

NORTH CAROLINA PSYCHOLOGY BOARD
Open Session Minutes
August 13-14, 2015
Raleigh, NC

The North Carolina Psychology Board met in a regularly scheduled meeting on August 13-14, 2015, at the Crabtree LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Raleigh, NC.

Members present for all or part of the meeting: Kristine Herfkens, Ph.D., ABPP, Chair; Robert Hill, Ph.D., ABPP, Vice Chair; Stacie MacDonald, M.A.; Jane Perrin, Ph.D.; and Anthony Powell, M.A.

Others present for all or parts of the meeting: Daniel P. Collins, Executive Director; Susan Batts, M.A., Staff Psychologist; Sondra Panico, Assistant Attorney General; and Tina Simpson, 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 May 14, 2015, meeting were approved.
2. The financial report for the period of time ending June 29, 2015 was reviewed.
3. The Board was informed of the annual certification of internal controls which staff recently submitted to the State Controller's Office.
4. The Board reviewed and approved the Annual Report for the 2014-15 fiscal year.
5. The Board was updated on the revised license application file review process.
6. The Board was updated on the status of the renewal of Boone office lease.
7. Staff provided an update on legislation pending at the General Assembly.
8. The Board discussed the recently released report on the Independent Review of APA Ethical Guidelines, Interrogations and Torture.
9. The Board discussed the Executive Director's plan to attend the ASPPB Annual Meeting of Delegates to be held October 6-11, 2015 in Tempe, AZ.

August 13-14, 2015

10. The Board was advised of ASPPB's Competency Assessment Survey contained in the Agenda Book.
11. The following proposed meeting dates for 2016 were approved – Feb. 4-5, May 5-6, Aug. 4-5, and Nov. 3-4.
12. Robert Hill and Kristine Herfkens were elected Chair & Vice-Chair, respectively, for the 2015-2016 fiscal year pursuant to G.S 90-270.9.
13. The Board discussed possible article ideas for next the newsletter.
14. The attached Information Items/Staff Actions were accepted.

Legal/Ethical

15. John C. Poag, Ph.D. – A hearing was held in open session on August 13, 2015. Following discussion in closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.18(6), the Board announced in open session that it determined to take action against Dr. Poag's license to practice psychology.
16. Johnny D. Leonard, M.A. – A hearing was held in open session on August 14, 2015. Following discussion in closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.18(6), the Board announced in open session that it determined to deny Mr. Leonard's application for licensure at the Licensed Psychological Associate level.
17. Caroline M. Clements, Ph.D. – A hearing was held in open session on August 14, 2015. Following discussion in closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.18(6), the Board announced in open session that it determined to take action against Dr. Clements' license to practice psychology.
18. Case #021501 Charla Hutchinson, M.Ed., BCBA (Unlic.) – The Board reviewed a letter for Ms. Hutchinson's attorney, which was sent in response to a letter from the Board directing Ms. Hutchinson to submit an affidavit that either she was licensed by an NC regulatory board which exempted her from licensure from the Psychology Board or that she ceased the practice of psychology without a license. The attorney's letter stated that Ms. Hutchinson was allowed to complete behavior support plans under North Carolina's Medicaid Innovations Waiver. The Board instructed staff to follow up with the NC Department of Health and Human Services regarding the waiver.
19. Case #051502 – Bruce S. Hodges (Unlic.) – The Board was informed that Mr. Hodges failed to respond to the Board's warning letter that directed him to submit documentation stating that he was not practicing psychology without a license, The Board instructed staff to send Mr. Hodges a second warning letter.

Other

20. Board Projects – The Board reviewed and discussed the following list of ongoing/future projects as indicated below:

- a. online application system

August 13-14, 2015

- b. update Board's website
- c. online state exam
- d. online license renewal
- e. electronic scanning of all records
- f. instituting criminal background checks
- i. 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:

Supervision

21. Vlad, Stephanie, M.A. – Ms. Vlad was an applicant for Level 2 reduced supervision; however, she did not have the required one year of time with her most recent supervisor. Ms. Vlad previously terminated with her supervisor in October 2014 when she moved out of state and then applied for reduced supervision when she returned to NC in May 2015. Following discussion, the Board determined to deny the application.
22. Gilbreath, Vernetta, M.S. – Ms. Gilbreath was an applicant for alternate supervision; however, it appeared that the proposed supervisor did not meet the requirements for alternate supervision as she has not practiced psychology on at least a part time basis (at least 20 hrs/wk) for a minimum of 10 years. Following discussion, the Board determined to deny the application.
23. Horn, Mark Gregory, M.A. – Following discussion, the Board approved Mr. Horn's application for alternate supervision.

Legal/Ethical

24. Welsh, Douglas L., M.A. – The Board reviewed Mr. Welsh's request for reconsideration of the Board's previous proposed denial of his application for licensure at the Psychological Associate level. Following discussion and the review of revised PA DOC #4's Mr. Welsh submitted, the Board approved his application for licensure at the Psychological Associate level.
25. Bell-Hughes, Kristin, Ph.D. – The Board reviewed and denied Dr. Bell-Hughes' request for a waiver of Rule .2009(j)(4) which requires that a minimum of 1,500 hours of supervised post-doctoral experience be provided by a licensed psychologist.
26. Ghali, Nancy, Ph.D. – The Board reviewed and denied Dr. Ghali's request for a waiver of rule 21 NCAC 54.2009(j)(1) which requires one hour of weekly supervision for applicants accruing post-doctoral hours towards licensure.

File Review

27. Baley, John, M.A. – Following a review of the information Mr. Baley provided to the Board as part of his application for licensure concerning his prior criminal convictions and substance abuse history, the Board instructed staff to contact Mr. Baley and request that he voluntarily agree to undergo a fitness to practice evaluation and a random drug test in order to assist the Board in its further review of his application for licensure.

28. Wiebe, Parker, M.A. – In her application for licensure, Ms. Wiebe stated that a prior arrest and conviction had been expunged from her record upon the completion of her probation. The Board instructed staff to contact Ms. Wiebe and request that she voluntarily submit a criminal background check to confirm that it had been expunged.

Proposed Denial

Bush, Rebecca, M.A.
Gross, Georgina Mary, M.A.
Paez, Doris, Ph.D.
Silvester, Dionne, Ed.S.
Streppa, Michael, Psy.D.
Tomasi, Carole, M.A.
Whitehead, Shenae, M.S.

Admit to Both Exams

Gibson, Amber

Admit to State Exam

Brown Cabezudo, Emily
Williams, Craig



Daniel P. Collins
Executive Director

INFORMATION ITEMS/STAFF ACTIONS
August 13-14, 2015

Supervision

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

- a. Campbell, Heidi, M.A.-2
- b. Carr, Cheryl, M.A.-2
- c. Savia, Janet, Psy.D.-2
- d. Small, Candace, M.A.-2

File Review

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

Admit to Both Exams

Andrews, Meredith – PA
Bagnato, Kathryn – PA
Chavis, Shiahna – PP
Cummings, Amanda – PP
D'Angelo, Rebecca – PP
Deal, Melissa - PA
Fogley, Rebecca – PP
Ghali, Nancy – PP
Heuring, Janet – PA
Holbrook, Britteny – PA
Johnson, Shelby – LP
Kakos, Lynn – LP
Love, Christopher – LP
Okoniewski, Katherine – PA
Plemmons, Mitchell – PA
Walker, Terrance – PP
Williams, Carol – PA

Admit to State Exam

Allen, Katie – LP
Bailey, Cynthia – LP (MOB)
Batterman, Gretchen – PA
Bilka, Amy – LP
Cox, Keith – LP
Dean, Paul – LP (SEN)
DeWulf, Michael – LP (SEN)
Field, Ronald – LP (MOB)
Funk, Catherine – LP (MOB)
Geisler, Erika – LP

August 13-14, 2015

Hartman, Eric – LP (MOB)
Kavros, Peregrine – LP (MOB)
Mehta, Tara – LP
Niehaus, Ashley – LP
Papciak, Anthony – LP (MOB)
Ritterspach, Chad – LP
Schmucker, Kevin – LP (MOB)
Sandler, Allen – PA
Ward, Taeh – LP