



# Psychology Meeting Minutes

Public Board Meeting

May 5, 2023 at 9:00 AM EST

## **Attendance**

### **Present:**

Dr. Tonya Warren, Chair

Dr. James Nicholls

Dr. Deborah Warner

Ms. Christine Gauthier

Dr. Sheri Friedrich

Ms. Lauren Greenwald

Dr. Robert Walrath

### **Absent:**

### **Administrative Staff**

Traci Weber, Administrator

Elizabeth Eaton, Board Council

Michael Gianunzio, Administrator

Charlene Anstead, Administrator

Donna Long, Public Information Officer

Auditors LBA Vilay Skidds, Andrea Provost, Henry Jay

1. Call To Order 9:01 a.m.
2. Review of Draft Public Minutes – April 7, 2023. On Motion by Dr. Nicholls, second by Ms. Gauthier to approve as amended 5-0-2 Dr. Walrath and Ms. Greenwald abstained.
3. Public Appearances
  - a. 9:00 Psyc 400 Rules Hearing. Hearing opened at 9:01 and closed at 9:18 without public comment. Dr. Warner stated she will submit written testimony.
  - b. 9:30 National Register presentation from Dr. Daniel Elchert and Andrew Boucher. The presentation was very informative and helpful. Congratulations on 50 Years of credentialing Psychologist that is amazing. The National Register has rigorous credentialing that is comparable to the CPQ except, does not require 5 years of licensure. The National Register has a specialized assessment process which compares particular states' requirements. In the last couple of years, the National Register rolled out an Associates program membership to assist students in preparing themselves for future licensure, anyone interested should contact National Register directly.

4. Old Business – Administrative Rules

- a. Psyc 303.05 Examinations. Essay Exam. Dr. Warner submitted changes in the essays to deal with the pressures from the legislature for the Board to consider. The Board discussed one option of offering the applicant a choice to either complete the board's written essay exam included in their application or take the EPPP2. The exam would represent a cost difference of \$400.00. Of interest - the exam responds in real time with problem solving, so based on the applicants answers the exam would move forward or it would ask additional questions. If the Board is able to offer such a choice, this would mean the Board would adopt the EPPP2 and allow the applicant the choice. This would provide a clear picture of applicant preference. On motion from Dr. Warner, second from Ms. Greenwald to have Dr. Warner take her suggested edits back and recreate to include both EPPP2 and the essays, roll call vote 7-0-0.
- b. Psyc 303.03. High credential applicants - Dr. Warner submitted suggested changes for the high credential requirement for the Board to consider based on pressures in the legislature and the need to adapt. These will be included in the above combination re-edit with Psyc 303.05.

5. Legislation Topics

- a. Board Advised of Legislation Schedule
- b. Report of Legislative Advocacy – Dr. Warner and Attorney Eaton provided an update regarding legislation being followed in the House and Senate that pertain to the stray pieces from HB2 and HB655 that are moving into other amendments and/or bills. Dr. Warner and Attorney Eaton continue to search for bills and amendments in which they are appearing and will notify the Board. Dr. Warner updated the board on her advocacy on April 13, 2023 in the House ED&A, in which the Board's points were already described in the board's documents. Attorney Eaton and Dr. Warner discussed with the board the upcoming session on May 10, 2023 with the Senate ED & A to work on the OPLC restructuring bill. They intend to follow up on that hearing and be available for other amendments on the same matters as they may still show up. Attorney Eaton will accompany Dr. Warner as available for the legislative work.
- c. Executive Director Lindsey Courtney provided a written update on HB 2's impact on OPLC.

On motion from Dr. Nicholls, second from Dr. Walrath to move into non-public session at 10:05, roll call vote 7-0-0.

Non-Public session conducted for the purpose of discussing applications and investigations of alleged licensee misconduct and other confidential Board business. Such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c) & (e), RSA 91-A:5, IV, Lodge v. Knowlton, (1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges.

Public session resumed at 12:26

6. OPLC and/or Board Administration Updates
  - a. Board advised of the memo that was sent to Licensing Division allowing them to issue licenses of high credentials.
  - b. New OPLC Chief Information Officer Donna Long visited the Board and discussed outreach possibilities including a Board Newsletter. She would like to be a resource for the Boards and help disseminate information as the Boards have such needs.
7. New Business
  - a. Psypact
    1. Quarterly Report
    2. Update from Commissioner Warner.
      - a. Dr. Warner serves on the Rules Committee and provided an update on their work.
      - b. The Board will continue to have Dr. Warner serve as Commissioner after her term on the Board ends. Dr. Warner is inviting anyone interested in learning the Psypact Commissioner role to let her know and she will orient them in preparation for future service.
  - b. NHPA – Dr. Jes Leonard presented questions that have arisen in the recent renewals that coincide with the June expirations of most of the licensees.
    1. The fees of only \$28 that do not match with the known fee of \$300 and have brought many uncertainties. The \$28 renewal fee is correct this year due to computer system changes. It will not be rescinded; there will be no retroactive charges to those who have already paid only \$28.
    2. There are questions of how to enter CEUs. CEUs do not need to be submitted, only if one receives an audit letter. In the CEU space one only needs to enter the total number of CEUs taken for the license period. The required minimum is 40. Psychologists are required to retain their documentation and submit if requested separately in an audit.
    3. New effective dates of the license are also part of the inquiry. The licenses are effective the day after the previous license expires regardless of when the renewal is submitted. The renewal results in a continuous license.
    4. Reinstatement application is quite problematic, asking for documents that are very odd or hard to obtain, and asking odd questions. The board is aware of the problems with the Reinstatement Application. It was developed separately from the other rules and its problems were revealed. The board is including it in efforts to update the licensing rules. In the meantime, if there are hardships from the requirements on the application, the licensee can submit a request for a waiver of the parts that

are problematic, pursuant to Psyc 210, along with the application and the available materials requested.

8. Licensure – On motion from Ms. Greenwald, second from Ms. Gauthier to approve the two applications listed below for licensure, roll call vote 6-0-1 Dr. Warner abstained.

(1) Ilyssa Hershey, Psychologist with High Credential, National Register

(2) Taylor Bergeson, School Psychologist Specialist

9. Non-Public Session – On motion from Dr. Friedrich, second from Dr. Warren to move into Non-Public session at 12:05 roll call vote 5-0-0.

Non-Public session conducted for the purpose of discussing license applications and investigations of alleged licensee misconduct and other confidential Board business. Such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c) & (e), RSA 91-A:5, IV, *Lodge v. Knowlton*, (1978), and the Board’s executive and deliberative privileges.

10. Resume Public Session – 1:08 p.m.

11. Seal the Minutes of the Non-Public Session – On motion from Dr. Warren, second from Ms. Gauthier to Seal the minutes of all Non-Public sessions held today. Roll call vote 5-0-0.

Minutes of the non-public session are sealed to maintain the privacy of the items discussed in non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c), on the grounds that public disclosure may adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a Board member or render the proposed action ineffective.

On motion from Ms. Gauthier, second from Dr. Friedrich to adjourn the meeting at 1:20 p.m., roll call vote 4-0-0.