

Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists
Board Meeting
Saturday, July 14, 2012, at 8:30 am
Department of State Health Services
8407 Wall Street, Room N-102
Austin, TX 78754

Minutes

Board Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Carol Miller
Georgia Norman
Crystal Beard
Elaine Snow
Cindy Bourland

Guests Present:

Jack Goswick
James Morris
Celina Trevino
Jodie Elder

Agenda Item 1 was to call the meeting to order at 8:40 am by Mr. Puhl, chair.

Agenda Item 2 was the approval of the minutes of the April 2012 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 3 was public comment. There was none.

Agenda Item 4 was the discussion regarding reports from the following board committees:

Ms. Clack gave the Ethics Committee report. The committee reviewed 14 cases, of which 6 cases were closed and 8 cases were proposed for disciplinary action. The committee discussed cases closed administratively related to board jurisdiction. The committee also discussed board order compliance for Case 1062-10-0008, Cases 1062-12-0028 and 1062-12-0029 and a request for rehearing by Cases 1062-10-0009 and 1062-10-0015. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Smothermon gave the Licensing Standards Committee report. The committee discussed recommendations for changes to board forms and applications. The committee discussed the creation of a

formal, written policy and forms for staff to use under specific circumstances with those Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (“LMFT”) Associates who previously worked with the same supervisor at multiple locations of practice if the initial Supervisory Agreement Form was board-approved related to the supervisor but not to a specific location and a checklist for board use in approving supervised experience and supervision towards meeting LMFT minimum licensure requirements. The committee also discussed the definition and application of the term “family” to minimum LMFT licensure requirements for supervised experience and supervision. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to accept the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Womack gave the Professional Development Committee report. The committee discussed audits of continuing education providers and the board’s jurisprudence examination, including but not limited to: reviewing the current rules included in the exam questions; reviewing recommendations for editing the existing exam questions; suggestions for topics for additional exam questions; and reviewing the quarterly summary from the examination vendor. A motion was made by Mr. Miller to accept the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 5 was the discussion regarding the request of Celina Trevino, LMFT-Associate, for approval of supervised experience and supervision hours accrued under a previous LMFT-Associate licensure. A motion was made by Mr. Miller to deny the request. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 6 was the update by attorney on Texas Medical Association v. Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists lawsuit. Ms. Snow gave the report.

Agenda Item 7 was the update related to 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. Snow gave the report.

Agenda Item 8 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. Mr. Puhl gave the report.

Agenda Item 9 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 10 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 11 was the discussion regarding future priorities and activities of the board.

Agenda Item 12 was public comment. Three people addressed the board.

Agenda Item 13 was to schedule the next meeting(s). The next meeting date will be October 5-6, 2012.

Agenda Item 14 was adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.