

NORTH CAROLINA PSYCHOLOGY BOARD
Open Session Minutes
May 14, 2015
Greensboro, NC

The North Carolina Psychology Board met in a regularly scheduled meeting on May 14, 2015, at the Airport Comfort Suites in Greensboro, NC.

Members present for all or part of the meeting: Kristine Herfkens, Ph.D., ABPP, Chair; Robert Hill, Ph.D., ABPP, Vice Chair; Lynn Lambert, RN, BSN, M.Ed.; Stacie MacDonald, M.A.; Jane Perrin, Ph.D., Anthony Powell, M.A. and Matthew Van Horn, J.D.

Others present: Daniel P. Collins, Executive Director; Susan Batts, M.A., Staff Psychologist; and Sondra Panico, Assistant Attorney General.

Dr. Herfkens reminded Board members that, in accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every Board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict. Board members were directed to identify any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the Board at the meeting and to refrain from any undue participation in the particular matter involved. Board members were asked to identify any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the Board at the meeting, and instructed that, if one arose during the course of this meeting, to articulate it to the Board.

General

1. Open session minutes of February 6, 2015, meeting were approved.
2. The financial report for the period of time ending April 30, 2015 was reviewed.
3. The auditor's report on the FY 2013-14 financial statements was reviewed.
4. The Board was informed of the addition of two new temporary staff members.
5. The Board was updated on the status of pending IT projects.
6. The Board was updated on the status of the lease for the Board's office space in Boone. Following discussion, the Board authorized staff to negotiate renewing the office space lease for up to an additional three years.
7. The Board was updated on the status of the ongoing biennial CE audit.
8. The Board was updated on the status of the annual corporation renewals.
9. The Board reviewed and approved a staff proposal to implement a new review process for license application files.
10. The Board discussed the recent US Supreme Court decision on the NC Dental Board case and approved staff recommendation to revise the process for addressing unlicensed practice cases.

11. Staff provided an update on legislation pending at the General Assembly.
12. Staff provided a report on the first annual licensing board seminar recently held in Raleigh.
13. Staff provided a report on the ASPPB mid-year meeting held in Atlanta.
14. The Board discussed possible article ideas for next the newsletter.
15. The attached Information Items/Staff Actions were accepted.

Legal/Ethical

16. Case #051502 – Bruce S. Hodges (Unlicensed) – The Board was informed that Mr. Hodges may have been engaging in the practice of psychology without a license. Following a review of the case report and Mr. Hodges’ complaint response, the Board determined it appeared that Mr. Hodges was practicing psychology without a license as it appeared he was providing treatment and/or therapy to individuals suffering from stress and anxiety related disorders. The Board instructed staff to send Mr. Hodges a warning letter advising him to find a different description for his services and to discontinue providing services that require licensure by the Board.

17. Puerto Rico Psychology Board – The Board reviewed an inquiry from the PR Board as to whether or not the NC Board would accept applicant scores for the Spanish language EPPP exam. Following discussion, the Board instructed staff to advise the PR Board that the NC Board did not foresee any reason why the scores would not be accepted in the normal course as are EPPP scores.

18. Natalia Okelberry (unlicensed) – The Board reviewed a request from Ms. Okelberry that the Board grant her permission to use the term “psychology” in describing and advertising her Inner Psychology Yoga practice. Following discussion, the Board denied the request as G.S. 90-270.16(c) prohibits anyone not licensed by the Board or exempt from licensure to use the term "psychology" or any of its derivatives as a title or as a description of services. The Board instructed staff to send her a warning letter about continued use of this description.

Other

19. The Board reviewed and discussed the following list of ongoing/future projects as indicated below:
 - a. implementation of ability to submit complaints online
 - b. online application system
 - c. update Board’s website
 - d. online state exam
 - e. online license renewal
 - f. electronic scanning of all records
 - g. instituting criminal background checks
 - h. consider amending rules which address the filing of a Section 2 supervision contract when an individual's work is totally outside of the mental health field

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion made and adopted by the Board to hold a closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.18(6), the Board went into closed session to discuss individual applicants or individual licensees, following which, it reported:

20. Ronald Franklin, Ph.D. – The Board reviewed and granted Dr. Franklin’s request for an extension of the May 1st deadline to submit his CE documentation in response to being selected for the CE audit. Dr. Franklin had requested that the deadline be extended to September 1st as he was on sabbatical traveling and did not have access to his records.

21. Nancy L. Miller, Psy.D. – The Board reviewed and accepted the tutorial report submitted by Bill Burlingame, Ph.D.

22. Nancy L. Miller, Psy. D. – The Board reviewed and approved a request to allow the face-to-face supervision required under a Consent Order to take place via electronic means. The Board limited the use of electronic means by requiring, at a minimum, that every fourth supervision meeting be an in-person, face-to-face meeting where both Dr. Miller and the supervisor are physically present in the same space. The Board further directed the supervisor to contact the Board if he believed more frequent in-person, face-to-face supervision meetings were warranted.

23. Hillary Siedler, Ph.D. – The Board reviewed and accepted the final therapy report submitted by Judith Pohl, Ph.D.

24. Sandra Evarrs, Ph.D. – The Board reviewed and approved Dr. Evarrs’ request for a waiver of the requirement that she submit a Supervisor Form from Dr. Anne Maxwell, who supervised Dr. Evarrs’ work as a behavioral therapist in Illinois from August 1, 1996 to July 1, 1998 as Dr. Maxwell had not responded to numerous telephones calls and letters requesting that she complete the Supervision Form.

25. Saar, Timothy, Ph.D. – The Board granted a waiver of the requirement that transcripts be received directly from the university. The university Dr. Saar attended ceased operations in 1991 and he had been unable to have the successor to the university’s records provide transcripts directly to the Board. A copy of the transcripts provided directly to the WV Board as part of his licensure application in WV was sent directly to the NC Board office by the WV Board.

File Review

Confirm Denial

Egan, Tara, D.Ed.

Tolbert, Ashley, M.A.

Proposed Denial

Leonard, Johnny, M.A.

Segalla, Colette, Ph.D.

Admit to Both Exams

Berndt, Else, M.A.

Spencer, Lauren, M.S.

Admitted to EPPP

Demetral, Jana, M.A.

Admit to State Exam

McClernon, Francis, Ph.D.

Saar, Timothy, Ph.D.

Sendler, Allen, M.A.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DP Collins', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Daniel P. Collins
Executive Director

INFORMATION ITEMS/STAFF ACTIONS

May 14, 2015

Supervision

26. The following reduced supervision files have been reviewed and approved since the last meeting at the indicated level:

- a. Bridgers, Katharine, M.A.-2
- b. Evans, Angela, M.S.-2
- c. Higgins, Greg, M.A.-2
- d. Kassab, Karin, M.A.-2
- e. Lanzer, Suzanne, M.S.-3
- f. Omar, Tonya, M.A.-3
- g. Philipchuk, Johnna, M.A.-3
- h. Rohda, Daniel, M.A.-3
- i. Zhiss, Melissa, M.A.-2

27. The following alternate supervision applications have been reviewed and approved since the last meeting as follows:

- a. Alston, Le'Marus, M.A.
- b. Nobles, Shelli, M.S.
- c. Tucker, Carrie, M.A.
- d. Tunstall, Hillary, M.A.

File Review

28. The following files have been processed since the last meeting:

Admit to Both Exams

Alsobrooks, Amber – PA
Berkowski, Monisha – PA
Berth, Diane – PA
Black, Christopher – PP
Brooks, Whitney – PP
Broszkiewicz, Natassia – PA
Brown, Kelly – PP
Buzan, Robert – PP
Barnett, Melinda – PA
Christensen, Elizabeth – LP
Chun, Charlotte – PA
Combs, Austin – PP
Dinatale, Emily – PP
Finkelstein, Laura – PP
Gaither, Albert – PP
Griffin, Charity – PP
Hamel, Blair – PP
Hoet, Ariana – PA

Holtzman, Carrie – PP
Lorenzo, Jessica – PA
Maclin, Vickey – PP
Marquez, Allissa – PP
Matherne, Camden – PP
Michalowski, Julie – PA
Muth, Lauran – PA
Parrella, Alison – PA
Rainer, Sarah – PP
Scearce, Susannah – PP
Suffness, Rebecca – PA
Tucker, Jennifer – PA
Wasim, Fatima – PP
Watson, Kena – PA
Weingarten, Kerin – PA
Wright, Kerri – LP

Admit to State Exam

Bair, Kristen – LP
Boscardin, Belinda – LP (SEN)
Bourg Carter, Sherrie – LP (SEN)
Bray, Allison – PP
Byars, Kathryn – LP
Campbell, Susan – LP (MOB)
Corbin, Catherine – LP (MOB)
Corbin, John – LP (MOB)
Deering, Michelle – LP (MOB)
Dunaway, Linda – LP (SEN)
Ganci, Keith – LP
Gordon, Timothy – LP (MOB)
Hughes, Dawn – LP (MOB)
Knight, Jennifer – PP
Milam, Bonnie – LP (SEN)
Nabar, Krista – LP
Reeves, Teresa – LP (MOB)
Sherack, Kelly – LP (MOB)
Sowle, Jennifer – LP (SEN)
Struble, Karen – LP
Thompson, Barbara – LP (MOB)

Admit to EPPP

Hill, LaBarron – PP

License

Engelstatter, Mary – PA to LP