

**Board of Psychology**

Board Meeting  
July 17, 2020  
Teleconference

**Board Attendance**

**Present    Absent**

Molly Clark, Ph.D., Continuing Education Coordinator	2018- 2023	x	
Steve Ellis, Ph.D., Chair & Civil Commitment Coordinator	2016-2021	x	
Lynwood Wheeler, Ph.D., Recording Secretary	2018-2023	x	
Natalie Gaughf, Ph.D., Credentialing Coordinator	2016-2021	x	
Monica Sutton, Ph.D., Treasurer	2017-2022	x	
Lisa Yazdani, Ph.D., Executive Secretary	2019-2024	x	

**Also Present**

Edward Wiggins, Jr., Esq., Special Assistant to the Attorney General  
Stacie Sharp, Board Administrator

**Call to Order:**

Dr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM. The meeting was conducted via WebEx teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Ellis called for amendments to the agenda.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Yazdani motioned, seconded by Dr. Gaughf, to approve the 6/12/20 minutes with noted corrections. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

**Treasurer Report:**

Dr. Sutton reported that the autism board will have a budget of \$13,000 this coming year. The psychology board has funds left over from last year and there are no problems with the budget.

The decision was made to not go forward with the website proposal for the autism board as they are an independent board. Dr. Sutton pointed out that it may be difficult for them to move forward with the website, though, due to their lack of funds, as their administrative costs use of most of their budget. Thus, they may need to ask their licensee's for renewals yearly instead of every 3 years.

Mr. Wiggins reported that the autism board has been assigned new counsel. The psychology board has been in a position of oversight and there should be a conversation regarding the autism board covering its own expenses and moving toward becoming completely independent.

**Continuing Education Coordinator Report:**

Dr. Clark reported that 12 people have not renewed their license. A letter was sent out to encourage renewing. A number of these individuals have moved out of the state.

Dr. Clark asked that the board ratify the decision that Dr. Allen be approved for CE credits for a 26-hour mindfulness program at Mississippi College. This was moved by Dr. Yazdani and seconded by Dr. Gaughf. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote

**Civil Commitment Coordinator Report:**

Dr. Ellis had no report for Civil Commitment. He did state that if the Mississippi Psychological Association's annual convention is virtual, he will be unable to conduct the civil commitment workshop.

**Chair Report:**

Dr. Ellis reported that he addressed Dr. Joe Olmi's graduate class pertaining to the board's roles.

**Board Administrator Report:**

Ms. Sharp reported that the platform for the board website has been changed and the layout has been improved. A goal is to add a "frequently asked questions" link. Ms. Sharp has been working with board members on the annual report and the strategic plan.

Dr. Yazdani reported that on June 26 she reviewed Ms. Sharp's evaluation with her, which was positive.

Ms. Sharp reported that the Autism board was conducting oral exams today.

**Executive Session:**

Dr. Clark made the motion to enter into closed determination session to consider the need to enter into executive session. Dr. Sutton seconded the motion to consider the need to enter into executive session enter into executive session. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark moved to consider going into executive session to discuss applications and complaints. Dr. Sutton seconded the motion to go into executive session to discuss applications and complaints. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

**Actions taken during Executive Session:**

Dr. Wheeler reported that following actions took place during Executive Session:

### **Complaints:**

Dr. Yazdani reported the she and Mr. Wiggins reviewed complaint 06022001 and found no ethical or legal violations. Dr. Clark moved that this complaint be closed, seconded by Dr. Gaughf. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Yazdani reported regarding case 06032002 that the psychologist did not respond to contact attempts, but upon further follow up, there have been extenuating family issues. The psychologist responded yesterday but the response has not been reviewed and this will be discussed at the August 7 meeting of the board.

### **Candidate Status/Status of Applications/Complaints:**

Dr. Gaughf recommended three individuals for an abbreviated Oral Examination and the Jurisprudence Examination scheduled for August 7, 2020; 12262019 licensed in North Carolina, 04102020 licensed in Alabama who has a temporary license which will expire on the day of the oral examination, and 06262019 who is licensed in multiple states and has earned an ABPP. It was moved to accept this recommendation by Dr. Clark, and seconded by Dr. Yazdani. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

At the last board meeting, 12142019 was recommended to sit for the Oral Examination and the Jurisprudence Examination pending successfully passing the EPPP. This candidate did not pass and thus will not be administered the Oral Examination in August. He contacted ASPPB requesting approval to retake the EPPP. He was approved to retake the EPPP, in accordance with Rule 5.4, no sooner than two months following the first EPPP. Dr. Clark moved that this be accepted, seconded by Dr. Yazdani. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Gaughf recommended two candidates for the EPPP, 03032020 and 03262020. The motion was made to approve these candidates for the EPPP by Dr. Clark, and seconded by Dr. Sutton. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Gaughf recommended a number of applicants for Temporary Practice Certificates; Mary M. Jonsson licensed in Colorado, Lauren Berman licensed in Georgia, Aleksandra Kalinich licensed in California, Emily Brickell licensed in Louisiana, Michael Treanor licensed in California, Heather Lynn Parton licensed in Texas, Venette Westhoven licensed in Texas, and Jessica Row licensed in California. Dr. Clark moved to ratify these applicants and Dr. Yazdani seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote

Dr. Gaughf reported that an applicant who has no post-doc and has been denied twice for licensure. This individual is requesting that experience through the Air Force be considered equivalent to a post-doc. It will be recommended that this request be forwarded to ASPPB, and if the experience is deemed commensurate with a post-doc experience, the board will consider this.

Dr. Gaughf reported that an applicant licensed in two other states initially indicated that their internship was APA accredited; however, the PLUS application indicates it was not, and thus Dr. Gaughf is waiting to hear from ASPPB pertaining to this discrepancy.

Dr. Gaughf reported that an applicant has provided a background check from the present employer, but not through the State per the Rules and Regulations. It was agreed that due to COVID-19 these rule and regulations will be suspended to avoid delays.

Dr. Gaughf reported that Boston Children's Hospital was unable to verify an applicant's internship and post-doc due to COVID-19. It was agreed that the letter from Boston Children's Hospital that verified time of employment will be deemed sufficient.

**Old Business:**

Mr. Wiggins is continuing to communicate with the Board of Education regarding the scope of practice of psychometrists, and there may be a change made in their application for licensure.

Mr. Wiggins will research the process of a statute change with regard to changing the Post-doctoral experience requirements.

Board members will maintain current positions on the board and Dr. Clark will begin shadowing Dr. Gaughf as Credentialing Coordinator.

**New Business:**

Dr. Gaughf recommended that the board consider a continuation of on-line oral examinations for the convenience of applicants, especially those who are travelling from a distance. It was discussed that this could be offered as an option.

**Adjourn:**

Dr. Clark moved to adjourn the meeting, and this was seconded by Dr. Yazdani. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:34 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Lynwood Wheeler, Ph.D., ABPP  
Recording Secretary

July 17, 2020