

Board of Psychology

Friday, April 3, 2020 at 9:00 AM
Public Minutes - DRAFT

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Psychology (“the Board”) was held on the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (“OPLC”), 121 South Fruit Street, Concord NH on April 3, 2020 beginning at 9:10 a.m. The meeting was held electronically pursuant to Governor Sununu’s State of Emergency Orders, in accordance with RSA 91A, upon the determination of the chairman that the safety of the members and the public is best served by meeting in this modality which was held using a Zoom platform, with the following members present via electronic media by roll call vote:

Board:

Robert Walrath, PsyD, Chair - Yes
Tonya Warren, PsyD, member - Yes
Deborah Warner, PhD, member - Yes
James Halla, PsyD, member - Yes
Lauren Greenwald, Esq., public member - Yes
James Beauregard, PhD, member joined the meeting at 10:00 am

Public attendees:

School Psychology Advisory Committee member Travis Bickford – Joined the meeting at 1:20 pm
NHPA representative Jessica Leonard joined meeting at 1:40 pm.

Staff:

Michelle Thibeault, Board Administrator
Lindsey Courtney, Director? OPLC

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

- A. Chairman Robert Walrath made a statement applauding Board Administrator Michelle Thibeault for her excellent handling of the COVID 19 emergency conditions and maintaining board business during this state of emergency.
- B. Review the Minutes from March 6, 2020 public session

Discussion: Minor changes

Board Action: Upon motion by Tonya Warren PsyD, with a second by James Halla PsyD, the Board voted to approve the minutes as amended of the public session of March 6, 2020 by roll call vote:

Robert Walrath PsyD, - Yes
Tonya Warren PsyD, - Yes
Deborah Warner PhD, - Yes
James Halla PsyD, - Yes
Lauren Greenwald Esq., - Yes

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II. CERTIFICATES

N/A

III. RULES/STATUTES

A. CHAPTER Plc 800 EMERGENCY LICENSURE

Discussion: The Board requests that a link of the emergency orders and rules be added to the main page of the Psychologist Website.

Board Action: Upon motion by Deborah Warner, PhD, with a second by Tonya Warren, PsyD, the Board voted to have the Board Administrator Michelle Thibeault add the link of the emergency orders and rules, as well as the board notice that Dr Warner drafted to the Psychologists Website by roll call vote:

Robert Walrath PsyD, - Yes
Tonya Warren PsyD, - Yes
Deborah Warner PhD, - Yes
James Halla PsyD, - Yes
Lauren Greenwald Esq., - Yes

IV. PUBLIC HEARING –

A. REEVES, Ken

Dr. Ken Reeves joined the meeting at 10:00 am to discuss the continuing education course recommended by the Board at the March 2020 public meeting (Risk Management Book/TrustPARMA).

1st NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion to commence Non-Public Session:

At 10:11 a.m., upon motion by Deborah Warner PhD, seconded by James Halla PsyD, the Board voted to conduct a non-public session for the purpose of discussing confidential Board business and noting that such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c), RSA 91-A:3 II (e), RSA 91-A:5, IV, RSA 329:18, I, RSA 329:18-a, IV, RSA 329:29, Lodge v. Knowlton, 119 N.H. 574 (1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges. Roll call vote: Robert Walrath, PsyD, yes, Tonya Warren, PsyD, yes, James Beauregard, PhD, yes, Deborah Warner, PhD, yes, James Halla, PsyD, and Lauren Greenwald, Esq., yes,

Public Session Resumed at 10:15 am

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Upon motion by James Beauregard, PhD., with a second by Lauren Greenwald, Esq., the Board approved Kenneth Reeves application for licensure for Psychologists by roll call vote:

Robert Walrath PsyD, - Yes

Tonya Warren PsyD, - Yes

Deborah Warner PhD, - Yes

James Halla PsyD, - Yes

Lauren Greenwald Esq., - Yes

James Beauregard, PhD - Yes

V. NEW BUSINESS –

A. VT COVID-19 – The Board was provided information from the State of Vermont with regards to COVID-19 and procedures the state is putting in place. This was for informational purposes.

B. School Psychology Advisory Committee

Upon motion by Deborah Warner, PhD., with a second by Lauren Greenwald, Esq., the Board voted the following individual to the Advisory Committee:

- i. Peter T. Whelley MS, NCSP

by roll call vote:

Robert Walrath PsyD, - Yes

Tonya Warren PsyD, - Yes

Deborah Warner PhD, - Yes

James Halla PsyD, - Yes

Lauren Greenwald Esq., - Yes

James Beauregard, PhD – Yes

C. Board action for COVID 19 emergency for live education and supervision.

The board voted to make a standing order concerning adapting live requirements for continuing education, internship and post-doctoral supervision requirements. Chairman Walrath will issue such a letter to be posted on the website concerning the standing order approved by the board.

VI. ONGOING BUSINESS

A. Modifying the CEU requirements – James Halla, PsyD

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Discussion: James Halla, PsyD presented to the Board suggested changes regarding Psyc 402.01 rules, with some minor changes to what was presented James Halla, PsyD. will provide a final version at the next meeting.

Board Called a recess at 11:33 am for lunch to reconvene at 12:00 pm

Robert Walrath, PsyD, Chair reconvened the public meeting of the Board of Psychologists at 12:04 pm by roll call vote the following members were present:

Robert Walrath PsyD, - Yes
Tonya Warren PsyD, - Yes
Deborah Warner PhD, - Yes
James Halla PsyD, - Yes
Lauren Greenwald Esq., - Yes
James Beauregard, PhD – Yes

2nd NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion to commence Non-Public Session:

At 12:04 p.m., upon motion by Deborah Warner PhD, seconded by James Halla PsyD, the Board voted to conduct a non-public session for the purpose of discussing confidential Board business and noting that such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c), RSA 91-A:3 II (e), RSA 91-A:5, IV, RSA 329:18, I, RSA 329:18-a, IV, RSA 329:29, Lodge v. Knowlton, 119 N.H. 574 (1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges. Roll call vote: Robert Walrath, PsyD, yes, Tonya Warren, PsyD, yes, James Beauregard, PhD, yes, Deborah Warner, PhD, yes, James Halla, PsyD, and Lauren Greenwald, Esq., yes,

Public Session Resumed at 1:01 PM

3rd NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion to commence Non-Public Session:

At 1:03 p.m., upon motion by Deborah Warner PhD, seconded by James Halla PsyD, the Board voted to conduct a non-public session for the purpose of discussing confidential Board business and noting that such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c), RSA 91-A:3 II (e), RSA 91-A:5, IV, RSA 329:18, I, RSA 329:18-a, IV, RSA 329:29, Lodge v. Knowlton, 119 N.H. 574 (1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges. Roll call vote: Robert Walrath, PsyD, yes, Tonya Warren, PsyD, yes, James Beauregard, PhD, yes, Deborah Warner, PhD, yes, James Halla, PsyD, and Lauren Greenwald, Esq., yes,

Public Session Resumed at 1:20 p.m.

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Seal Non-Public Minutes

Motion to keep minutes of non-public session confidential:

At 1:20 p.m., upon motion by James Beauregard, PhD., with a second by Deborah Warner, PhD., the Board unanimously voted to withhold and seal the minutes of the preceding non-public session from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 III, that divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a Board member and to render the proposed action ineffective. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by the unanimous vote of all members present. Roll call vote: Robert Walrath, PsyD, yes, Tonya Warren, PsyD, yew, James Beauregard, PhD, yes, Deborah Warner, PhD, yes, James Halla, PsyD, Lauren Greenwald, Esq., yes.

VI. ONGOING BUSINESS - Continued

B. Medicaid to School / School Psychologists – Deborah Warner, PhD

List provided to the Board from Dept. of Education

Travis Bickford, public member joined the meeting

Deborah Warner, PhD., discussed the welcome packets that the committee is working on for the School Psychologists.

Upon motion by Deborah Warner, PhD., with a second by Lauren Greenwald, Esq., the Board voted to have Dr. Warner continue to work with the committee to send out the welcome packets to School Psychologists.

C. PSYPACT

Discussion: Currently no new information and the information that is currently on the website can be taken down at this time.

D. QUESTIONS

1. ASPPB

Does your state require a fingerprint background check?

If so, has your state waived the fingerprint portion of the background check for this emergency period?

Answer: Please use the link to go to the Governor's Website and review Executive Order 18

<https://www.oplc.nh.gov/covid-19/index.htm>

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[Emergency Orders 18](#)

Chairman Walrath has already sent the emergency information to ASPPB.

2. Hasan Anderson-Bey – Email

I am a licensed school psychologist in the state of New Hampshire; I received an email about the changes to the federal regulations. The email mentioned that a school psychologist may want to consider applying for a OPLC license and school psychologist would be automatically granted these credentials if their DOE school psychology license is in good standing. With that said, should I apply online to obtain the OPLC License or wait until further notice?

Answer: Granted if interested

3. Stephanie Kimber – Email

Thank you for your feedback. I appreciate your time. I am, however, curious because I received this informed regarding PsyPact from another area psychologist responsible for our students:

"NH is a member of PsyPact, which is the interjurisdictional practice of telepsychology. It defines the home state where the person is licensed (so NH) and thus relies on other states to determine telehealth practice. There would be no limitations based on where {the student} is based as {the supervisor of record's} license {is in NH} and the patient resides in NH."

Can you please provide guidance specific to this? As I am sure you can understand, this is quite confusing. I appreciate your time and attention to this matter.

Answer: There is no special license needed

4. Jes Leonard, Ph.D.

NHPA has had another increase in inquiries about the possibility of emergency reciprocity from other states. I realize the current stance of the BOP (and most other states) but am not sure if there is any precedence for emergency rulings (for example, we have one MA psychologist who was working with a college student in person in Mass and the college student is now home in NH and the provider wants to know if they can provide treatment on an emergency basis)?

Additionally, they attempted to fill out temporary license application on the BOP website, but could not find one. I could not find it either.

Answer: <https://www.oplc.nh.gov/covid-19/index.htm>

We had a recent formal inquiry to the NHPA office that I believe could benefit from immediate attention by the BOP. I would appreciate if you could forward this to the BOP members as I believe there will be an increase in inquiries and higher level of anxiety from psychologists related to this issue, particularly as the licensing renewal time is approaching.

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The concern is from a 78 year old psychologist who has 7 more Category A credits to go to reach his 40 for license renewal. He stated his apprehension about attending events in person due to covid-19. He was wondering if the BOP is willing to offer certain exceptions and is open to following-up with the BOP if necessary.

I believe this issue may be better addressed prior to the next Board meeting in April. Let me know if the BOP members need anything.

Answer: The Board is currently working on rule changes that will pertain to education for renewing licensures during state of emergency.

5. Jose Serrano – Email

My name is Jose Serrano and I am currently completing my postdoctoral training at the White River Junction VA medical center. I am interested in becoming licensed in New Hampshire; however, I have been unable to determine if I can be approved to sit for the EPPP prior to the completion of my postdoctoral experience. I will be able to achieve the 1500 hour requirement for postdoctoral training a few months prior to the end of my training and would like to sit for the EPPP as soon as possible.

I look forward to any guidance I could be provided.

Answer: Once you have completed the application and submitted all of your documentation the Board will review your application and let you know if you are eligible to sit for the exam.

6. Julie Buteau - Email

I am hoping you can provide some clarity on how we can move forward with getting our School Psychologists licensed property to begin billing for Medicaid. What needs to be in the email from the applicant and is there a fee?

Answer: Granted if interested.

7. Robert Orf - Email

Thank you for all you are doing to provide guidance to psychologists during this globally challenging time. I had two questions I was hoping you could help me with:

I was wondering it is okay during this time for supervisors of practicum students to provide telesupervision (with video).

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I was also wondering if it is okay for practicum students to provide telehealth/telepsychology (with video) to clients.

Answer: See standing order concerning live supervision waiver.

4th NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Motion to commence Non-Public Session:

At 2:00 pm., upon motion by James Halla, PsyD., with a seconded by Lauren Greenwald, Esq., the Board voted to conduct a non-public session for the purpose of discussing confidential Board business and noting that such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II (c), RSA 91-A:3 II (e), RSA 91-A:5, IV, RSA 329:18, I, RSA 329:18-a, IV, RSA 329:29, Lodge v. Knowlton, 119 N.H. 574 (1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges. Roll call vote: Robert Walrath, PsyD, yes, Tonya

Warren, PsyD, yes, James Beauregard, PhD, yes, Deborah Warner, PhD, yes, James Halla, PsyD, Lauren Greenwald, Esq., yes.

[Minutes kept separately]

Public session resumed at 3:20 pm.

Seal Non-Public Minutes

Motion to keep minutes of non-public session confidential:

At 3:20 pm., upon motion by James Beauregard, PhD., with a second by Deborah Warner, PhD., the Board unanimously voted to withhold and seal the minutes of the preceding non-public session from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 III, that divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a Board member and to render the proposed action ineffective. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by the unanimous vote of all members present. Roll call vote: Robert Walrath, PsyD, yes, Tonya Warren, PsyD, yes, James Beauregard, PhD, yes, Deborah Warner, PhD, yes, James Halla, PsyD, Lauren Greenwald, Esq., yes.

VII. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at 3:23 pm.

Next meeting: May 1, 2020