

Minutes
Arkansas Psychology Board
101 East Capitol, Suite 415
Board Meeting
June 19, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The Arkansas Psychology Board meeting was called to order by the Chair of the Board, Dr. Edward Kleitsch, at 10:05 AM.

ROLL CALL

Board Members present: Ms. Dixie Bryson, Dr. Betty Everett, Dr. Joyce Fowler (via telephone), Mr. Skip Hoggard, Dr. Edward Kleitsch, and Dr. Kevin Reeder.

Board Members excused: Dr. Art Gillaspay and Dr. Jawahar Mehta.

Board Members absent: Ms. Sharon Hoehn.

Staff Members present: Mr. James Ammel, Ms. Maggie Spomer and Ms. Amber Collins-England. Mr. Edward Armstrong was present as the Board's Attorney General Representative.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Betty Everett made a motion to amend the agenda to include information regarding postdoctoral trainees at UAMS. Ms. Bryson also made a motion to amend the agenda to include seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

Dr. Betty Everett made a motion to approve the April 17, 2015 and May 15, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes. Ms. Dixie Bryson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM THE COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

(submitted by Mr. Ammel)

C-14-06 [Rec'd 10/06/14] James H. Eastlick, Jr. 97-23P ADVISORY ITEM

COMPLAINANT: Anonymous.

RESPONDENT: An Arkansas-licensed psychologist who practiced only with an American-Indian population in Montana pleaded guilty to several federal felonies that were listed in the licensing statutes as precluding the holding of the Arkansas license. The type of felonies allowed a request for waiver of the license-preclusion if submitted

within 30 days to the Board. No such waiver request was received within that specified time period.

STATUS:By operation of law, Dr. Eastlick's license has been automatically revoked and he will be removed from APB's database as a licensed psychologist.

C-14-09 [Rec'd 12/19/14] ADVISORY ITEM

COMPLAINANTS: A husband and wife who had been accused of child abuse of several adopted children were court-ordered to be psychologically evaluated. They alleged that the examiner's report violated a number of ethical Standards.

RESPONDENT:The psychologist who conducted the examinations of both complainants. [The psychologist is not being identified herein inasmuch as the Board approved the dismissal of the complaint.]

STATUS:Most of the allegations did not actually implicate any ethical Standard under which disciplinary action could be taken. The only potentially viable allegation involved the use of an assessment instrument that required an 8th-grade reading level but another academic achievement screening instrument indicated that the husband only had a word-recognition grade level of 5th grade. Profiles of the test in question and of another test that had reliable validity scales were requested, and APB's Chair (also being on the Screening Committee) opined that there was no indication of random responding in either profile or any other indication of a failure to understand the test-in-question content. Accordingly, the Committee recommended that the case be dismissed for failure to substantiate any of the alleged ethical violations. The Board adopted that recommendation at its June meeting and the parties have been advised of that result thereafter.

C-15-01 Stanley Rest 94-31P UPDATE

STATUS:This case involving a second-time offender of ethical violations that included 3.02 (Sexual Harassment, 3.04 (Avoiding Harm), 3.05(a) Multiple Relationships, 3.08 (Exploitative Relationships), and 10.05 (Sexual Intimacies With Current Clients/Patients) was approved by the Board in its April meeting to be resolved by a Consent Order that required surrender of the psychologist's license. The psychologist accepted that resolution and the Consent Order was fully endorsed and became effective on or about June 16, 2015.

C-15-02 [Rec'd 03/30/15] ADVISORY ITEM

COMPLAINANT:A mother of several children under DHS' jurisdiction and who was permitted supervised visitation alleged that Respondent had physically assaulted her after one of the visits by the Respondent therapist of the children when she had tried to present some gifts for the eldest child. The Division of Children and Family Services had directed that that child was not to receive such gifts. The mother thereafter filed an

Incident Report with the local police department. [The mother had originally sent her complaint to the Counseling Board and subsequently incorrectly represented the Respondent as a psychologist.]

RESPONDENT: An LPEI who was the children's therapist. The Respondent is not being identified herein inasmuch as the Board approved dismissal of the complaint.]

STATUS: According to the documentary evidence supplied by the Respondent, the LPEI was accompanied by a member of DCFS' staff who confirmed that all of the allegations were false. No police follow up occurred. Complainant's motion to have the Respondent removed by the circuit court that ordered the visitation to be supervised was denied by that court. The Screening Committee discerned that there was no ethical Standard implicated by the complaint and recommended to the Board that this matter be dismissed as not substantiating any violation. After full discussion of the evidence and finding the Respondent's account of the incident to be credible, the Board adopted the Committee's recommendation that there was no probable cause for a finding of any violation and the complaint was dismissed.

C-15-05 [Rec'd 05/20/15] ADVISORY ITEM

COMPLAINANT: A client of the Arkansas Career Training Institute complained that a comment by his therapist about his reaction to the suicide of his son in 2013 was very unprofessional and wanted the Respondent to be reprimanded. The date of the comment was not indicated.

RESPONDENT: A psychologist who had taken over responsibility for the therapy of the client and made the comment alleged to be unprofessional. [Respondent is not being identified herein inasmuch as the Board approved dismissal of the complaint.]

STATUS: While the comment did appear to be insensitive, it could not be determined whether the psychologist's comment about the Complainant's grieving process was part of a therapeutic technique or not. Nevertheless, the Screening Committee could not discern any ethical Standard being implicated that would pertain to the comment had it been only insensitive or unprofessional. Accordingly, the Committee recommended to the Board that this complaint be dismissed for failure to allege facts that could subject the Respondent to any disciplinary action, and the Board adopted that recommendation.

Recess/Reconvene

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:40 am

The Board reconvened at 12:25 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Jessica Miller resubmitted a clarification letter due to confusion regarding the actual number of supervised hours that complies with the Rules and Regulations toward becoming a Licensed Psychological Examiner – Independent. Mr. Reeder made a motion to approve the request. Dr. Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel Committee

Dr. Fowler notified the Board that the Personnel Committee did not meet this month and therefore has no report.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Hoggard informed the Board that the available budget was \$27,573.08 for the remainder of the fiscal year and that the Board continues to operate within its budget.

Director's Report

Ms. Sponer notified the Board that the Arkansas Crime Information Center (ACIC) scheduled an audit with the Board office on May 26, 2015. The ACIC Agent, Ms. Ward, conducted the audit and has supplied an audit report for the Board to review. There are a few areas that the Board was not in compliance with. These areas consist of Board Members and anyone having access to licensure files with criminal background history to have had the appropriate training. Not all of the Board members have taken the online training. There were recommendations from Ms. Ward that the Board office will be implementing. Finally, Ms. Ward notified Ms. Sponer that the Federal audit will be sometime the beginning of 2016. She will notify us of the exact date once it has been scheduled.

Ms. Sponer requested approval from the Board to sign a contract with GL Suites for maintenance on the database to begin July 1, 2015. The request was approved.

In addition, Ms. Sponer notified the Board that the question of whether University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) should have their Post-Doctoral Interns continue to operate as they did during their Pre-Doctoral Internship until their Provisional License is approved or does the Board recommend another option for the period of time until approval. Ms. Sponer requested clarification regarding Post-Doctoral Interns with UAMS. These Post-Doctoral Interns are awaiting approval from the Board to become Provisionally Licensed and to begin their 2,000 supervised hours; however, there is a short time between when their Internship ends and they get approved for Provisional License. The Board agreed that UAMS should continue to treat these Post-Doc Interns as they are still under their program of training until their Provisional Licensure Status may be approved.

Finally, Ms. Sponer informed the Board that a new Senior Citizen Representative had been appointed to the Board and that the Administrative Specialist III, Ms. Amber England, would be leaving the Board office on June 26, 2015. The Hiring Freeze request has already been submitted to the Office of Personnel Management (OSP) for approval and then will be forwarded to the Governor for approval.

Begin accruing 3,000 hours towards Independent Status

Ms. Tiffanie Bufford submitted a revised Statement of Intent along with a Supervision Agreement and Plan to begin accruing 3,000 towards Independent Status indicating Dr. Chrystal McChristian as her Primary Supervisor. Mr. Hoggard made a motion to approve this request. Ms. Dixie Bryson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Completion of 3,000 hours towards Independent Status

Ms. Rhonda Blackwell submitted her Licensee Supervision Completion – PE Independent Practice and Statement of Intent to Practice as a Licensed Psychological Examiner – Independent to the Board for consideration. Dr. Betty Everett made a motion to approve the request. Ms. Dixie Bryson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cassandra Ingram submitted her Licensee Supervision Completion – PE Independent Practice and Statement of Intent to Practice as a Licensed Psychological Examiner – Independent to the Board for consideration. Dr. Betty Everett made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Skip Hoggard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Karen Rhinehart submitted her Licensee Supervision Completion – PE Independent Practice and Statement of Intent to Practice as a Licensed Psychological Examiner – Independent to the Board for consideration. Ms. Dixie Bryson made a motion to approve the request. Dr. Betty Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Letters Requesting One-Time Consultation

Dr. Ashley Stewart submitted a letter to the Board indicating that she performed a forensic evaluation and has now been subpoenaed to testify from May 26, 2015 to May 28, 2015. Ms. Bryson made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Hoggard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Licensee Request

Ms. Melanie Lassiter requested the Board allow her to pay all renewal fees and retain Inactive Status until she gets up to date and is able to return to Active Status due to several medical occurrences over the last few years. The Board agreed to have Ms. Lassiter make payments over the course of 12 months totaling \$ 775 to ensure Ms. Lassiter's license is current.

Request for Possible CEU Hours

Dr. Mark Cunningham submitted three publications for consideration for continuing education. The Board approved eleven (11) total credit hours. Four (4) credits were approved for each of the two (2) chapters in edited books and three (3) credits were given for the case reports, teaching points, profiles and other commentary.

Rules and Regulations Clarification

Ms. Bryson informed the Board of an inconsistency in the Rules and Regulations that was brought to her attention and she is requesting clarification. She notified the Board that section 5.4(F) states:

5.4. F. Internship. To become licensed as a Psychologist in Arkansas, a minimum of two (2) years of qualified experience is required, one of which must be post doctoral.

Further along, section 5.4(F)(2)(g) states:

5.4. F. (2) (g) At least 25 percent of the intern's time must be in direct patient contact (minimum 375 hours).

Ms. Bryson pointed out that 25 % of 2,000 hours should be 500 not 325. The Board agreed with Ms. Bryson and indicated that this is an editorial oversight from when the Rules and Regulations were last updated.

Statement of Intent Revision

Ms. Alice Keener submitted a new Statement of Intent adding “adults” to her populations to be served. Mr. Hoggard made a motion to approve the request. Dr. Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Supervision Agreement and Plan

Ms. Sarah Murray submitted a Supervision Agreement and Plan indicating Dr. Chrystal McChristian as her New Primary Supervisor. She also revised her Statement of Intent to include “Family Therapy”. Dr. Reeder made a motion to approve the request. Ms. Bryson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Maureen Ryan-McGehee submitted a Supervision Agreement and Plan indicating Dr. Ronald Bramlett as her New Primary Supervisor. Mr. Hoggard made a motion to approve the request. Ms. Bryson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Supervisory Status

Dr. James M. Fuendeling submitted all necessary documentation to be considered for Supervisory Status. Dr. Everett made a motion to approve Dr. Fuendeling's Supervisory Status. Dr. Reeder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CREDENTIAL REVIEW

The Credential Review Committee made a fully seconded motion to approve the following credentials:

1. Dr. Christie Gardner's credentials were submitted to the Board for consideration as an Applicant Psychologist.
2. Dr. Rebecca Wallace's credentials were submitted to the Board for consideration as an Applicant Psychologist.

The Board approved the above credential review candidates.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

The Credential Review Committee made a fully seconded motion to approve the following Quarterly Report forms:

1. Ms. Sunnie Butcher-Keller's Quarterly Report for the period of February 2015 – April 2015.
2. Mr. James Carpenter's Quarterly Report for the period of January 1, 2015 – April 9, 2015.
3. Dr. Andrew Cohen's Quarterly Report for the period of January 2015 – April 2015.
4. Dr. Sufna John's Quarterly Report for the period of January 3, 2015 – April 3, 2015.
5. Ms. Sarah Murray's Quarterly Report for the period of February 20, 2015 – May 4, 2015.
6. Dr. Elizabeth Stout's Quarterly Report for the period of February 12, 2015 – May 12, 2015.
7. Dr. Kathy White's Quarterly Report for the period of February 21, 2015 – May 21, 2015.
8. Dr. Ashlie Williams' Quarterly Report for the period of January 1, 2015 – March 31, 2015.

The Board approved all of the above quarterly reports.

Dr. Kaye Ramsay's Quarterly Report for the periods July 2014 – March 2015. The Board requested that Dr. Ramsey resubmit these Quarterly Report forms with clarification as to why they are past due.

ADJOURN

Ms. Dixie Bryson made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Skip Hoggard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Board adjourned at 2:15 pm.