

Board of Psychology

Board Meeting
March 27, 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

Ken Walley, Esq., Special Assistant to the Attorney General
Stacie Sharp, Board Administrator

Call to Order:

Dr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 10:17 AM and called for amendments to the agenda. The meeting was conducted via WebEx teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

Dr. Gaughf motioned, seconded by Dr. Yazdani, to approve the minutes with noted corrections of the 2/7/20 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Treasurer Report:

Dr. Sutton presented the financial statement to the board.

Continuing Education Coordinator Report:

Dr. Clark reported that the renewal letter has been printed and mass emails are ready to be sent and thanked Stacie Sharp for her assistance in completing this.

There have been questions pertaining to COVID-19 and the impact on continuing education. The following statement was released:

With regard to Continuing Education impacts due to COVID-19, the Mississippi Board of Psychology wishes to remind licensees that this is a non-reporting continuing education renewal year. While it is understood that some conferences have been cancelled, we anticipate that there will be options to fulfill the 20 continuing education hours before June 30, 2021. However, we will continue to monitor this concern and make adjustments in the future as necessary.

The above statement was posted on the Board website and emailed to all licensed psychologists in Mississippi.

Dr. Terry Hight requested continuing education approval for a conference entitled Connections 2020. Upon review of the content of the conference workshops and the Mississippi Statutes and Board's Rules and Regulations, 3 CE hours were approved for this conference. Dr. Clark requested that this be ratified by the board, and this was seconded by Dr. Gaughf. . The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark also moved that Dr. Chaney's reporting of CE hours be extended to May 31, 2020. This was seconded by Dr. Gaughf. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote. Dr. Clark will check with him at the end of May to see if a further extension needs to be considered, as his medical procedures may be delayed due to COVID-19.

Dr. Krisi Mong requested that her coursework in Medical Psychology from Fairley Dickinson University be credited as CE hours. It was moved by Dr. Clark to accept these courses if they are APA approved. This was seconded by Dr. Gaughf. . The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Civil Commitment Coordinator Report:

Dr. Ellis reported that Dr. Mallory Malkin with MPA requested that he be part of a panel discussion on Civil Commitment at the MPA convention. He will be joined on this panel by Dr. Jim Hertzog and Dr. Mike Roberts.

Chair Report:

Dr. Ellis contacted Amy Wilson with MPA to affirm that the statutes pertaining to the practice of psychology include telehealth services. This information was disseminated to the MPA membership.

Board Administrator Report:

Ms. Sharp reported that in sending emails regarding the renewal of licenses, 14 emails were not good and were updated.

Ms. Sharp reported that the equipment approved to be removed has been.

Ms. Sharp encouraged board members to complete the Conflict of Interest ethics statement and a link will be sent to access this.

Ms. Sharp discussed the purchase of Adobe Acrobat to assist in sending forms out electronically. It was moved by Dr. Clark to approve spending up to \$800 for this and seconded by Dr. Yazdani. . The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Executive Session:

Dr. Clark made the motion to enter into closed determination session to consider the need to enter into executive session. Dr. Gaughf 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. Wheeler moved to consider going into executive session to discuss applications and complaints. Dr. Clark 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 reports no new complaints.

Candidate Status/Status of Applications:

Dr. Gaughf reported that applicant (04152019) requested that his oral examination be rescheduled to the June 12, 2020 examination date as his father passed away. Dr. Yazdani moved to accept, and Dr. Sutton seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Gaughf recommended that the applications of five individuals for temporary practice certificates be ratified, these being Dr. Kimberly Adams of Georgia, Dr. Charles Yarborough of Louisiana, Dr. Megan Avery of Tennessee, Dr. Iris Leigh Kiner of Florida, and Dr. Charles Philip Brandt of Texas. Dr. Clark moved to accept these applicants and Dr. Gaughf seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Mr. Walley will further evaluate the form used for Temporary Practice Certificates.

Dr. Gaughf recommended one candidate (12142019) for the EPPP. Dr. Wheeler moved to accept and Dr. Clark seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote

Dr. Gaughf recommended two candidates, (07292019) who is licensed in multiple states and holds a CPQ, and (01312020) to sit for the Oral Examination and the Jurisprudence Examination to be administered on June 12, 2020. Dr. Wheeler moved to accept and Dr. Clark seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Old Business:

Dr. Gaughf discussed the board's response to COVID-19 and a letter was sent out to licensed psychologists pertaining to telehealth practice. A question was raised regarding supervision of students who are out of state during the pandemic and who are providing tele-health services to students in Mississippi. It was agreed that ethically responsible practice would dictate that the supervisor be readily available to the student providing services, and that the supervisor be licensed in Mississippi. There was further discussion that psychologists should be reminded to seek consultation and continuing education related to the delivery of services via telehealth. Dr. Gaughf will respond to these specific questions via email.

There was discussion pertaining to the PLUS system currently being utilized for application, and how it does not have a provision for individuals who hold a CPQ, an ABPP, are active duty military, or are licensed in another state. In the Mississippi Code and the Board's Rules and Regulations, any of these four would allow the applicant an abbreviated application, but this is not an option with the PLUS application. Dr. Wheeler will contact ASPPB to inquire if the PLUS system can accommodate this provision.

Mr. Walley reported that he spoke with attorneys with the Department of Education, and that an amendment may potentially be made to their regulations. This amendment would state that a psychometrist licensed to conduct evaluations in the school setting would not conduct these privately outside the school setting. Mr. Walley stated that they would continue to work toward this, and he will meet further with the Department of Education attorneys, and Dr. Ellis will accompany him to this meeting. Dr. Ellis will also respond to Dr. Olmi who originally brought this concern to the board.

New Business:

Dr. Ellis received a question from Dr. Stone pertaining to popular applications for video conferencing and the appropriateness of these for telehealth services, and Dr. Ellis referred Dr. Stone to the HIPPA guidelines.

Dr. Gaughf discussed the board administrator working from home during the current pandemic, and it was agreed that Ms. Sharp take whatever steps necessary to remain safe, and there was no objection to her going to the board office as needed.

The Post-doctoral requirement for licensure was further discussed.

Adjourn:

Dr. Yazdani moved to adjourn the meeting, and this was seconded by Dr. Wheeler. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:54 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Lynwood Wheeler, Ph.D., ABPP
Recording Secretary

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