

Mississippi Board of Psychology
May 1, 2015 Minutes
Woolfolk Building
Jackson, Mississippi

Present

Donald Hinton, Esq.	Chair	2012-2017
Karen Christoff, Ph.D.	Executive Secretary	2011-2016
John Askew, Ph.D.	CE Coordinator	2013-2018
Jefferson, Parker, Ph.D.	Credentialing Coordinator	2010-2015
Patricia Alexander, Ph.D.	Recording Secretary	2012-2017
Lisa Yazdani, Ph.D.	Member	2014-2019
Hy Crocker	Board Administrator	
Mardi Allen, Ph.D.		
Gilbert S. Macvaugh, III, Psy.D.		

Not Present

Joe Olmi, Ph.D.,	Treasurer	2012 -2017
C. Nina Jannik, Ph.D.	Board Assistant	
Onetta Whitley, Esq	Board Attorney	

Call To Order:

Dr. Christoff called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. on behalf of Don Hinton, Chair who arrived later. The proposed agenda was accepted with the following additions: election of Board officers, pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-31-7 and formalizing procedure for granting extension of temporary licenses and method to expedite licensure for military applicants pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-31-14 and consistent with provisions of Miss. Code Ann. § 73-50 -1. Review of contract Ms. Crocker also was added to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Christoff called for consideration of the February 2015 minutes of the Board. Dr. Parker made a motion to approve the minutes with the two minor corrections noted by Ms. Crocker, with Dr. Alexander seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Dr. Olmi and Mr. Hinton absent and not voting.

A motion was made by Dr. Parker seconded by Dr. Askew to consider the need to go into Executive Session to discuss applicants and investigations. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting. A motion was made by Dr. Parker and seconded by Dr. Askew to enter Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting. A motion was made by Mr. Hinton and seconded by Dr. Askew for the Board to exit Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting.

Actions Taken in Executive Session

Mr. Hinton reported actions taken in Executive Session.

Oral Examinations

The following individuals were approved at the February meeting for the next administration of the Oral Exams and were granted temporary licenses on February 6, 2015 based on documentation of current licenses to practice in other jurisdictions.

Both are now requesting to skip the next administration of Orals scheduled for June 5, 2015 because of conflicts and take their Orals at the October 16, 2015 administration. They are also requesting extensions of their temporary licenses.

The Board voted to approve these individuals' requests for Oral examinations in October and extension of their temporary licenses until the October Oral examinations:

Andrew L. Hadden, Psy.D., ABPP
Leah E. Miller, Psy.D.

Applicants

The Board voted to approve the following individuals for the next administration of the Oral Exams scheduled for June 5, 2015.

Candidate 03132013
Candidate 01202015
Candidate 03132015
Candidate 11032014
Candidate 10112014
Candidate 12152014

Drs. Bradford M. Smith and Quinton T. Edwards were pre-approved for Orals on March 9, 2015 by the Credentialing Coordinator as the Board meeting scheduled for March 6, 2015 was canceled because of bad weather. Both hold active and current Licenses in other jurisdictions and were approved by the Board for Oral examination at this meeting.

The Board voted to approve the requests of Dr. Quinton T. Edwards, Jr. to skip the next administration of Orals scheduled for June 5, 2015 and take their Orals at the October 16, 2015 administration and for a Temporary License based on documentation of a current license from another jurisdiction.

Dr. Bradford M. Smith also was approved for a Temporary license on March 9, 2015, and this request was formally approved by the Board at this meeting.

The Board voted to approve the following psychologists' requests for a temporary license based on documentation of a current license for another jurisdiction. Both of these individual are approved for the Oral examination to be held on June 5, 2015.

Karen R. Sheridan, Ph.D.
Holly M. Spotts, Psy.D.

Investigations

The Board closed the investigation of case 12232014 and instructed Dr. Christoff to correspond with both the complainant and psychologist to inform them of the Board's decision.

Financial Report

In the absence of the Board's Treasurer, Dr. Olmi, Ms. Crocker submitted the Board's current financial data. Ms. Crocker answered questions about projected expenses through FY15 and was asked to bring estimates for equipment replacement and development of a new database to the June meeting for consideration. Dr. Christoff made a motion, seconded by Dr. Alexander, to accept the financial report and grant Ms. Crocker's request have the Board pay for and allow her to attend a computer training class. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting.

Legislative Update

Dr. Allen re-capped several recently passed legislative bills that may impact the responsibilities of the Board. HB 8085 grants insurance coverage for individuals with Autism. Licensed psychologists, along with physicians are named as the professionals approved to diagnose Autism Spectrum Disorder. This statute also establishes the Behavior Analysis Board, which will be managed in the Secretary of State's office. There is overlap in the scope of practices for psychologists and behavior analysts.

SB2695 provides vouchers for individuals with special needs. Every three (3) years some of the individuals will need to be assessed by the school district, a federal or state government agency, or a licensed physician or psychometrists. Interpretation of where such assessment may be conducted may be in conflict with § 73-31-27.

ASPPB Highlights

Ms. Crocker, Ms. Whitley and Drs. Christoff, Alexander and Allen attended the ASPPB meeting in Atlanta. Information was shared with the Board concerning how Boards address continued competency after licensure, dealing impaired psychologists and interjurisdictional practice by telehealth. Implications from a recent Supreme Court decision (North Carolina Dental Board case) were discussed particularly the importance of Board members minimizing conflicts of interest while serving as regulators and while continuing memberships in professional organizations and being market participants. Further, the suggestion was made that it could be important to have the word "State" in the official title of the Board.

Rule Change Considerations

As Credentialing Coordinator, Dr. Parker asked the Board to consider several rule changes. After discussion, Dr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Dr. Christoff to insert new language in the Rules and Regulations in Rule 4.7 to provide consistency in granting extensions of temporary license as follows: "No temporary license shall be valid for longer than six months." This will help to clarify the Board's process to issue a temporary license and expedite

applications of military families pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-31-14 and be consistent with Miss. Code Ann. § 73-50 -1. This rule change will be submitted along with others to be discussed at future Board meetings. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting. Until such official rule changes are made the Board will continue to handle both issues on a cases by case basis. Rule Change Considerations will be placed on upcoming Board Agendas in order for the Board to make all needed changes at one time.

Contracts

On a motion by Dr. Christoff, seconded by Dr. Parker, the Board voted unanimously to contract with Ms. Helen Crocker, for the provision of Administrative Services to the MS Board of Psychology for the next twelve months, pending review and approval of the contract by Ms. Whitley.

Elections of Board officers

Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 73-3-7 Mr. Hinton opened floor for nominations of Board Chair and Executive Secretary along with all other Board positions for the next year. On a motion by Dr. Alexander made a motion, seconded by Dr. Askew, that Dr. Yazdani assume the position of Recording Secretary and all other positions remain the same. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting.

Civil Commitment Training Update

Dr. Gill MacVaugh joined the Board meeting to discuss his review and recommended changes to the Civil Commitment certification program Rule 8.2-7 (Miss. Code Ann. § 73-31-14 and Miss. Code Ann. § 41-21-61). The Board discussed the first offering of the Revised Civil Commitment workshop to be held in conjunction with the MPA annual convention. Dr. Molly Clark, chair of the MPA Planning Committee joined by telephone to discuss several issues.

After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that for the September 2015 training the Revised Civil Commitment workshop will be offered to new certification applicants and certified psychologists at a reduced price of \$50.00 during the MPA Annual Convention. Further, it was determined that only the first part of the two-part Civil Commitment Training and Evaluation process will be offered at MPA. The required performance sample portion will be schedule at a later date. Both parts must be successfully completed in order to be certified by the Board of Psychology to conduct civil commitment evaluations in MS.

MPA has agreed to extend the application deadline for registration for the Civil Commitment training until August 6 in order for the Board to consider new applicants at the August 7 Board meeting. A motion was made by Dr. Yazdani, seconded by Dr. Askew to make the MacVaugh recommended changes to the Civil Commitment process, to provide the training at a reduced rate of \$50.00 at the first offering (September 2015) and to encourage certified psychologists to attend the session to review statutory changes and to refresh their skills. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting.

Drs. MacVaugh and Allen discussed a plan to submit a panel discussion session for MPA convention that will answer many of the questions attendees may have about the civil commitment process, responsibilities of a certified psychologist, criteria of commitment,

scheduling evaluations, and working on behalf of the court. The panel will consist of psychologists who have conducted civil commitment evaluations for many years, a chancery judge, along with a DMH Board member and CMHC representative. It will not be presented on behalf of the Psychology Board; however, the Board expressed approval and endorsed the need for the information to be disseminated. Mr. Hinton offered to assist in collecting data from the Chancellor Judges and in developing a plan to help inform judges that certified psychologists are the only approved evaluators that have training in the clinical, legal, ethical responsibilities to conduct civil commitment evaluations in MS.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Hinton seconded by Dr. Parker to consider the need to go into Executive Session to discuss an ongoing legal matter. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting. A motion was made by Dr. Parker and seconded by Dr. Askew to go into Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting. A motion was made by Mr. Hinton and seconded by Dr. Askew that the Board exit Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting. Mr. Hinton reported that no actions were taken in Executive Session.

Other Business

Ms. Crocker announced that the next scheduled meeting of the Mississippi Board of Psychology is June 5, 2015 at the Woolfolk Building in Jackson, MS. Oral examinations are scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. with the Open Board meeting to follow.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Alexander, seconded by Dr. Yazdani to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Dr. Olmi absent and not voting. Adjournment was at 4:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,



Pat Alexander, Ph.D.
Recording Secretary

6/5/15

Date