

NORTH CAROLINA PSYCHOLOGY BOARD
Open Session Minutes
November 9, 2017
Greensboro, NC

The North Carolina Psychology Board met in a regularly scheduled meeting on November 9, 2017, at the Comfort Suites Airport, Greensboro, NC.

Members present for all or part of the meeting: Robert Hill, Ph.D., ABPP, Chair; Kristine Herfkens, Ph.D., ABPP, Vice Chair, Helen Brantley, Ph.D., Stacie MacDonald, M.A., Joseph Pasquarell, Anthony Powell, M.A. and Matthew Van Horn, J.D.

Others present for all or parts of the meeting: Daniel P. Collins, Executive Director; Marc Davis, M.A., Staff Psychologist; and Sondra Panico, Assistant Attorney General.

Dr. Hill 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 August 3-4, 2017, meeting were approved.
2. Open session minutes of September 25, 2017, teleconference meeting were approved.
3. The financial report for the period ending September 30, 2017 was reviewed.
4. Sally Cameron of NCPA provided an update on legislative matters.
5. Alex Siegel of ASPPB provided an overview of ASPPB's PSYPACT.
6. Staff provided an update on the development of EPPP 2.
7. Dr. Hill provided an update on the development of new state exam questions.
8. Staff provided an update on the rules review process.
9. Staff provided an update on the implementation of PLUS online application system.
10. Staff informed the Board that the 93B-2 Annual Report has been properly filed.
11. Dr. Hill and Mr. Powell reported on the recent ASPPB Annual Meeting.
12. Staff provided a reminder on ethics training due dates.

13. Staff informed the Board of pending changes to the record retention schedule by the State Records Office.
14. The Board discussed possible impacts of *Serafin v. Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists*.
15. Staff provided an update on the changes to be made by WCU to address the ethics content issue for applicants from its program.
16. Staff provided an update on BCBA issues.
17. Proposed meeting dates for 2018 were discussed.
18. Staff provided an update on the IRS Advisory Opinion on requiring Board members to be Board employees for purposes of per diem payments and workers' compensation.
19. Ideas for newsletter articles was discussed.
20. The attached Information Items/Staff Actions were accepted

Legal/Ethical

21. Case #111704 Janis Nutt, Ph.D. - CPT alleged that Ph.D. presented herself as a licensed psychologist and provided psychological services to unnamed client. Following a review of Dr. Nutt's response and her employer's website, as well as the results of a web search, the Board determined that Dr. Nutt was operating in compliance with the Psychology Practice Act.
22. Case #111705 Patricia Littwin, Psy.D. - CPT alleges that LPC presented herself as a psychologist, despite not being licensed. In an affidavit submitted by Dr. Littwin, she stated that she would not represent herself as a provider of psychological services and had removed all forms of psychology and its derivatives from her company and forms of medium. Subsequently, the Board investigator reviewed internet listings for Dr. Littwin and found that she was still referenced as a psychologist or clinical psychologist or as providing psychological services on several websites and social media platforms. Following discussion, the Board instructed Ms. Panico to send a letter to Dr. Littwin warning her that continued violation of the Practice Act could result in the Board seeking a court injunction against her.

Other

23. Board Projects - The Board reviewed and discussed the following list of ongoing/future projects:
 - a. electronic scanning of all records
 - b. explore adding an "inactive" status to the statute
 - c. 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
 - d. possibly revise Board rules which address the displaying of one's licensure and HSP certificates to cover situations in which services are being provided electronically

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 Issues

24. Currin, Heather Thompson, M.A. – applicant for reduced supervision. Ms. Currin requested a waiver of one RS Form as the supervisor would not respond to requests to complete the form. Ms. Currin otherwise met the requirements for level 2 supervision and reports on file from the non responsive supervisor had good ratings. Following discussion, the Board granted the waiver.

Legal/Ethical

25. Speziale, Paul, M.A. – The Board reviewed and accepted a fitness to practice evaluation completed by Richard Rumer, Ph.D.

26. Risher, Brandon, M.A. – The Board reviewed and accepted tutorial report from Tom Thompson, Ph.D.

27. Frawley-O’Dea, Mary, Ph.D. – The Board reviewed and accepted tutorial report from Tom Thompson, Ph.D.

28. Tolleson, Sara, M.A. – Ms. Tolleson was approved for licensure at the PA based upon her Master’s degree. She subsequently passed the EPPP for licensure at the LPA level. She requested to be allowed to sit for EPPP again without reapplying so that she can attempt to pass the exam at the LP level. Ms. Tolleson is enrolled in a doctoral program and would like to reattempt the exam in the near rather than postponing it until after she receives her doctoral degree. Following discussion, the Board granted a six-month extension to retake the EPPP.

29. Zechella, Anusha, Ph.D. – Dr. Zechella requested that the Board accept the post-doc verification form completed by the former supervisor as part of the ASPPB credentials bank as she could not locate a former supervisor to complete the Board’s Supervisor Form. Following discussion, the Board granted the request.

30. Miller, John, Ph.D. – Dr. Miller requested that the Board modify the conditions of his 2003 Consent Order. Following discussion, the Board denied the request and, as a result, the conditions set forth in the 2003 Consent Order remain in place.

File Review

Confirm Denial

Darkwa, Seth
Pearson, Ashley

Proposed Denial
Marshak, Laura

Admit to Both Exams
Hite, Betty
Mercado, Jerry

Admit to State Exam
Kennedy-Ziegler, Deborah
Thomas, Evan
Weintrob, Christopher

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

Daniel P. Collins
Executive Director

INFORMATION ITEMS/STAFF ACTIONS
November 9, 2017

Supervision

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

- a. Bruin, Christine, M.A.-2
- b. Hamilton, Rae Ann, M.S.-3
- c. Merrigan, Nicole, M.A.-2
- d. Vartanian, Lisa, M.A.-2
- e. Wilson, Jana, M.A.-2

File Review

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

Admit to Both Exams

Abraham, Chelsea – PA
Brown, Laura Ann – LP (PROV)
Butcher, Jessica – PA
Bynum, Lisa – PA
Cowan, Kaitlin – LP (PROV)
Ettigi, Sarini – LP (PROV)
Hanson, Cassandra – PA
Hill, Mary – LP (PROV)
Islam, Nadia – LP (PROV)
Kaivan, Nahal – LP (PROV)
Kirschner, Brittany – PA
Lanaville, Dawn – LP (PROV)
Lance, Brittany – PA
Lazar, Emily – LP (PROV)
Masilla, Audrey – LP (PROV)
Montiel, Lydia – PA
Overton, Heather – PA
Perry, Joanne – LP (PROV)
Raggio, Alyssa – PA
Romaguera, Antonio – LP (PROV)
Sanchez, Carmen – LP (PROV)
Sengupta, Renita – LP (PROV)
Sevon, Kossi – LP (PROV)
Silva de Souza, Thea – LP (PROV)
Tufts, Christina – PA
Varnell, Kendra – LP (PROV)
Wells, Daniel – LP (PROV)
Wright, Emma – LP (PROV)
Yeck, Amanda – LP (PROV)
Yegge, Elizabeth – PA

Admit to State Exam

Alvarez, Michelle – LP
Caruthers, Cathy – PA
Chop, Angela – LP
DeCrow, Amanda – LP (SEN)
Eshel, Rachel – LP
Ford, Jessica – LP (PROV)
Gray, Glori –LP (MOB)
Hedrick, Glenna – LP (SEN)
Hilemon, Allison – LP
Kalpaxis, George – LP (PROV)
Lazar, Ronald – LP (SEN)
Leong, Hanna – LP (MOB)
Lusby, Cara – LP
McHone, Laurel – LP
Meares, Krystal – LP
Napolitano, Jeffrey – LP (MOB)
Osgood-Hynes – LP (SEN)
Parnell, Rebecca – LP
Peters, Joanna – LP
Powell, Leah – LP
Powell, Tyrone – LP (SEN)
Unger, Michael – LP
Wiens, Kathryn – LP (MOB)
Zechella, Anusha – LP (PROV)
Ziesel, Joshua – LP

Admit to EPPP

Kies, Ashley – LP (PROV)
Wilson, Stacy – PA to LP

License

Majestic, Catherine – PA to LP