regulations and there could be an issue for psychologists to maintain the same level of security. The Board agreed that it should consider the opinions of the licensees. Dr. Wyrick made a motion to withdraw the Board's pursuant of the Bill so the Board could get more information and to have input from the licensees. Dr. Russell Dixon seconded the motion. The vote was held in abeyance until Amy Ford, Assistant Attorney General to the Board, arrived and could make any clarifications. Ms. Ford stated that the Board is not obligated to accept the Bill at this time. After brief discussion, the Board voted on the previously stated motion. The motion passed unanimously.

GL Suite Database Update

Ms. Janet Welsh stated that GL Suite is one month behind in getting the specifications for the new database. She stated that a new deadline of mid-February has been set to be ready for testing.

Licensure Fees for FY06

Mr. Sowell stated that he would like to see the licensure fees lowered this year because of the amount in reserve. Ms. Welsh stated that although the Board has a reserve, it is not easily appropriated to use. Dr. Hassel made a motion that the Board needed more information about how to use the reserve funds. Dr. Wyrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Clarification

Ms. Ford stated that any Board business is subject to FOIA. That includes all electronic mails and phone calls. If the Board has an issue that requires a vote, a date must be set and notice to the public of the meeting must be sent out. Any discussion of an issue between two Board members is allowed. The discussion can then be brought to the full Board at the next scheduled meeting. The Board staff will continue with the standard practice of keeping records.

Interim Study Update

The last meeting of the interim study was held on December 20, 2004. The study was concluded at that time. The report is in legislative committee at this time and will be written into bill format. Dr. Dixon made a motion that the Board hold a conference call within 48 hours of the bill receiving a number to determine if the Board should take a position. Dr. Wyrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

ASPPB Fellow Nomination: Susan Holt, Ph.D.

ASPPB Ming Fisher Award Nomination: Ms. Janet Welsh

Dr. Steve Holt submitted to the Board his nomination of Dr. Susan Holt for the ASPPB Fellow position.

Dr. Holt submitted to the Board his nomination of Janet Welsh for the ASPPB Ming Fisher Award.

Dr. Dixon made a motion to accept the nominations. Dr. Wyrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The nominations must be submitted to ASPPB by March 2005.

Set Hearing Date in April for Complaint #04-02

The Board set a date for the hearing for Complaint # 04-02. The hearing will be scheduled for April 14, 2005. Dr. Dixon will recuse himself from the hearing.

Application for Supervisor Status

E. Knowles: Dr. Wyrick made a motion to accept Dr. Knowles for supervisor status. Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion. Dr. Dixon called the question. The motion passed unanimously.

Provisional License Extension Request

C. George: Ms. George requested a provisional license extension. She will be taking the EPPP in February or March 2005. Dr. Dixon approved the request pending the passing of the exam. If Ms. George does not pass the exam, the provisional license extension will not stand. Dr. Wyrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Request for Independent Practice of Group Therapy

A. Prather: Dr. Prather requested independent practice of group therapy. Mr. Lawrence made a motion to approve the request. Dr. Wyrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Travel to ASPPB Midyear Meeting: Portland, OR

Ms. Welsh stated that the ASPPB Midyear meeting would be held in Portland, OR from April 7 – 10, 2005. She stated that she would attend. Dr. Dixon and Mr. Lawrence stated that they would attend. Dr. Dixon stated that if there are not enough funds for travel, he

would not attend. Dr. Hassel made a motion to approve the tentative attendees to travel to the Midyear meeting. Dr. Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Disciplinary Hearing: C. Powers

Dr. Dixon made a motion that any Continuing Education Units (CEUs) that do not have proper documentation will not be accepted. Dr. Wyrick seconded the motion. Dr. Hassel opposed. The motion passed.

Dr. Dixon made a motion that Dr. Powers submit the remaining CEUs needed for 2002-2003 over the next six months, and to provide proper documentation for each activity, by July 31, 2005. If Dr. Powers fails to meet these requirements by the deadline, her license will be immediately suspended. Dr. Hassel seconded the motion. Mr. Sowell abstained stating lack of knowledge. The motion passed.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the new Chair adjourned the meeting.