

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 Hearings for Licensees

February 27, 2017

Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Room 105
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Board members present were:

Danny L. Garnett, LMFT, LPC, D.Min.-President
Jennifer C. L. Jordan, Ph.D., LPC
Jerome Tilghman, M.A., LPC
Nikita M. Harrison, Ed.S., LMFT
Ronald H. Reames, M.A., LPC

Board member absent:

Robert B. Carter, Ed.S., LMFT (Excused)
Edward M. Carney (Public Member) (Excused)
Michael Bailey (Public Member) (Excused)

Also present were:

Marlo Koger, LLR Administrator
Susan Harrington, LLR Board Administrative Assistant
David Love, LLR Chief Investigator – OIE
Daniel Gourley, LLR Disciplinary Counsel - ODC
Phillip Flohr, LLR Investigator – OIE
Mary League, LLR Advice Attorney

BOARD MEETING CALL TO ORDER:

President Garnett 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 Garnett called the meeting to order at 9:09 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.

AGENDA and APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Jordan to approve the February 27, 2017 agenda. Mr. Tilghman and Mr. Reames seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mr. Tilghman motioned to approve the October 4, 2016 minutes. Ms. Harrison seconded and all board members were in favor.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Garnett stated that three board members were reappointed (Reames, Bailey and Carney). He mentioned NBCC anticipates a complete phase-out of the paper and pencil examinations for all National Certified Counselor applications by April 2018. This will include the NCMHCE exam and the NCE exam.

Mr. Garnett attended the American Association of State Counseling Boards meeting in January. He is participating on a committee to help write a model law. The Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards met in October and President Garnett was asked to be the Chair of the Election Committee. Both organizations have a National Code of Ethics and the SC Regulations/Practice Act Committee will be reviewing and making comparisons.

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS:

IRC Report:

David Love, Chief Investigator with OIE, presented the Investigative Review Committee's (IRC) reports concerning disciplinary matters.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Harrison to accept the IRC recommendations to: dismiss cases 2016-32, 2016-40, 2016-41, 2016-44, 2016-45, 2016-50, 2016-51, 2016-52, 2016-53, 2016-55 and 2017-1; send forward a formal complaint for cases 2016-27, 2016-34, 2016-35 and 2016-48; issue a cease and desist for cases 2016-38, 2017-47 and 2016-49; and issue a letter of caution for cases 2015-4 and 2016-24. Mr. Tilghman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

Daniel Gourley, LLR Assistant Disciplinary Counsel gave the statistical report from the Office of Disciplinary Counsel's (ODC) cases. The Board accepted this as information.

The OIE and ODC process presentation was deferred due to board member absences.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION AND FINANCIAL REPORT:

Board members reviewed the financial report and statistical report of the number of licensed LPCs LMFTs LPES.

REPORTS OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE: President Garnett called for the ratification of the electronic reports of the Standards Committees and Continuing Education Committee beginning on October 1, 2016 through February 23, 2017. It was reported that the records are electronically maintained for the following 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):

Recommended for extension on license renewal (all types):

Approval of One-Time Continuing Education Providership:
Approval of Permanent Continuing Education Providership.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Harrison to ratify the reports and seconded by Dr. Jordan. The motion passed.

APPLICATION HEARINGS:

Mr. Malkasian, LPC Intern, was not able to appear. There was no motion made.

Ms. Hopkins, LPC (NC) requested licensure by endorsement using the CRC exam. Dr. Jordan motioned to go into executive session and Mr. Reames seconded the motion. Dr. Jordan motioned to come out of executive session and

the motion was seconded by Ms. Harrison and Mr. Tilghman. Board members asked Ms. Hopkins additional questions and further discussion followed. Dr. Jordan motioned and Ms. Harrison seconded to go into executive session. Ms. Harrison motioned and Mr. Tilghman seconded to come out of executive session. Dr. Jordan motioned that the board not accept the CRC exam for licensure of an LPC in South Carolina. Ms. Harrison seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Ms. Caruso, LMFT (FL) requested a 2 credit hour clinical experience waiver and LMFT licensure by endorsement. Dr. Jordan motioned and Ms. Harrison seconded to go into executive session. Dr. Jordan motioned and Mr. Tilghman seconded to come out of executive session. Ms. Harrison motioned to approve Ms. Caruso's hours and to approve her application as her hours of coursework are equivalent to the required coursework. Dr. Jordan seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Ms. Simmons, LMFT requested reinstatement of her license. Ms. Harrison motioned and Mr. Tilghman seconded to go into executive session. Mr. Tilghman motioned and Ms. Harrison seconded to come out of executive session. Dr. Jordan moved that the board reinstate Ms. Simmons' licensure with no penalties. Mr. Tilghman seconded the motion and all were in favor.

HEARINGS:

OIE #2015-7/MOA

Case #2015-7 was continued until the next meeting. One member would have to recuse and there was not a quorum.

OIE #2015-42

Daniel Gourley, LLR Disciplinary Counsel presented a Memorandum of Agreement. The licensee was represented by John Harrell, Esquire.

Closed Session: Dr. Jordan motioned to go into closed session to be in compliance with state and federal laws. Ms. Harrison seconded the motion.

Executive Session: Dr. Jordan motioned to go into executive session for legal advice. Mr. Tilghman and Ms. Harrison seconded the motion. Mr. Tilghman motioned and Mr. Reames seconded to come out of executive session.

Dr. Jordan motioned that the board accept the Memorandum of Agreement and impose a public reprimand. Ms. Harrison seconded the motion and all were in favor.

APPEARANCE

Mr. Brown decided to not appear before the board.

OLD BUSINESS

Record Keeping Policy Recommendation:

Members added to the policy recommendation for simplicity sake. Dr. Jordan motioned to accept the phrasing and Mr. Tilghman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Criminal Background Checks:

The board had an in-depth discussion about the legislative inquiry pertaining to criminal background checks. Board members shared thoughts and ideas about various issues including: impact to the board; cost to the board and licensees; a third party vendor; types of convictions that would prevent licensure and/or require further consideration.

Upcoming Confernces:

No motions were made.

Expert Reviewer:

Dr. Jordan motioned and Ms. Harrison seconded that Chrys Harris, PhD become an alternate expert reviewer.

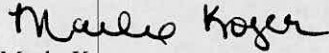
Election of Board Officers:

On a motion from Dr. Jordan, seconded by Ms. Harrison, the board voted to re-elect Danny Garnett, LMFT/LPC as President. On a motion from Ms. Harrison and seconded by Mr. Tilghman the board voted to re-elect Jennifer Jordan, Ph.D., LPC as Vice-President. All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:49 PM on a motion from Dr. Jordan and seconded by Ms. Harrison. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marlo Koger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marlo Koger
Administrator