

Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists
Board Meeting
Saturday, October 15, 2011 at 9:30 am
Department of State Health Services
8407 Wall Street, Room N-102
Austin, TX 78754

Agenda

Board Members Present:

Beverly Womack, Professional Member
Rick Bruhn, Professional Member
Michael Miller, Public Member
George Francis, Public Member
Michael Puhl, Public Member
Joe Ann Clack, Public Member
Sandra DeSobe, Professional Member
Jennifer Smothermon, Professional Member

Staff Present:

Carol Miller
Georgia Norman
Dawn Burton
Cindy Bourland

Guests Present:

Agenda Item 1 was to call the meeting to order at 9:45 am by Ms. DeSobe, chair.

Agenda Item 2 was the approval of the minutes of the July 2011 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Miller to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 3 was the discussion regarding reports from the following board committees:

Mr. Puhl gave the Rules Committee report.

- Discussion and possible action regarding required rule changes from legislation passed during the 82nd Regular Session of the Texas Legislature which may affect the regulation of marriage and family therapists, the board, or the Department of State Health Services Professional Licensing and Certification Unit, including facilitating the licensure of military spouses.
- Discussion and possible action related to recommendations for the full board for amendments to the board's rules as a part of the four year rule review of 22 Texas Administrative Code, Part 35, Chapter 801, concerning the licensure and regulation of Marriage and Family Therapists.
- Discussion and possible action related to approval of proposed amendments to the board's rules in 22 Texas Administrative Code, Part 35, Chapter 801, concerning the licensure and regulation of Marriage and Family Therapists, for publication in the Texas Register.

Ms. Clack gave the Ethics Committee report. The committee reviewed 12 cases.

- Number of Cases reviewed
- Cases Closed
- Disciplinary Action Recommended

- Cases awaiting hearings or settlement conferences
- Discussion and possible action regarding Beverly Engel, LMFT, Complaint #1062-11-0007.
- Discussion and possible action regarding the authorization of continuing education credit in ethics by the board for the time licensees who are not parties to a case spend attending Ethics Committee meetings.

Ms. Smothermon gave the Licensing Standards Committee report. The committee reviewed 9 cases. The committee discussed concerns related to LMFT-Associates' completion of "at least 750 hours consist of direct clinical services to couples or families, requests to modify forms, policies, or rules related to board approval of minimum requirements for supervision and supervised experience of an LMFT-A towards LMFT licensure, as they relate to the Supervisory Agreement Form and the location of practice and the acceptance of licensure applications from individuals who do not hold a qualifying degree but who are students in PhD programs and who have completed all required coursework toward the degree except the dissertation. The committee also discussed minimum academic requirements for licensure as related to Title 22, Texas Administrative Code §801.112-801.115, pertaining to current acceptance of degrees titled "Marriage and Family Therapy," and "Marital and Family Therapy" as well as other COAMFTE accredited programs, with consideration of possible inclusion of "Marriage Couples and Family Counseling" and other substantially equivalent iterations of that program title as determined by the board from CACREP accredited programs.

Ms. Womack gave the Professional Development Committee report. The committee discussed the continuing education provider audits, the board's jurisprudence examination, the informational mail-out and the authorization of continuing education credit in ethics by the board for the time licensees who are not parties to a case spend attending Ethics Committee meetings.

Agenda Item 4 was the discussion regarding the Order for final action for Denise Meredith. No action taken.

Agenda Item 5 was the update by the attorney on TMA v. TSBEMFT lawsuit. Ms. Burton gave the update.

Agenda Item 6 was the report from Representative of Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists on AMFTRB Annual Meeting September 2011. Mr. Puhl gave the report.

Agenda Item 7 was the update related to AMFTRB/PES examination contract negotiations. Ms. Miller gave the update.

Agenda Item 8 was the discussion regarding required rule changes from legislation passed during the 82nd Regular Session of the Texas Legislature which may affect the regulation of marriage and family therapists, the board, or the Department of State Health Services Professional Licensing and Certification Unit, including facilitating the licensure of military spouses.

Agenda Item 9 was the discussion related to recommendations for the full board for amendments to the boards rules as a part of the four year rule review of 22 Texas Administrative Code, Part 35, Chapter 801, concerning the licensure and regulation of Marriage and Family Therapists.

Agenda Item 10 was the discussion related to approval of proposed amendments to the board's rules in 22 Texas Administrative Code, Part 35, Chapter 801, concerning the licensure and regulation of Marriage and Family Therapists, for publication in the Texas Register.

Agenda Item 11 was the report from the Board Chair and update concerning current challenges and accomplishments; interaction with stakeholders, state officials, and staff; committee appointments and functions; workload of board members; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the board. Ms. DeSobe gave the report.

Agenda Item 12 was the report from the Executive Director and update concerning program operations; customer service accomplishments, inquiries, and challenges; current and/or historical licensee statistics; media, legislative, and stakeholder contacts and concerns; workload processing; special projects assigned to executive director; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the licensure program. Ms. Miller gave the report.

Agenda Item 13 was the Management report and update from the Professional Licensing and Certification Unit manager, including unit organization and staffing; program costs and revenue; current operational initiatives; customer service accomplishments and challenges; workload processing and statistical information; status of rulemaking within the unit; legislative and media contacts and tracking; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the unit. Ms. Bourland gave the report.

Agenda Item 14 was the discussion regarding future priorities and activities of the board.

Agenda Item 15 was to schedule the next meeting(s). The next meeting date will be January 14-15, 2012.

Agenda Item 16 was public comment.

Agenda Item 17 was adjournment. The meeting was adjourned.