

Minutes
Arkansas Psychology Board
101 East Capitol, Suite 415
Board Meeting
October 16, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The Arkansas Psychology Board meeting was called to order by the Chair of the Board, Dr. Edward Kleitsch, at 10:14 AM.

ROLL CALL

Board Members present: Ms. Dixie Bryson, Dr. Betty Everett, Dr. Joyce Fowler, Dr. Art Gillaspay, Ms. Sharon Hoehn, Mr. Skip Hoggard, Dr. Edward Kleitsch, Dr. Jawahar Mehta and Dr. Kevin Reeder.

Staff Members present: Mr. James Ammel, Mrs. Maggie Sponer, and Ms. Brandi Thompson.

Ms. Nina Carter was absent as the Board's Attorney General Representative. Julie Chavis was present as the Board's Attorney General Representative.

Ms. Gail Ragland was present as the Governor's Office Liaison.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Hoggard made a motion to approve agenda. Dr. Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

Mr. Hoggard made a motion to approve the September 18, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes as amended. Dr. Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recess/Reconvene

The Board recessed for Oral Exams, Credential Reviews, Quarterly Reports and lunch at 11:00am.

The Board reconvened at 12:30pm.

REPORT FROM THE COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

(Submitted by Mr. Ammel)

C-14-08 UPDATE

BOARD ACTION TAKEN

STATUS: Two of the sanctions authorized by the Board at its September meeting for inclusion in a Consent Agreement had not had time limits established for compliance.

The Screening Committee recommended, and the Board approved, the date by which the imposed \$2,000 fine was to be paid in full is no later than 6/30/16. That same deadline was also established for Respondent's successful completion of the six (6) additional hours of continuing education related to the violations topics. The Letter of Reprimand for the admitted violations will be incorporated into the Consent Agreement. Once the latter has become effective, then the Letter of Caution will be issued to Respondent regarding the Multiple Relationships issue. A draft of the Consent Agreement has been prepared.

C-15-04 UPDATE

BOARD ACTION TAKEN

STATUS: As in the previous case (14-08), there are time limits for sanctions compliance. For consistency, the Board also approved a deadline of 6/30/16 for compliance with the procurement of the six (6) additional continuing education hours and payment of the \$500 fine. A draft letter has been drafted proposing the potential Consent Agreement contents but will need to be revised to incorporate the time limits before its issuance to the Respondent.

C-15-06 [Initiated 6/19/15

BOARD ACTION TAKEN

COMPLAINANT: The Board at its June 19th meeting initiated this complaint based on incorrect information being supplied on the license renewal affidavit for the 2015-16 licensure years. The incorrect information pertained to Respondent psychologist's failure to reference disciplinary action that had previously imposed by another psychologist-licensing jurisdiction (Alabama). On 1/13/13, the Alabama Board suspended Respondent's license for failure to pay continuing education and renewal fees. At that time, Respondent had already relocated to Arkansas and was licensed by APB. In the ongoing investigation, the Board also requested proofs of the Respondent having accrued the requisite 20 annual hours of continuing education in licensure years 2013-14 and 2014-15. Respondent was able to supply proofs of adequate hours in 2013-14 but had only obtained eight (8) CE hours in 2014-15. [A one (1) hour certificate supplied for 2014-15 was disallowed due to its content not being germane to the practice of psychology.] In Respondent's defense, that psychologist provided detailed information about the life-threatening danger encountered beginning in Alabama which was the cause of relocation to Arkansas and the eventual occurrence of the murder of a relative this past May. Respondent indicated lack of knowledge of the Alabama license suspension but admitted to not having procured sufficient CE hours in the 2014-2015 licensure year. Due to all of the extenuating circumstances involving the regulation issues violations, the Respondent requested The Board to consider leniency.

STATUS: The Board's Screening Committee deemed Respondent's leniency request to be worthy of consideration and recommended to the Board that only a Letter of Caution be issued and that Respondent be granted an extension in which to procure the missing twelve (12) CE hours from 2014-15. The Board adopted that recommendation and established a deadline of 6/30/16 by which the Respondent was to obtain the additional 12 2014-15 hours, as well as procuring the normal 20 annual hours of CE for the 2015-16

licensure year by that same deadline. Respondent will be expected to provide proofs of obtainment of the combined 32 hours of CE by 6/30/16 for the Board's review and approval. A draft letter proposing this resolution has been prepared for issuance to the Respondent.

C-15-08 & C-15-09 [Rec'd 8/5/15] BOARD ACTION TAKEN

COMPLAINANTS: A criminal defendant in C-15-08 was ordered to be evaluated for criminal competency. He alleged that the eventual evaluation report did not comport with the transcript of the evaluation and listed a number of other allegations not pertinent to the Board's disciplinary jurisdiction. The C-15-09 complainant is the mother of the adult defendant in C-15-08, and she merely raised the same major allegation as had her son, did not allege that any professional services had been supplied to her, and declined to have her case joined with his. Both complainants supplied copies of the evaluation transcript and the evaluation report.

RESPONDENT: The psychologist who conducted the competency evaluation on the C-15-08 complainant. Respondent provided procedural and factual defenses of the evaluation.

STATUS: After review of the evidence and the allegations (with particular emphasis on the evaluation report being supported by the evaluation transcript and evaluation procedural issues), the Board's Screening Committee did not find substantiation of any violation of the applicable APA ethical standards nor APB's statutes and rules/regulations. Accordingly, it recommended dismissal of both cases on that basis. The Board adopted that recommendation as to both cases. Draft "results" letters to both complainants have been prepared.

C-15-10 [Rec'd 9/22/15]: BOARD ACTION TAKEN

COMPLAINANT: A professionally licensed employee of a corporation that requested a psychological "fitness for duty" evaluation of him. Complainant alleged improper evaluation procedures based on his physical condition as well as other ethical violations. On 9/25/15 he was issued APB's typical initial letter acknowledging receipt of the complainant, and advising about APB's disciplinary procedures and the FOIA nature of our files. This was accompanied by APB's Complainant Questionnaire, dated 9/25/15, that required its return within 14 days, appropriately completed, before any further processing of the complaint would commence.

RESPONDENT: The psychologist who performed the fitness for duty evaluation but who has not yet been apprised of the complaint.

STATUS: At the time of the Board's meeting on 10/16/15, complainant had yet to return the Complainant Questionnaire. Since more than 14 days had elapsed, even allowing for mail delivery time, the Screening Committee recommended procedural dismissal of the complaint, subject to reopening of it should the complainant return the Complainant

Questionnaire appropriately completed. The Board adopted that recommendation. An advisory letter to complainant of that result, accompanied by another Questionnaire, is to be issued to him.

Recess/Reconvene

The Board recessed for lunch Oral Exam and Credential Reviews at 11:32 am.
The Board reconvened at 12:30 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. David Felner clarified previously submitted Consent Agreement. Dr. Everett motioned to approve the request pending Oral Exam. Dr. Fowler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Michael Johnson submitted requested CEU documentation. Dr. Everett motioned to approve the request. Dr. Fowler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. James Walker submitted requested documentation from TCAF. No action was taken. The Board will revisit at November 20, 2015 Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel Committee Report

Dr. Fowler advised that the Personnel Committee had no meeting this month and therefore, no report.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Hoggard informed the Board that the agency continues to operate within its budget. The amount of deposits was \$5,343.60, total amount of warrants was \$8,255.71 and the available fiscal year budget was \$108,704.85.

Director's Report

Mrs. Sponer informed the Board of a Psychologist's submission of Statement of Intent to add Adult to population. Dr. Everett made a motion to accept revised Statement of Intent. Mr. Hoggard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

In addition, Mrs. Sponer advised the Board of the Investigator's September 2015's invoice. Dr. Reeder made a motion to approve the \$1,000 compensation. Ms. Hoehn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Pre-Doctoral Supervision Documents

Dr. Richard Sylvester submitted documentation to supervise Melissa Campbell, Cody Jefferies and Jennifer Lackey. Dr. Gillaspy motioned to approve Pre-Doctoral Supervision forms. Dr. Fowler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Licensee Request

Dr Katherine Martone submitted documentation to change licensure status from a voluntary inactive Psychologist to an active Psychologist and requests Board to advise practice in Spiritual Direction. Dr. Everett made a motion to approve reinstatement pending submission of twenty (20) CEU's before reinstatement of license and she would need to clearly delineate to patients role as either Psychologist or Spiritual Advisor.

Supervision Agreement and Plan

Dr. Craig Robinett submitted revised Supervision Agreement and Plan indicating Dr. Kevin Santulli as his primary supervisor. Dr. Fowler made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Hoggard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recess/Reconvene

The Board recessed at 1:02pm for Oral Exams and Quarterly Reports.

The Board reconvened at 3:00pm.

CREDENTIAL REVIEW

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

1. Dr. Ilana Albanese's credentials were submitted to the Board for consideration as an Applicant National Registry.
2. Dr. Robert Coben's credentials were submitted to the Board for consideration as an Applicant Senior Psychologist- Provisional Licensee.
3. Dr. Taisha Jones' credentials were submitted to the Board for consideration as an Applicant Psychologist- Provisional Licensee.
4. Dr. William Little's credentials were submitted to the Board for consideration as an Applicant Psychologist- Provisional Licensee.
5. Dr. Mary Eagle's credentials were submitted to the Board for consideration as an Applicant Psychologist- Provisional Licensee.

The Board approved the above credential review candidates.

Dr. Katherine Sunder's credentials were submitted to the Board for consideration as an Applicant Psychologist Provisional Licensee. Dr. Sunder's application is pending approval until clarification of Couples/Martial Therapy and Family Therapy on her Statement of Intent can be submitted and reviewed.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

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

1. Dr. Laura Horton's Quarterly Report for the period of June 11, 2015 – October 6, 2015.
2. Dr. Catherine Munns' Quarterly Report for the period of July 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015.
2. Dr. Ashlie Williams' Quarterly Report for the period of July 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015.
3. Dr. Kathy White's Quarterly Report for the period of May 21, 2015 – September 29, 2015.

The Board approved all of the above quarterly reports.

Dr. Kaye Ramsey's Quarterly Report for the period of July 1, 2015 – September 25, 2015 was denied due to form having pre-dated signatures.

ADJOURN

Dr. Reeder made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Bryson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 3:15 pm.