

MINUTES

South Carolina Board of Examiners for the Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, Addiction Counselors and Psycho-Educational Specialists

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.
Synergy Business Park – Kingstree Building
Upstate Conference Room
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC 29210

Board Members Present

Dr. Jennifer C. L. Jordan, Chairperson
Robert B. Carter, Vice Chair
Nikita M. Harrison
Jeannie James
Arvilla Ann Kirven
Dr. Sandra Manning
Dr. Markesha Miller
Patrice Felder

Absent Members

None

Staff Members Present

Mary League, Advice Counsel
Donnell Jennings, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Susan Boone, Division of Legal Services and Enforcement
Sherrie Butterbaugh, Office of Disciplinary Counsel
Roxane Tran, Office of Disciplinary Counsel
Ervin Bond, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Renee Dash, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Natasha Mitchell, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Tamera Nichols, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Pam Dunkin, Board Executive
Shaun Strother, Program Coordinator

Others

Creel Court Reporter
Dr. Danny Garnett
Liz Hiller
Jennifer Dodds

Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the office of the South Carolina Board of Examiners for the Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, Addiction Counselors and Psycho-Educational Specialists, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive in Columbia, South Carolina, on the Board's website and provided to any requesting persons, organizations, or news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the 1976 South Carolina Code, as amended, relating to the Freedom of Information Act. A quorum is noted as *present/not present*. All votes referenced herein were unanimous unless otherwise indicated.

NOTE: These Minutes are a record of the motions and official actions taken by the Board and a brief summary of the meeting.

Meeting Called to Order

Dr. Jordan, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Approval of the Agenda

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Kirven, seconded by Ms. James, the board voted unanimously to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

Approval/Disapproval of Absent Members - None

Approval of the Minutes – October 10, 2023

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. James, seconded by Ms. Harrison, the board voted unanimously to approve the October 10, 2023 minutes. The motion passed.

Chairperson Remarks and Presentation of Plaque to Dr. Danny Garnett – Dr. Jordan introduced and welcomed Dr. Markesha Miller and Ms. Patricia Felder to the board. Dr. Jordan also expressed thanks to recent former board member Dr. Danny Garnett who has also served as Chair during his time on the board and presented him with a plaque as a token of appreciation.

Administrative Reports

Investigative Review Committee (IRC Information) – Ervin Bond

Ervin Bond, Office of Investigations presented the board with twenty (20) dismissals, three (3) letters of caution and four (4) formal complaints.

Dismissals

MOTION

On the motion of Dr. Manning, seconded by Ms. Kirven, the board voted unanimously in favor to accept the IRC recommendations for dismissal of the twenty (20) cases. The motion passed.

Letters of Caution

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Carter, and seconded by Ms. Harrison, the board voted unanimously in favor to accept the IRC recommendations for the three (3) letters of caution. The motion passed.

Formal Complaints

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Kirven, and seconded by Dr. Manning, the board voted unanimously in favor to accept the IRC recommendations for the four (4) formal complaints. The motion passed.

Office of Investigations and Enforcement Reports (OIE - Information Only) – Ervin Bond, Office of Investigations addressed the board.

The board reviewed the Statistical Report as information only.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel Report (ODC – Information Only) – Sherrie Butterbaugh, Disciplinary Counsel

Ms. Butterbaugh, presented the “ODC” report as information only.

Board Executive’s Reports/Remarks - Pam Dunkin

Mrs. Dunkin presented the following items below as information only.

- Finance Report
- 2024 New Mileage Rate
- 2023 Statement of Economic Interest Reports
- Legislative Update

PES Presentation – Liz Hiller & Jennifer Dodds

Ms. Hiller and Ms. Dodds addressed the board.

Disciplinary Hearings

a. 2021-66 & 2021-81

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Kirven, seconded by Ms. James, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session due to the state and federal confidentiality laws for cases 2021-66 and 2024-81. The motion passed.

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. James, seconded by Ms. Kirven, the board voted unanimously to come out of closed session and accept the MOA for cases 2021-66 and 2024-81. The motion passed.

b. 2020-24

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Kirven, seconded by Ms. Harrison, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session due to the state and federal confidentiality laws for case 2020-24. The motion passed.

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Harrison, seconded by Ms. Kirven, the board voted unanimously to come out of closed session and accept the MOA for case 2020-24. The motion passed.

New Business

- a. Review List of New Licensees: 9/28/23 – 2/12/24 (Informational Purposes Only)
- b. Number of Active Credentials as of 2/12/24 (Informational Purposes Only)
- c. Number of Continuing Education Providers Approved: 9/28/23 – 2/12/24 (Informational Purposes Only)
- d. Ratification of New Licenses and Continuing Education Sponsors Vote: 9/28/23 – 2/12/24

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Ms. Harrison, the board voted unanimously in favor to approve the Ratification of New Licenses and Continuing Education Sponsors. The motion passed.

e. Application Review Committee: Applications Reviewed: 9/28/23 – 2/12/24 (Informational Purposes Only)

f. Board Member Reports – Conference or Meetings Attended

- National Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC) 2023 Annual Conference: October 6-11, 2023 in Denver, Colorado

Ms. Dunkin addressed the board on the behalf of former board member Charles Stinson who attended the conference.

- 2023 American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) Annual Conference: October 25-27, 2023 (Virtual) – No Attendees
- American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB) 2024 Conference: January 7-9, 2024, Tucson, Arizona

Dr. Jordan and Mr. Carter addressed the board.

g. Upcoming Travel Meetings – Discussion, Vote and Attendees

- South Carolina Association of School Psychologists (SCASP) Spring Conference: March 21-22, 2024 Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
- American Mental Health Counselors Association Annual Conference: June 10-12, 2024 Charlotte, North Carolina
- The Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB) 38th Annual Meeting of State Delegates 2024 and Clear’s Annual Education Conference: 38th Annual Conference will be held in Baltimore Maryland September 16-24, 2024 and CLEAR’s 2024 Annual Education Conference September 16-19, 2024.

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. James, seconded by Ms. Harrison, the board voted unanimously in favor to approve the following:

- Dr. Manning will attend the SCASP.
- Dr. Jordan and Ms. Felder will attend the American Mental Health Counselors Association Annual Conference.
- Ms. Harrison and Dr. Miller will attend the 2024 AMFTRB and CLEAR’s Conference.

h. Discussion and Vote: 2024 Chair and Vice Chair

MOTION

On the motion of Ms. Kirven, seconded by Dr. Miller, the board voted unanimously to the following: Dr. Jordan will continue to service as Chair and Mr. Carter as Vice Chair. The motion passed.

- i. Discussion and Vote: Additional Investigative Review Conference (IRC) Member - Dr. Danny Garnett

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Ms. Harrison, the board voted unanimously to approve Dr. Garnett to serve as an IRC Member. The motion passed.

Old Business

- a. Update on Reciprocity Agreement with North Carolina – Pam Dunkin

Ms. Dunkin provided a update on the Reciprocity Agreement with North Carolina.

- b. Update on Jurisprudence Exam and Ethics – Dr. Jennifer Jordan

Dr. Jordan provided an update on the Jurisprudence Exam and Ethics.

- c. Reminder of 2024 Board Meeting Dates – Informational Purposes Only

Public Comments: There were no public comments presented.

Adjournment

MOTION

On the motion of Mr. Carter, he moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Harrison. All were in favor and the motion passed. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.