

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2019 @ 9:00 AM
PUBLIC MINUTES

The regularly scheduled meeting of the New Hampshire Board of Mental Health Practice (the “Board”) was held at the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (“OPLC”), 121 South Fruit St., Concord, NH on December 20, 2019 beginning at 9:17 a.m., with the following members present:

Unless otherwise indicated, the members present and participating were: Diane Vaccarello, MW, LMFT, Chair; Gary Goodnough, Ph.D., LCMHC, NCC; Dayl Hufford, D.Min. LPP; Samuel Rosario, LICSW; Sheryl Reasoner, LCMHC, MLADC, Community Mental Health Center; Paul F. Barry, Public Member; Janet Stevens, Public Member; and Deborah Kennedy, MA, Public Member

Absent: Janet Stevens, Public Member

I. MINUTES:

- A. Upon motion by Ms. Hufford, with a second by Ms. Reasoner, the Board approved the minutes from November 15, 2019, as amended. *~Motion Approved*, Abstained: Mr. Goodnough

II. TABLED:

A. Rules –

- a. Attorney Thomas Broderick continued the review of proposed and requested revisions to the Mental Health Practice administrative rules. Through further discussion and changes, the Board reviewed Chapter Mhp 300 License and Registration Requirements, Applications and Fees. Additional revision was tabled until the January 17, 2020 meeting.
- b. Upon a motion by Mr. Goodnough, with a second by Ms. Hufford, the Board voted to approve the revisions made for administrative rule chapter Mhp 400 License Renewal, Continuing Education, Collaboration and Reinstatement. *~Motion Approved*
- c. Upon a motion by Ms. Vaccarello, with a second by Ms. Hufford, the Board voted to approve the revisions made for administrative rule chapter Mhp 500 Ethical and Professional Standards, Responsibilities or Licensees. *~Motion Approved*

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- d. Licensed Pastoral Psychotherapists
 - i. Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Mr. Goodnough, the Board voted to accept the New Hampshire Association of Pastoral Psychotherapists Code of Ethics. *~Motion Approved*
 - ii. The Board reviewed the New Hampshire Pastoral Psychotherapists Association Licensure Examination: Clinical Theory and Practice Description and Instructions for Preparation. No Board action required.
- B. Application Changes, unified application – further changes have been tabled until the January 17, 2020 meeting.

III. HEARINGS/MEETINGS:

- A. Ralph Twombly came before the Board to ask questions regarding a settlement agreement he previously signed with the Board in 2003, and his current license status. Mr. Twombly was previously in an “inactive” status for a number of years before allowing that status to lapse, causing his license to expire. The Board answered direct questions from Mr. Twombly regarding what steps he would need to first complete in order to become licensed again, and how to work toward completing the requirements of his settlement agreement. Mr. Twombly thanked the Board for their time, and guidance. No Board action required.
- B. Peg Crowder, APRN, and Sally Garhart, Medical Director, with the New Hampshire Professionals Health Program came before the Board to share information regarding their program. Ms. Garhart discussed the program as a way to gather awareness for what services are offered, along with the option for licensees. The Board asked questions regarding the process of how the program handles intake of clients, along with what steps are taken when an individual comes to them. It was noted that the NHPHP does not provide treatment, and in their own words are meant to be a bridge to treatment.

This program is available at no cost, however the Board of Mental Health Practice does not have a contract with NHPHP and does not qualify. The contracts are negotiated through OPLC, where there are currently five other Boards participating, and under contract. The current contract is coming up for review and/or renewal, the Board expressed interest in being included in any decision making process for new contracts in the upcoming year. The Board will also communicate this interest to Health Division Director, Lindsey Courtney.

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- C. Theresa “Terry” McCafferty, Ph.D., LCMHC came before the Board in response to her expressed interest in joining the Professional Conduct Committee as an investigator. The Board members asked Ms. McCafferty questions regarding her professional background, as well as reviewed her provided resume. Ms. Hufford explained the process of starting within the PCI group, to include being teamed up with a more senior investigator to shadow in the beginning. Upon a motion by Ms. Hufford, with a second by Mr. Goodnough, the Board voted to appoint Ms. McCafferty to her Professional Conduct Investigator term. *~Motion Approved*

The Board would also like to note they are looking for additional investigators to join the Professional Conduct Committee. Please contact the Board office with any questions or interest.

D. Show Cause Hearing – Erica Cote, MS, Clinical Mental Health Counselor Applicant

In Attendance: Erica Cote, Kris Geno, and Paula Jones
Absent: Janet Stevens, Public Member

Chair, Ms. Vaccarello, called to order the Show Cause Hearing of Erica Cote, MS at 10:30 a.m. regarding a conditionally denied licensure application for Clinical Mental Health Counselor. Ms. Cote was given the opportunity for an opening statement in which she discussed her request for reconsideration of the Board’s decision, as well as a request for clarification regarding the reasoning for the denial. The Board reviewed the submitted exhibits Ms. Cote wished to include in her hearing.

- Exhibit A:** Letter from the Board, Order of Conditional Denial
- Exhibit B:** Mental Health Practice RSA practice acts, and administrative rules
- Exhibit C:** Approved Candidate for Licensure: Supervision Agreement
- Exhibit D:** Summary of Supervised Clinical Experience Grid Sheet
- Exhibit E:** Witness list

Ms. Cote asked the Board for the basis of her application denial, the Board reiterated the information given in the Order of Conditional Denial, which included that the timeframe to complete her supervision hours was exceeded without a renewal of her Candidate for Licensure: Supervision Agreement. Ms. Geno and Ms. Cote discussed their interpretation of the administrative rule that states the timeline that these hours need to be completed.

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The Board asked for clarification regarding the hours reported on Exhibit D which was submitted with Ms. Cote's application, and further refinement of the dates the hours were completed. Ms. Cote included group supervision hours completed in the total number included on the grid sheet submitted, the Board provided clarification that this is only to be individual supervision as stated in the administrative rules.

The Board is requiring copies of the supervision documentation to confirm that dates hours were completed, as well as if the supervision was individual as required versus group supervision. The Board gave a deadline for this information 10 business days from the day of the hearing, January 7, 2020.

The Board concluded the Show Cause Hearing at 10:59 a.m., and thanked Ms. Cote and her witnesses for their time.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Division Director, Lindsey Courtney joined the Board with Attorney Broderick to discuss the Executive Order 2019-07 issued by Governor Sununu in regards to the Medicaid to Schools Program. The summation of the Executive Order as provided by Director Courtney, as it pertains to the Board of Mental Health Practice is for applicants to indicate on their application that they are a Medicaid to school's applicant, and for the Board to give these applicants priority. These applicants are still required to meet all the current licensing requirements. Governor Sununu and Director Courtney are also looking for the Board office to track this information and provide any statistics back to the Governor's office.
- B. The Board reviewed the waiver request from Kara Serasis, MA requesting clinical supervision hours completed without a Board approved Candidate for Licensure: Supervision Agreement to count toward her licensure application. Upon a motion by Ms. Hufford, with a second by Mr. Goodnough, the Board voted to sustain the previous denial, and deny the waiver request. *~Motion Approved*
- C. The Board reviewed the waiver request from Amy Meunier, MS requesting her Candidate for Licensure: Supervision Agreement be backdated to include the time since her degree conferral. Upon a motion by Ms. Hufford, with a second by Mr. Goodnough, the Board voted to deny the waiver request. *~Motion Approved*
- D. The Board reviewed an email from Association of Marital & Family Therapy Regulatory Boards regarding examination changes coming in 2020. These changes include the site locations where applicants may take the exam, as well as the number

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of items on the exam. There is no Board action required at this time, the process for registering for the exam with the Board office has not changed.

- E. The Board reviewed the preliminary quarterly financial report for the Board of Mental Health Practice. This report outlines the revenue and expenses for the Board. This report was informational only, no Board action required.
- F. Ms. Hufford led a discussion regarding the idea for a Board approved supervisor refresher training. The current process includes no requirements for updated training, once they are added to the Board approved supervisor list. Some ideas discussed amongst the Board were to provide clinical supervisors the option to attend an “open house” training with senior supervisors presenting updated information. Another idea, of adding this refresher training, or something equivalent to the continuing education requirement, similar to the ethics and suicide prevention requirement. This was only a discussion at this time, no Board action required.
- G. Mr. Rosario led a discussion regarding professional references and what constitutes a “professional” reference. It was the consensus among the Board members that these references need to be from someone with a clinical license within the mental health or behavioral health field.
- H. The Board reviewed information from Mr. Rosario regarding the Bi-Partisan Meeting he attended on November 19, 2019 at the State House.

V. QUESTIONS:

Q1.) I have an important question; I hope you can pass along to the appropriate person for a definitive answer.

I supervise people who are working toward licensure. I am a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor, and also am a Master Licensed Alcohol/Drug counselor.

Last week, I met with a candidate for MLADC for the first time. This individual is also interested in becoming an LCMHC. So, the question is: would our face- to- face supervision meetings count both toward the LCMHC credential, AND the MLADC credential, simultaneously, or would there need to be separate, additional sessions relevant to each candidacy?

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[Additional, rephrased question after initial response:] Nothing in that section (Mhp 305.03) stipulates that face-to-face supervision sessions cannot ‘count’ simultaneously toward licensure as MLADC, and also as LCMHC—however, importantly, neither does it assert that such ‘dual purpose’ face-to-face meetings CAN legitimately count towards both licenses.

So, let me phrase my question another way: has this situation come before the board, ever, and what was the board’s ruling on this question.
And, if has never occurred, how can I get a definitive answer as to how the board would rule?

-Mike Bradley, LCMHC

A1.) As long as the supervision being conducted meets the supervision agreement requirements stated in administrative rule Mhp 305.03, that is all that the Board of Mental Health can control. If it counts for another Board’s requirements as well, that is up to those Board’s discretion. If it counts for two licenses that’s great news for your candidate.

The Board also wants to ensure you are aware or familiar with the recent legislation that passed. With House Bill 113 that went into effect on August 17, 2019, current licensed MLADCs may substitute 1500 clinical supervision hours toward the total 3000-hour requirement. If they achieve and receive that license first, it can assist in their goal to achieve a mental health license as well.

Q2.) I’m looking for information on the Board’s position on Social Worker’s administering Naloxone. Would this be a concern for Licensed Social Workers?

-Sarah Craig, LICSW (Acting Chief of Social Work at the VA)

A2.) The Board would like to reiterate House Bill 2711 regarding the ability to dispense or distribute Naloxone to anyone in need or concerned of a potential overdoes. The distinction they would like to provide is that the person administering the naloxone would be doing so as an individual citizen, not as a mental health licensee. The action is not tied to a license or license type when doing so in this public citizen capacity; the Board has no jurisdiction over this action, and the individual would be doing this under the Good Samaritan law.

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VI. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion to commence Non-Public Session:

At 1:40 p.m., upon a motion by Ms. Hufford, with a second by Ms. Kennedy, the Board voted to conduct a non-public session for the purpose of evaluating complaints, the approval disapproval/correction of the Non-Public Minutes and other confidential Board business and noting that such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c), RSA 91-A:5, IV, RSA 330-A:18, RSA 330-A:29, Lodge v. Knowlton, 119 N.H. 574 (1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges.

Non-Public Session:

[Minutes kept separately]

Motion to keep minutes of non-public session confidential:

Upon a motion by Ms. Hufford, with a second by Mr. Rosario, the Board voted to withhold the minutes of the preceding non-public session from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, III on the grounds that public disclosure would be likely to affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a board member and/or to render the proposed action ineffective.

Motion to resume public meeting:

At 3:00 p.m., upon a motion by Ms. Hufford, with a second by Ms. Kennedy, the Board voted to go out of non-public session and resume the public session.

QUALIFICATION AND LICENSURE

MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS

1. APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE: Mental Health Counselors

Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Ms. Vaccarello, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following for licensure:

- A. BRASSLETT, Sarah, M.Ed
- B. CIUFFREDO, Bianca, MA

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- C. DELSHAD, Nadia, Psy.D.
- D. DUFORD, Jacquelyn, MA
- E. EMRICH, Rosemary, MA
- F. GODFREY, Erin, MS
- G. JASTRZEBSKI, Sara, MA
- H. KEY, Elizabeth, MS
- I. SUTTER, Lisa, MS

2. APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE – RATIFY: Mental Health Counselors

Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Ms. Vaccarello, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following for licensure:

- A. BANN, Donna, MA

3. CANDIDATES FOR LICENSURE SUPERVISION AGREEMENTS: Mental Health Counselors

Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Ms. Vaccarello, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following supervision agreements:

- A. DALE, Caitlin, MA
- B. MEUNIER, Amy, MS
- C. NEWTON, Gary, MS
- D. RAND, Deborah, M.Ed
- E. REARDON, Kayleen, MA
- F. REUTER, Alyssa, MA
- G. RUPP, Scott, MS

4. APPLICATIONS FOR CHANGE IN SUPERVISION AGREEMENTS: Mental Health Counselors

Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Ms. Vaccarello, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following change in supervision agreements:

- A. FIELD, Samantha, MS
- B. FOISY, Heidi, MS
- C. SHARP, Ryan, MA
- D. SMITH, Hannah, MA
- E. ZAHN, Asra, MA

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SOCIAL WORKERS

1. APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE: Social Workers

Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Ms. Vaccarello, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following for licensure:

- A. BATES, Nicole, MSW
- B. CUNNINGHAM, Darcy, MSW
- C. DOW, Carmella, MSW
- D. LABBE, Marissa, MSW
- E. RALPH, Michael, MSW
- F. SCHMITT, Margot, MSW
- G. SCHOENROCK, Elizabeth, MSW
- H. SMITH, Ramona, MSW

2. APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE – RATIFY: Social Workers

Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Ms. Vaccarello, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following for licensure:

- A. SCOBIE-CARROLL, Allison, MSW
- B. TILTON, Shaw, MSW

3. CANDIDATES FOR LICENSURE SUPERVISION AGREEMENTS: Social Workers

Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Ms. Vaccarello, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following supervision agreements:

- A. ALTON, Jessica, MSW
- B. AUSMAN, Sarah, MSW
- C. BICK, Maria, MSW
- D. COMIS, Lauren, MSW
- E. DEKA, Nathaniel, MSW
- F. FAHRNER, Ericha, MSW
- G. GIBSON, Philip, MSW
- H. HAAS, Nichole, MSW
- I. LAFONT-LEAMEY, Krista, MSW
- J. MCCOSH, Megan, MSW

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4. APPLICATIONS FOR CHANGE IN SUPERVISION AGREEMENTS: Social Workers

N/A

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS

1. APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE: Marriage and Family Therapists

Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Ms. Vaccarello, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following for licensure:

A. RILEY, Kerin, MS

2. APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE – RATIFY

N/A

3. CANDIDATES FOR LICENSURE SUPERVISION AGREEMENTS: Marriage and Family Therapists

Upon a motion by Ms. Kennedy, with a second by Ms. Vaccarello, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following supervision agreements:

A. GAY, Colette, MA

B. APPLICATIONS FOR CHANGE IN SUPERVISION AGREEMENTS: Marriage and Family Therapists

N/A

PASTORAL PSYCHOTHERAPIST

1. APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE: Pastoral Psychotherapists

N/A

2. APPLICATIONS FOR REINSTATEMENT: Pastoral Psychotherapists

N/A

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**3. CANDIDATES FOR LICENSURE SUPERVISION AGREEMENTS: Pastoral
Psychotherapists**

N/A

**4. APPLICATIONS FOR CHANGE IN SUPERVISION AGREEMENTS: Pastoral
Psychotherapists**

N/A

Motion to adjourn the meeting:

At 3:05 p.m., upon a motion by Ms. Vaccarello, with a second by Mr. Goodnough, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting.