

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

Regular Board Meeting and Motion Hearings for Licensees
February 21, 2012
Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Room 105
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Board members present were:

Tanya A. Williams, M.Ed., President, Chairperson of LPC Standards Committee
Danny L. Garnett, D. Min., Vice President
David L. Evans, Jr., M.A., Secretary-Treasurer Chairperson LPES Standards
Committee
Pamela G. Clark, Ph. D., Chairperson of LMFT Standards Committee
M. Ellenor Mahon, M.Ed., Chairperson of Continuing Education Committee
Samer G. Touma, PhD
Jackie H. Fleshman, Public Member
Linda E. Womack, Public Member

Also present were:

Ree Hayes, Court Reporter
Rick Wilson, RPP
Frank Sheheen, RPP
Tia Cooper , RPP
Patricia Glenn, LLR Administrator
Susan Harrington, Board Administrative Assistant
David Love, LLR Investigator – OIE
Melina Mann, LLR Attorney
Cheryl McNair, LLR Investigator – OIE
Jerry Merritt, LLR Investigator - OIE
Jamie Saxon, LLR Advice Attorney
Sara McCartha, LLR Attorney
Larue J. Bettis, American Mental Health Counselor's Association (SC)
William Greeley, LPC-I Applicant

BOARD MEETING CALL TO ORDER:

President Williams stated that Public Notice of this meeting was properly posted at the office of the South Carolina Board of Examiners for Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Room 105, at 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC 29210 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. President Williams called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. It was noted that a quorum was 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. A transcript of this meeting providing more detail will be available on the board's website: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/counselors

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and APPROVAL OF MINUTES 9:10 a.m.

The Board reviewed the Agenda and the Minutes of the September 27, 2011 meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Clark to approve the Feb 21, 2012 Agenda and the Sept. 27, 2011 Minutes. Ms. Mahon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS 9:12 A.M.:

President Williams gave a brief summary of the AASCB meeting which she attended on Jan. 4-7, 2012 in Charleston, SC. Issues for counselors discussed at the meeting included portability, need for common standards across states, internet frontier (need for ethics and regulations in this area). She discussed the new TRICARE Rules that will go into effect for mental health counselors who wish to bill for Tricare insurance. Tricare will grandfather LPCs until Jan. 2015 deadline.

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS:

IRC Report 9:15 a.m.:

David Love, Investigator from Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE), presented the Investigative Review Committee's (IRC) reports concerning disciplinary matters.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Mahon to accept the IRC recommendations for Dismissal of cases 2011-1, 2011-10, 2011-14, 2011-15, 2011-16, 2011-17; for Dismissal with Letters of Concern for cases 2010-2, 2010-17, 2011-12, 2011-18, 2011-28, 2011-31 and for Authorization of four Formal Complaints for 2011-19, 2011-21, 2011-23, 2011-24. Dr. Clark seconded the motion. The motion carried.

David Love, Chief Investigator with OIE gave the statistical report from the Office of Investigation and Enforcement cases. The Board accepted this as information.

Melina Mann, LLR Litigating Attorney for the Board gave the statistical report from the Office of General Counsel's (OGC) cases. The Board accepted this as information.

Application Hearing:

LPC-I applicant Paul W. Greeley appeared before the Board to discuss his "yes" and "no" answer to Question # 8 on the application for licensure in Personal History Section, "Currently are you being treated or within the last five years, have you been treated for drug or alcohol addiction that might interfere with your ability to competently and safely perform the essential functions of practice?"

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Evans to go into Executive Session for Legal advice. Ms. Womack seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Evans to come out of Executive Session and seconded by Dr. Garnett. The motion carried.

Motion: a motion was made by Dr. Touma and seconded by Dr. Garnett to approve Mr. Greeley's application for licensure so that he may continue with the application process to sit for the NCE exam. The motion carried.

REPORTS/INFORMATION:

Administrative Information and Financial Report:

Mrs. Glenn gave the Administrative Report and the Financial Report of the Board. She gave statistical reports as handouts in her reports. Mrs. Glenn noted the OIE and OGC reports and licensure information. Mrs. Glenn reported that all board members are to complete and file the Statement of Economic Interest Forms by April 15, 2012 or face a penalty.

She discussed pre-filed 2012 legislation which affects the board:

1. Bill changes the make-up of boards affected by a 7th congressional district being added to the state.
2. Bill #4231 is the omnibus regulations clean-up bill.
3. Bill- called the "Engine" was authorized by the LLR Director and aids in the restructuring of LLR.

LEGAL ISSUES:

There were no legal issues for discussion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers: Tanya Williams- President; Danny Garnett- Vice President; Dave Evans- Secretary-Treasurer.

New IRC members: The following licensees were approved to assist the IRC with complaints in OIE. They are: Chrys Harris, LPC, LMFT; Kinley Sturkie, LMFT; Katherine Richardson, LPC; Elizabeth Pratt, LMFT; Kent MacEachern, LMFT; Sallie Campbell, LMFT, LPC-S; Mary Ann Fey, LPC; Patricia Touma, LPC; Larry Barker, LPC, LPC-S; Joe Prus- LPES.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Mahon to accept the slate of officers and IRC members. Samer Touma seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Board formed a committee to review existing regulations, to review ways of streamlining/fast-tracking the application process for those applicants whose programs are accredited by CACREP or COAMP and to review guidelines for internet usage in counseling and/or supervision.

Drs. Clark, Garnett and Williams agreed to serve on this committee and will report to the board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There was no public comment.

REPORTS OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

President Williams called for the ratification of the electronic reports of the Standards Committees and Continuing Education Committee beginning on September 27, 2011 through February 21, 2012. It was reported that the records are electronically maintained and can be for categories:

Recommended for Licensure as a Professional Counselor Intern;
Recommended for Extension of LPC Intern Licensure Status for 2 years;
Recommended for Transfer from LPC-Intern to Professional Counselor;
Recommended for Licensure as a Professional Counselor by Endorsement;
Recommended for Licensure as Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor;

Recommended for Licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapy Intern;

Recommended for an Extension of LMFT Intern Licensure Status for 2 years;
Recommended for Transfer from LMFT/Intern to LMFT;
Recommended for Licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist by Endorsement;

Recommended for Licensure as Marriage and Family Supervisor (LMFT/S);

Recommended for Licensure as Licensed Psycho-Educational Specialist;
Recommended for Licensure as a Licensed Psycho-Educational Specialist by Endorsement;
Recommended for Reinstatement of Licensure or Re-application (all license types);
Approval of One-Time Continuing Education Providership; and
Approval of Permanent Continuing Education Providership.

Motion: A motion was made by to ratify the reports by Dr. Clark and seconded by Mr. Evans. The motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

It was announced the next meetings of the South Carolina Board of Examiners for the Licensure of Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Psycho-Educational Specialists for 2012 will be June 19, and October 2.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Administrator
Patricia F. Glenn