



STATE OF ARIZONA  
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS  
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JANICE K. BREWER  
Governor

DEBRA RINAUDO  
Executive Director

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COUNSELING CREDENTIALING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Friday, July 30, 2010

Members Present: Katherine Bloom, Yvonne Fortier, Patrick Goodman  
Members by telephone: Laura de Blank  
Members Absent: Paula Artac  
Staff Present: Debra Rinaudo, Marc Harris, A.A.G., Doreen Romney, Mary Wilson, Selena Samarripaz

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order on July 30, 2010, at 9:02 a.m., with Ms. Bloom presiding.

2. **Roll Call**

See above.

3. **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Fortier moved, seconded by Ms. de Blank, to approve the general meeting minutes from the June 25, 2010, meeting as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Goodman moved, seconded by Ms. Fortier, to approve the executive session minutes from the May 28, 2010, meeting as submitted. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Bloom abstained from the vote.

4. **Review, consideration and action of complaints and other disciplinary matters**

*Pending complaints represent unproven allegations. On investigation, many complaints are found to be without merit or not of sufficient seriousness to merit disciplinary action against the licensee and are dismissed. Action by the committee on all disciplinary matters is a recommendation only. All final decisions are made by the Board.*

Ms. Bloom reviewed the procedures for conducting an informal meeting.

A. 2009-0112, Kathleen Exelby, LPC-0513

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the results of the Board's investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but did not appear.

The professional appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following discussion by members, Ms. de Blank moved, seconded by Ms. Fortier, to recommend to the Board to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the Board as it relates to:
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1101(2) and R4-6-1101(3), informed consent for treatment requirements
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1102(1), treatment planning documentation requirements
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1103(H), progress note requirements

- A.A.C. R4-6-1104(2), a licensee shall truthfully represent financial and billing facts regarding services rendered
- A.A.C. R4-6-1104(4), a licensee shall maintain separate billing records that correspond with the client record

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. de Blank moved, seconded by Ms. Bloom, to recommend to the Board to accept a consent agreement that stipulates the following:

- The professional's license shall be placed on indefinite probation
- The professional shall complete 6-clock hours of pre-approved continuing education addressing behavioral health ethics
- The professional shall complete 3-clock hours of pre-approved continuing education addressing current behavioral health documentation standards
- The professional shall complete a minimum of 1-clock hour of pre-approved continuing education addressing behavioral health fraud and abuse issues
- The professional shall complete 24 months of individual clinical supervision by an independently licensed pre-approved behavioral health professional
- The clinical supervisor shall meet with the professional every two weeks and shall submit quarterly reports for approval
- The clinical supervision shall focus on ethical issues and current behavioral health documentation requirements.
- The professional shall submit an audit plan and auditor for pre-approval that, at a minimum, shall include monthly meetings between the auditor and the professional and an initial audit and 3 quarterly audits.

The motion passed unanimously.

*B. 2010-0044, Sue Knabe, LPC-13255 and LISAC-11866*

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the results of the Board's investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but did not appear.

The professional appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following discussion by members, Mr. Goodman moved, seconded by Ms. Fortier, to recommend to the Board to dismiss the complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

*C. 2010-0045, Nicole Early, LCSW-12584*

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the results of the Board's investigation.

The complainant was properly noticed, but did not appear.

The professional and her attorney, Stephen Myers, appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Goodman moved, seconded by Ms. Fortier, to recommend to the Board to dismiss the complaint and issue a letter of concern addressing the professional's failure to submit timely documentation and failure to timely document a danger to self issue. The motion passed unanimously.

*D. 2010-0010, Willis Beasley, LPC-10904*

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the results of the Board's investigation.

The complainant appeared in person and addressed the committee.

The professional appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following discussion by members, Ms. de Blank moved, seconded by Ms. Fortier, to recommend to the Board to find the following violations:

- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(l), any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice.
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards as developed by the Board as it relates to:
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1101(2), informed consent for treatment requirements
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1102(1) and R4-6-1102(3), treatment planning documentation requirements
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1103(H), progress note requirements
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1103(B)(9), client record requirements regarding contacts
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1103(B)(10), client record requirements regarding behavioral health services
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1103(B)(6), client record requirements regarding releases of information
  - A.A.C. R4-6-1104(4), a licensee shall maintain separate billing records that correspond with the client record
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(o), failing to furnish information to the Board or its investigators
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(h), obtaining a fee by misrepresentation

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. de Blank moved, seconded by Mr. Goodman, to recommend to the Board to accept a consent agreement that stipulates the following:

- The professional's license shall be revoked and the revocation stayed as long as the professional is successfully complies with all terms of the consent agreement
- The professional's license shall be suspended for 12 months
- During the suspension, the professional shall complete the following:
  - 6-clock hours of pre-approved continuing education addressing high conflict cases
  - 3-semester hour graduate level pre-approved course addressing behavioral health ethics
  - 3-clock hours of pre-approved continuing education addressing current behavioral health documentation requirements
- After suspension, the license will be placed on probation for an indefinite period
- The professional shall practice only at an agency licensed by the Office of Behavioral Health Licensure for 24 months
- The professional shall receive individual clinical supervision from an independently licensed behavioral health professional
- Individual clinical supervision will be weekly and supervisor shall submit quarterly reports
- The clinical supervision shall focus on ethics, boundaries, documentation and high conflict cases and the need to seek guidance as needed
- Termination plan

The motion passed unanimously.

*The committee took a break at 11:35 a.m., reconvening its public meeting at 11:45 a.m.*

*E. 2010-0131, Lorena Hirsch, LPC-10589*

Mr. Goodman recused himself from all matters involving Ms. Hirsch.

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the results of the Board's investigation.

The professional appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Bloom moved, seconded by Ms. de Blank, to recommend to the Board to dismiss the complaint. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Goodman was recused from the vote.

*F. Victor Leeks, LAC applicant*

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the results of the background investigation.

The applicant appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Fortier moved, seconded by Ms. Bloom, to open a complaint and find a violation of A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(l), any conduct, practice or condition that impairs the ability of the licensee to safely and competently practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Mr. Goodman moved, seconded by Ms. Bloom, to recommend to the Board to accept a consent agreement that stipulates:

- The professional's license will be issued and immediately placed on probation
- The professional shall receive 24 months of weekly individual clinical supervision focusing on peer relationships, responsibilities of team members, and self-care

The motion passed unanimously.

*G. Anna Gilmore, LAC applicant*

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the results of the Board's investigation.

The applicant appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Bloom moved, seconded by Ms. Fortier, to open a complaint based on the issues identified in the investigative report. The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. Bloom moved, seconded by Ms. de Blank, to find a violation of A.R.S. §32-3286(B)(2), a person not licensed pursuant to this chapter shall not use the Licensed Associate Counselor designation. The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. Bloom moved, seconded by Ms. Fortier, to add a finding of a violation of A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(p), failing to conform to minimum practice standards, as it relates to A.A.C. R4-6-1103(F), a licensee shall ensure the safety and confidentiality of client records. The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Ms. Bloom moved, seconded by Ms. de Blank, to recommend to the Board a consent agreement to issue the license upon acceptance of a consent agreement censuring the applicant for her conduct. The motion passed unanimously.

*H. NJ10-0023, Joyce Nuth*

Ms. Fortier recused from all matters involving Ms. Nuth.

Ms. Rinaudo summarized the results of the background investigation.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Bloom moved, seconded by Ms. de Blank, to open a non-jurisdictional complaint against Ms. Nuth based on her continued representations after the expiration of her licensure that she remained licensed by the Board. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Fortier was recused from the vote.

*The committee took a break for lunch at 12:36 p.m., reconvening its public meeting at 1:14 p.m.*

**5. Report from the Chair and items for review, consideration, and possible action**

None

**6. Report from the Executive Director and/or staff**

*A. General Agency Operations*

No report

*B. Update regarding SB1255*

Ms. Rinaudo reported regarding SB1255.

7. **Board, committees and subcommittee reports**

None

8. **National and regional trends and news regarding the profession(s)**

None

9. **Supervisor exemption requests: review, consideration and action**

None

10. **Consent agenda: review, consideration and action of requests for inactive status and extension requests**

Following review, Mr. Goodman moved, seconded by Ms. Fortier, to approve the consent agenda as reviewed by Ms. Bloom, granting 60-day extensions to Sethlin Hookstra and Denice Carr and inactive status to Kathleen Toenjes, Anne Cunningham, Stephanie Barrow, Robin Heath and Emmanuelle Giumelli. The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Inactive status extension requests: review, consideration and action**

A. *Danny Hurd*

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the request for an extension of inactive status.

Following review and discussion, members requested additional information from the professional regarding the good cause basis for his request in accordance with A.A.C. R4-6-209(B).

12. **Applications for renewal: review, consideration and action**

None

13. **Applications for reassessment: review, consideration and action**

A. *Marlo Spencer*

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the reassessment request.

Following review and discussion, members agreed that the applicant meets minimum requirements.

B. *Monica Paganni*

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the reassessment request.

Following review and discussion, members agreed that the applicant meets minimum requirements.

C. *Shareef Muhammad*

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the reassessment request.

Following review and discussion, members agreed that the applicant meets minimum requirements.

14. **Applications for licensure: review, consideration and action**

Independent Contractor

*Elizabeth Dinerman*

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the supervision hours acquired as an independent contractor at EMPACT.

Following review and discussion, members found that the applicant failed to establish that the hours acquired at EMPACT as an independent contractor met the requirements set forth in A.A.C. R4-6-210(3).

Appeals

A. *Dawn Bellingham*

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the appeal.

The applicant appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion, members agreed that the applicant meets minimum requirements.

*B. Christina Erikson*

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the appeal.

The applicant appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion, members agreed that the applicant meets minimum requirements.

*The committee went off record to review files at 1:43 p.m., reconvening its public meeting 4:28 p.m.*

Ms. Bloom moved, seconded by Ms. Fortier, to recommend to the Board to approve the following 13 applicants as Licensed Associate Counselors upon receipt of the license issuance fee:

Martha Tambini	Ruth Ann Rowland	Edna Rosas-Gutierrez	Leticia De Fazio
Jamie Pothast	Toni Schmidt	Kelly Welty	Jill Follensbee
Monica Paganni	Tanya Swearingen	Valerie Lancaster	Heather Coate
Amy Coppinger			

The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Fortier moved, seconded by Mr. Goodman, to recommend to the Board to approve the following 8 applicants as Licensed Associate Counselors upon receipt of the license issuance fee and a passing score on the required exam:

Shareef Muhammad	Tanya Alvarez	Chelsey Mathews	Alethea Braun-Dunagen
Dawn Bellingham	Stephanie Sander	Edward Coin	Audrey Vasquez

The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Bloom was recused from the vote.

Ms. Fortier moved, seconded by Mr. Goodman, to recommend to the Board to approve the following 12 applicants as Licensed Professional Counselors upon receipt of the license issuance fee:

Tracey McCormick	Ashleigh Gudgeon	Monica McCue	Marlo Soencer
Erasmus Rodriguez	Laura Smith	Andra Abad	Hannah Olds
Stacie Townsend	Kelly Ford	Ann DeLorme	Anne Brown

The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Bloom was recused from the vote.

Ms. Bloom moved, seconded by Mr. Goodman, to recommend to the Board to approve Amanda Robinson as a Licensed Associate Counselor upon receipt of the license issuance fee, a passing score on the required exam and a favorable fingerprint report. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Bloom moved, seconded by Mr. Goodman, to recommend to the Board to deny the following 11 applicants based on their failure to establish that they meet minimum requirements in education and/or supervised work experience:

Elizabeth Dinerman	Inga Hanson	Kimberly Pele	Cynthia Buesing
Michael Hutt	Jesse Pleas	Vicki Kral	Jeffrey Trujillo
Patricia Lloyd	Leila Kottabi	Cassandra Barry	

The motion passed unanimously.

**15 Future agenda items**

None

**16. Call for public comment**

None

**17. Establishment of future meeting date(s)**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 27, 2010, at 9:00 a.m., at 3443 North Central Avenue, Room 908.

**18. Adjournment**

Mr. Goodman moved, seconded by Ms. de Blank, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

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Katherine Bloom  
Secretary/Treasurer

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Date