

## Board of Psychology

---

Board Meeting  
August 6, 2021  
Teleconference

### **Board Attendance**

**Present    Absent**

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

### **Also Present**

Alexis E. Morris, Esq., Special Assistant to the Attorney General  
Stacie Sharp, Executive Director

### **Call to Order:**

Dr. Yazdani called the meeting to order at 9:44 A.M. and called for amendments to the agenda.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Clark motioned, seconded by Dr. Ellis, to approve the July 9, 2021, Minutes with noted corrections. 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. Clark moved to consider going into Executive Session to discuss applications and complaints. Dr. Gaughf 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. Sutton reported that there are no new complaints.

Dr. Yazdani clarified that disciplinary actions such as suspension, probation, or revoked license are listed on the board website, but educational letters are not.

Attorney Morris reported that there is a hearing set in Chancery Court on August 16, 2021 regarding complaints 20190826 and 20190911.

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

Dr. Clark recommended 03152021 and 03262020 to retake the EPPP. Dr. Ellis moved to accept this recommendation, and Dr. Wheeler seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark recommended two applicants for the oral examination and the jurisprudence examination, 04092021 and 02202021. Dr. Gaughf moved to accept this recommendation, and Dr. Ellis seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark recommended six applicants for Temporary Practice Certificates: Maria Staropoli Hafner NJ, Heather Parton TX, Rosslyn Douglas TX, Dale Green Watson CA, Natalie Jean Novick Brown WA, Monique Marie LeBlanc LA. One applicant, Joseph Robert Yohman was issued a Temporary Practice Certificate, and now would like a refund. Dr. Ellis moved to ratify Dr. Clark's recommendations, and to not issue a refund, and Dr. Gaughf seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark chaired the oral examination committee of Laura Bourn, applicant 04092021, and Lisa King Miller and reported that Drs. Bourn and Miller passed, and applicant 04092021 will be asked to retake the abbreviated oral examination. Dr. Gaughf chaired the examination committee of Aaron Lee and reported that he passed, and Dr. Ellis chaired the examination committee of Dr. Austen Anderson, and reported that he passed. Dr. Ellis moved to accept the recommendations of the examination committees, and Dr. Clark seconded. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

Dr. Clark discussed that the language for the Temporary Practice certificate should be sent to Attorney Morris for review.

It was discussed that phone inquiries pertaining to Mississippi Code should be forwarded to Attorney Morris, and the board cannot respond to an inquiry unless the individual is actually an applicant.

### **Continuing Education:**

Dr. Clark recommended that a psychologist's file be retired, and a note placed in LMS stating that if this individual would like to renew, they must complete all required CE requirements. This psychologist did not report CE hours from 2017-2019, and has not renewed for 2021.

Dr. Clark reported that the psychologists to be audited were randomly selected and letters were sent. Most had met the CE criteria, although a few had some omissions with regard to a CE offering being reported which was not approved by a board approved sponsor or the board. These were discussed, and the psychologists will be given 60 days to obtain approved CE credits.

Two psychologists did not renew.

Dr. Clark made the motion to enter into open session. Dr. Ellis seconded the motion to enter into open session. The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote.

### **Treasurer Report:**

Dr. Sutton reported that the board is a stable financial position and operating within the parameters of the budget, and all reports have been submitted.

### **Civil Commitment Coordinator Report:**

Dr. Ellis reported that there were no eligible applicants by the deadline to take the civil commitment exam.

### **Review and Update of Rules and Regulations:**

Dr. Ellis presented a proposed revision to the oral examination. It was discussed that the current jurisprudence examination should be reviewed by the board as some categories need to be edited or consolidated. The wording of the letter sent to candidates for licensure would also need to be changed following the oral exam revision. Finally, it will be further discussed if the jurisprudence exam can be taken more than one time during a testing.

### **Executive Director Report:**

Ms. Sharp reported that due to COVID-19, there is the possibility that MPA will not be in person and will be virtual.

ASPPB annual meeting will be October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, and will be held virtually.

With the change made to the post-doctoral training requirement for licensure, ASPPB will be notified that there is not a need for a post-doctoral plan form.

It was discussed that there were a number of questions that should be brought before the board instead of receiving an email response. There was a question related to telehealth practice, which is covered under the license to practice, and there were no changes made to this with COVID-19. Psychologists should follow the law, which includes telehealth practice.

There was a question pertaining to an individual licensed in AL, and this individual was encouraged to read the scope of practice in the statute, and if further information is needed, then an attorney should be consulted.

### **Chair Report:**

Dr. Yazdani discussed the yearly evaluation of Ms. Sharp, which was positive. The discussed areas of growth were not feeling pressured to respond to applicants immediately and defer some questions to the board. There was discussion of developing some scripted responses to frequently asked questions to standardize the verbiage. Ms. Sharp will start saving questions asked, and this will be further discussed in new business in future meetings.

Dr. Yazdani discussed having a board retreat to discuss these types of issues and address board member education.

### **Old Business:**

Attorney Morris discussed bill 1263, which is now MS Code annotated 73-50-2, and it was agreed that the board will comply with this. A temporary work permit will be added to the board's rules and regulations. Also, the rules and regulations will define what entails a completed application. Thus, if a complete application has been received by the board administrator, a temporary work certificate can be issued. A statement of compliance with 73-50-2 will also be added to the board's rules and regulations. Under 73-50-2, an applicant would need to reference the provision in 73-50-2, and have a letter of potential employment or letter from an employer, or one year of residency in the state.

### **New Business:**

Dr. Yazdani proposed the following dates for future board meetings:

January 14 (orals)  
February 11  
March 11 (orals)  
April - no meeting - ASPPB  
May 6 (orals)  
June 3 (orals)  
July 15  
August 12 (orals)  
September (MPA - TBA)  
October 7  
October - ASPPB  
November 4 (orals)

December 2 (tentative)

**Adjourn:**

Dr. Clark moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Ellis . The motion passed unanimously with all in attendance participating in the vote. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Lynwood Wheeler, Ph.D., ABPP  
Recording Secretary

August 6, 2021