

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

**Minutes**

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Staff Present:**

Carol Miller  
Cindy Bourland  
David Richards  
Georgia Norman

**Guests Present:**

Jan Friese  
Mike Bishop  
James Morris

**Agenda Item 1** was to call the meeting to order at 8:35 am by Mr. Puhl, chair.

**Agenda Item 2** was the approval of the minutes of the October 2011 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Agenda Item 3** was public comment. Ms. Friese addressed the board. Mr. Bishop addressed the board.

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

Ms. Clack gave the Ethics Committee report. The committee reviewed 7 cases, of which 3 cases were closed and 4 cases were proposed for disciplinary action. The committee also discussed the creation of a board policy related to requirements for Fitness for Practice evaluations and a board policy related to restrictions on serving as a board-approved supervisor as a result of a formal disciplinary action or board-ordered monitoring. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Womack gave the Professional Development Committee report. The committee discussed the continuing education provider audits, jurisprudence examination and proposed rule language related to interactive continuing education, which is face-to-face or live webinar, as opposed to distance, non-interactive, independent study, or self-study continuing education. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. DeSobe gave the Rules Committee report. The committee discussed the 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 and possible future rule changes. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. DeSobe gave Licensing Standards Committee report. The committee reviewed 5 cases, of which 4 cases were approved and 1 case was denied. The committee also discussed the creation of a board policy related to requirements for Fitness for Practice evaluations, a board policy related to restrictions on serving as a board-approved supervisor as a result of a formal disciplinary action or board-ordered monitoring and a staff request to potentially limit appeals cases brought for review by the committee under certain circumstances.

**Agenda Item 5** was the discussion regarding the Order for final action for the following individuals:

A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the Order for Denise Meredith. The motion was seconded and passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the Order for Jonathon Paugh. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Agenda Item 6** was the update by attorney on TMA v. TSBEMFT lawsuit. Mr. Richards gave the update. No action taken.

**Agenda Item 7** was the update regarding adjudicated court case policy for Ethics Complaint consideration. Ms. Miller gave the update. No action taken.

**Agenda Item 8** was the report on correspondence with AMFTRB. No action taken.

**Agenda Item 9** 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. A motion was made by Mr. Miller to approve. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Agenda Item 10** was the discussion regarding request from Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy for TSBEMFT to create Exploratory Task Force to comprehensively research all aspects of the LMFT license and recommend improvements to the licensure criteria, the process and the need to enhance the accessibility and competitiveness of the license to produce objective data that address educational and professional expectations. Ms. Miller gave the report. No action taken.

**Agenda Item 11** was the discussion regarding Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy's 2012 Annual Conference in Plano March 8-10, 2012. Ms. Miller gave the report. No action taken.

**Agenda Item 12** 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 13** 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 14** 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 15** was the discussion regarding future priorities and activities of the board.

**Agenda Item 16** was to schedule the next meeting(s). The next meeting date will be April 13-14, 2012.

**Agenda Item 17** was adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.