



STATE OF ARIZONA  
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS  
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JANET NAPOLITANO  
Governor

DEBRA RINAUDO  
Executive Director

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SOCIAL WORK CREDENTIALING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
Friday, January 16, 2009

Members Present: Vicki Dawson, Douglas Mitchell, Stephen Lankton  
Members Absent: Teresa Menchaca  
Staff Present: Debra Rinaudo, Marc Harris, A.A.G., Mary Wilson, Elma Brambila

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order on January 16, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. with Mr. Mitchell presiding.

**2. Roll Call**

See above.

**3. Review and Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Lankton moved, seconded by Ms. Dawson, to approve the general meeting minutes from the December 12, 2008, meeting, as submitted. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Lankton 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.*

Mr. Mitchell reviewed the procedure for conducting informal meetings.

*A. 2005-0099, Felice Goff, LCSW-0749*

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

The complainant appeared in person and addressed the committee.

The professional and her attorney, Charlie Hover, appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Lankton moved, seconded by Ms. Dawson, to recommend to the Board to dismiss the complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

*B. 2009-0009, Judy Emerson, LCSW-2591*

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

The complainant was properly noticed, but did not appear.

The professional and her attorney, Faren Akins, appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Lankton moved, seconded by Ms. Dawson, to recommend to the Board to accept a non-disciplinary consent agreement stipulating completion of 6 clock hours of continuing education in ethics. The motion passed unanimously.

*C. 2007-0046, Gale West, LCSW-2572*

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 review and discussion by members, Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to recommend to the Board to dismiss the complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

*D. 2007-0087, Richard Kunkle, LCSW-2818*

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 review and discussion by members, Mr. Lankton moved, seconded by Ms. Dawson, to recommend to the Board to dismiss the complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

*E. 2007-0124, JoAnne Butler, LMSW-11582*

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 review and discussion by members, Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to recommend to the Board to dismiss the complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

*The committee took a break at 10:38 a.m., reconvening its public meeting at 10:52 a.m.*

*F. 2007-0141, Darlene Demmer, LCSW-1924*

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. Lankton moved, seconded by Ms. Dawson, to recommend to the Board to dismiss the complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

*G. 2007-0132, Danielle Reed, LCSW-12155*

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

The complainant appeared in person and addressed the committee.

The professional and her attorney, Charlie Hover, appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Mitchell moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, 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, consent for treatment
- 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. R4-6-1102, treatment plan
- 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. R4-6-1103, client record
- 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. R4-6-1104, billing records, 1101(2)(h), a licensee shall document in writing the client's right to be informed of fees, and 1104(3), a licensee shall truthfully represent billing facts to a third party payor
- 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)(kk), failing to make client records in the licensee's possession promptly available to a minor client's parent on receipt of proper authorization
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(t), disclosing a professional confidence or privileged communication except as may otherwise be required by law or permitted by a valid written release

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion by members, Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to recommend to the Board to offer the professional a consent agreement that stipulates the following:

- License will be placed on probation for a period of 12 months
- The professional shall complete a minimum 6-clock hour course in ethics regarding practice requirements in Arizona, such as the NASW course, "How to Stay Out of Trouble"
- Clinical supervision a minimum of one hour twice monthly with a pre-approved clinical supervisor
- Clinical supervision shall address documentation requirements and development and implementation of treatment plans
- Clinical supervisor will submit quarterly reports for approval
- The clinical supervisor shall review the professional's clinical documentation forms and records to ensure compliance with practice requirements
- The clinical supervisor shall review all client records and review the treatment for all clients seen since last supervisor session

The motion passed unanimously.

*H. 2007-0126, Natasha Hill, LCSW-11800*

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

The complainant was properly noticed, but did not appear.

The professional and her attorney, Charlie Hover, appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to find that the complaint is without merit pursuant to A.R.S. §32-3281(D)(1), and to remove it from the professional's complaint history pursuant to A.R.S. §32-3281(E). The motion passed unanimously.

*I. 2007-0168, Anne Ahland, LBSW-1971*

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 review and discussion by members, Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to recommend to the Board to dismiss the complaint. The motion passed unanimously.

*J. 2007-0147, Jamie Lakin, LCSW-2594*

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 review and discussion by members, Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to find that the complaint is without merit pursuant to A.R.S. §32-3281(D)(1), and to remove it from the professional's complaint history pursuant to A.R.S. §32-3281(E). The motion passed unanimously.

*K. Mark Szymanski, LMSW applicant*

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

The applicant appeared in person and addressed the committee.

The applicant requested a continuance of the committee's review of the background investigation.

Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to deny the applicant's request for a continuance. The motion passed unanimously.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to recommend to the Board to make a finding of unprofessional conduct based on the following violations:

- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(b), use of deceit in establishing qualifications pursuant to A.R.S. Title 32, Chapter 33
- 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 licensee's profession
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(a), conviction of a felony
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(f), active substance abuse

and to recommend to the Board to deny the application based on unprofessional conduct. The motion passed unanimously.

*L. 2008-0102, Celia Boone, LMSW-3400*

Ms. Rinaudo summarized information regarding the professional's non-compliance with her initial consent agreement and non-compliance with the second consent agreement.

The professional appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to open a new complaint based on violations of the following:

- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(t), disclosing a professional confidence or privileged communication except as may otherwise be required by law or permitted by a valid written release
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(j), gross negligence
- A.R.S. §32-3251(12)(n), failing to comply with a Board Order

The motion passed unanimously.

Following further discussion, Mr. Mitchell moved, seconded by Ms. Dawson, to recommend to the Board to offer the professional a consent agreement for the voluntary surrender of her license and, if not signed, to remand the matter to formal hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

*The committee took a break at 12:40 p.m., reconvening its public meeting at 12:45 p.m.*

*M. Mark Grover, LMSW applicant*

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

The applicant appeared in person and addressed the committee.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Mitchell moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to take no action regarding the background investigation. The motion passed unanimously.

*N. 2008-0043, David Bromberg, LMSW-12481*

Ms. Rinaudo summarized information regarding the professional's request for a modification to the consent agreement.

The professional appeared and provided documents, but left before his matter was heard.

Following review and discussion by members, Mr. Lankton moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to recommend to the Board to deny the request for a modification to the consent agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

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

### *A. Election of Secretary*

Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to elect Mr. Lankton to serve as Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.

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

*A. General Agency Operations*

Ms. Rinaudo reported regarding likely Board budget reductions in FY10 and FY11 as a result of the State's budget issues.

**7. Report from the Board and other committees**

No report.

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

None

**9. Review, consideration and action of supervision/work experience and/or exemptions**

*A. Anna Broussard (Helen Leonard, LPC)*

Members reviewed information submitted in support of the request for a supervisor exemption.

Following review, Mr. Mitchell moved, seconded by Ms. Dawson, to grant the supervisor exemption request for clinical supervision hours provided by Helen Leonard, LPC. The motion passed unanimously.

**10. Applications for reassessment**

None

**11. Review, consideration and action of consent agenda for applications for inactive, extension and exam extension requests**

Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, to approve the consent agenda, as reviewed by Mr. Mitchell, granting 60-day extensions to Jane Richards and Linda Hudnall, a second 60-day extension to William Heran, and inactive status to Thomas Butler and Eugenia Woods. The motion passed unanimously.

**12. Review, consideration and action regarding exam accommodations, exam extensions and inactive extensions**

*A. Don Clark, inactive extension*

Members reviewed the request for an extension of inactive status.

Following review and discussion, Mr. Mitchell moved, seconded by Ms. Dawson, to deny the request for an extension to inactive status based on the professional's failure to demonstrate good cause. The motion passed unanimously.

**13. Review, consideration and action regarding applications for licensure**

*The committee reviewed files from 1:25 p.m. through 1:35 p.m.*

*A. Mark Szymanski*

See agenda item 4(K).

*B. Mark Grover*

See agenda item 4(M).

Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to recommend to the Board to approve Anna Broussard as a Licensed Independent Substance Abuse Counselor upon receipt of the required license issuance fee. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mitchell moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to recommend to the Board to approve Mark Grover as a Licensed Master Social Worker upon receipt of the required license issuance fee. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to recommend to the Board to approve the following thirteen applicants as Licensed Master Social Workers after receiving a passing score on the required exam and upon receipt of the license issuance fee:

Melanie Taussig	Robert Rodriguez	Steven Hoffman	Jennifer Bednarz
Nadia Moreno	Adia Askew	Craig Lees	Marija Cvijetic
JW Thomas Garrett	Anina Mendoza	Scott Rivera	Eric Alfrey
Sally Dalton			

The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to recommend to the Board to approve Rachel Post, Andrea Gustafson and Sara Desimone as Licensed Clinical Social Workers upon receipt of a passing score on the required exam and receipt of the license issuance fee. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to recommend to the Board to deny Mark Szymanski based on a finding of unprofessional conduct. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lankton moved, seconded by Ms. Dawson, to recommend to the Board to deny Sherry DesCoteaux based on the applicant's failure to establish clinical supervision and supervised work experience that meets minimum licensure requirements in addition to the previous finding of unprofessional conduct. The motion passed unanimously.

**14. Future agenda items**

Consent agreement terms

**15. Call for public comment**

None

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at 3443 North Central Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> floor conference room.

**17. Adjournment**

Ms. Dawson moved, seconded by Mr. Lankton, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

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Stephen Lankton  
Secretary/Treasurer

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Date