

Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists
Board Meeting
Saturday, January 12, 2013, 9:00 am
Texas Department of State Health Services, Exchange Building
8407 Wall Street, Room N-102
Austin, TX 78754

Minutes

Board Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Crystal Beard
Stewart Myrick
Elaine Snow
Cindy Bourland

Guests Present:

Jodie Elder

Agenda Item 1 was to call the meeting to order at 9:12 am by Mr. Puhl, chair.

Agenda Item 2 was the approval of the minutes of the October 2012 meeting. Mr. Miller made a motion 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. The committee discussed public comments on the proposed amendments to Title 22 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 801, concerning the licensure and regulation of marriage and family therapists, as published in the September 28, 2012 issue of the *Texas Register* and final adoption of those rules. Mr. Francis made a motion to approve 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. Dr. Bruhn made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Smothermon gave the Licensing Standards committee report. The committee reviewed five cases and discussed recommendations for changes to board forms and applications. The committee also discussed possible future rule revisions. Mr. Francis made a motion to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Clack gave the Ethics committee report. The committee reviewed twelve cases, of which six cases were closed for no violation, one case was closed as non-jurisdictional, probated suspensions were proposed for three cases, revocation was proposed for one case, and one case was closed with a letter of concern pending completion of

certain conditions. The committee also discussed cases awaiting hearings or settlement conferences and cases closed administratively related to board jurisdiction. Miller made a motion to accept the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 4 was the discussion and possible action regarding public comments on the proposed amendments to Title 22 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 801, concerning the licensure and regulation of marriage and family therapists, as published in the September 28, 2012 issue of the *Texas Register*. This item was covered in agenda item 3.

Agenda Item 5 was the discussion and possible action regarding final adoption of amendments to Title 22 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 801, concerning the licensure and regulation of marriage and family therapists. Mr. Francis made a motion to adopt the rules. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 6 was the discussion and possible action regarding the Orders for Final Action for Walter Swinhoe and Billy Corn. Ms. Smothermon made a motion to accept the proposed actions. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 7 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 8 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. Beard gave the report.

Agenda Item 9 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 10 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 11 was the discussion regarding future priorities and activities of the board. Mr. Puhl mentioned an upcoming presentation by himself and Dr. Stokes to the Texas Association of Marriage and Family Therapists conference. Dr. Bruhn also mentioned his presentations at the same conference and the Texas Counseling Association conference. Dr. Bruhn mentioned the board's preparations for the 2017 review by the Sunset Advisory Commission as it relates to education requirements.

Agenda Item 12 was public comment. Jodie Elder commended the board for their work.

Agenda Item 13 was to schedule the next meeting(s). The next meeting dates will be April 5-6, 2013.

Agenda Item 14 was adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:35 am.

