Board Meeting
April 9, 2021

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
Alexis Morris, Esq., Special Assistant Attorney General
Stacie Sharp, Board Administrator
Ryan Beard, Director of the Office of Classification, Compensation, and Recruitment, State Personnel Board
Amy Mason, Department of Finance Administration
Madeleine Christian, Student
Drs. Penny Foster, Danielle Maack, and Mallory Malkin, and Mr. Chip Reno from the Mississippi Psychological Association

Call to Order:
Dr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

Dr. Clark moved/ Dr. Yazdani seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2021 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark moved/Dr Gaughf seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the March 5th meeting. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark moved/Dr. Yazdani seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the March 8th meeting. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Treasurer's Report:

Dr. Sutton reported that the Board is functioning within the parameters of the budget.

Continuing Education Coordinator Report:

Dr. Clark reported that licensure renewal letters have been sent out and that process is going well. She also reported that programs who are approved by the MSBOP to offer continuing education are renewed every two years and those also renew this year. In auditing those program, Dr. Clark discovered that there was an entity who applied to be a provider, but as no alerts are set in the LMS system for this, Dr. Clark did not realize they had applied. She reached out to the applicant but has not heard back from them. Dr. Clark asked the Board for permission to contact the LMS tech. administrator to have alerts added so that programs who apply to be CE providers will not be overlooked again. Dr. Yazdani moved/Dr. Gaughf seconded a motion to allow Dr. Clark to pursue this. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

In addition, Dr. Clark announced that she has a meeting set for next week with representatives from PESI regarding having MS added as a state who accepts PESI offerings.

Dr. Clark also consulted with the Board regarding a question she received from a psychologist regarding whether a particular offering would count as a Legal/Ethical CE. The consensus of the Board was that the offering would fall under the Legal/Ethical CE designation.

Finally, Dr. Clark noted that the language for CE requirements of newly licensed psychologist needs to be changed in the Rules and Regulations and that discussion will be addressed during that section of the Board meeting.

Civil Commitment Coordinator:

Dr. Ellis reported that he contacted the MPA Administrator to inform MPA that the Board will be available to conduct civil commitment training at the Annual MPA Conference in September should there be psychologists who need this training.

Chair Report:

Dr. Ellis introduced Mr. Beard from the State Personnel Board (SPB) to discuss the new PIN position. Mr. Beard discussed with the MSBOP the logistics of handling the new PIN. He answered questions the Board had regarding this and also provided Ms. Mason with information.

Mr. Beard informed the Board that the SPB is in the process of streamlining title classifications and new job titles will go into effect in January 2022. Once he receives the Board minutes reflecting who has been appointed to the PIN, he will take steps to complete the process so that everything is in place by July 1, 2021. Ms. Mason will also coordinate with the SPB to put paperwork in place for making this transition.

Dr. Yazdani moved/Dr. Clark seconded that the Board appoint Ms. Stacie Sharp to the new PIN position and that the job title for this PIN be Executive Director, all of which will be effective July 1, 2021. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Board Administrator Report:

Ms. Sharp noted that renewals are coming in and that process is going well. She pointed out that in Fiscal Year 2020, the MSBOP licensed 15 psychologists. To date in Fiscal year 2021, the MSBOP has licensed 24 psychologists and we have at least 7 additional applications in process at this time.

Executive Session:

Dr. Clark moved/Dr. Gaughf seconded that the Board enter into closed determination session to consider the need to enter into executive session. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark moved/ Dr. Gaughf seconded to consider going 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 the following actions took place during Executive Session:

Candidate Status/Status of Applications:

Dr. Gaughf reported that TPCs were issued to the following psychologists: Megan Avery, Tennessee; Samantha Grigsby, Colorado; Janice P. Pazar, Tennessee. Dr. Clark moved/Dr. Yazdani seconded to approve/ratify the TPCs of these three psychologists. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Gaughf recommended applicant 06152020 to take the EPPP. Dr. Clark moved/Dr. Yazdani seconded to approve this applicant for the EPPP. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Gaughf recommended the following applicants for the oral examination: 10072020 and 02042021. Dr. Clark moved/Dr. Yazdani seconded that these applicants be approved to take the Oral Examination. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Gaughf consulted with the Board regarding an applicant who has been unable to submit information about post-doc because his supervisor is deceased. The Board consulted on this matter and it was decided that Ms. Sharp will respond to an ASPPB e-mail informing them that the MSBOP will accept documentation directly from the Florida Board of Psychology to verify this applicants' postdoc training.

Dr. Gaughf also consulted with the Board regarding an applicant who has a foreign degree. It was decided that this individual is not eligible for licensure in MS at this time and that the individual should review the MS Statute and Rules and Regulations and consider whether the name of the individual's business is lawful.

Complaints:
Dr. Yazdani asked Ms. Morris to update the Board regarding the hearing set regarding complaints20190826 and 20190911. Ms. Morris reported that a continuance has been requested and the hearing will not take place on April 23rd. The Board set the hearing date for June 25, 2021.

Review and Update of Rules and Regulations:
The Board discussed the need to change the language for Continuing Education requirements of newly licensed psychologists. It was recommended that newly licensed psychologist have no requirement for obtaining CEs until the reporting next reporting cycle after they are licensed.

Old Business:

The Board discussed HB 1263 and how this may impact the psychology board. Dr. Gaughf reported that she met with Representative Currie, author of the bill, in an attempt to educate her regarding the need for psychologists to be exempted from this bill; however, that did not happen. This bill will become law on July 1, 2021. Mr. Reno educated the Board that this new law will not establish a new occupational board; the MSBOP will continue to function as the occupational licensing board for psychologists. In addition, the law has a residency requirement. The Board discussed how additional changes to the Rules and Regulations will be needed in order to reflect this new law and to ensure that the public is protected and that the vulnerable populations served by psychologists continue to be protected in the state.

New Business:

In response to a psychologist's inquiry the Board discussed HR 7105-36 which is a new federal law allowing psychologists who hold a license in any state to offer services to veterans through the contracts with the Veterans Administration. The language of the law states this is in effect "notwithstanding" state laws to the contrary. It also does not address where this applies to psychologists who subcontract with an agency who contract with the VA. Ms. Morris recommended that the Board; however, Ms. Morris will take this matter under review and will provide further advise based on her review. In the meantime, the Board cannot recommend that psychologist practice in any state where they do not how a license. Dr. Yazdani will draft a response to the psychologist.

The Board will attend the ASPPB Midyear Virtual Meeting on the afternoon of April 9th. Those who are available will also attend the meeting on Saturday, April 10th.

Adjourn:

Dr. Yazdani moved/Dr. Sutton seconded that the Board adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Respectfully Submitted

Lisa Yazdani, Ph.D. April 9, 2021

Executive Secretary