South Carolina Panel for Dietetics Panel Meeting Minutes September 19, 2023, at 10:00 A.M.

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Dietetic Panel's Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, on the Panel website, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elizabeth Weikle, RD Chairperson Valerie Meador, RD Vice Chairperson Robert Duffell-Hoffman

SCLLR STAFF PRESENT:

Kyle Tennis, Esq., Office of Advice Counsel Alexis Bell, Esq., Office of Disciplinary Counsel Tracy Adams, Board Executive Jacqulyn White, Program Coordinator

PRESENT:

Kim Young, Court Reporter Rowan Goodrich, SCAND

CALLED TO ORDER: Ms. Weikle, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: To approve the agenda.

Meador/Duffell-Hoffman/Approved.

INTRODUCTION OF PANEL MEMBERS

Panel members introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF EXCUSED ABSENCES

No excused absences.

APPROVAL OF PANEL MEETING MINUTES

Motion: To approve March 8, 2023 Panel Meeting minutes. Duffell-Hoffman/Meador/Approved.

STAFF REPORT

Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE) Statistical Report

On behalf of Mr. Bonds, Ms. Adams reported that for the period of March 8, 2023 to September 18, 2023, no complaints were received, no cases were opened or closed, and there were no active investigations.

Office of Investigations and Enforcement OIE) IRC Report

On behalf of Mr. Bond, Ms. Adams reported there were no cases for dismissals, letters of caution, or formal complaints.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) Report

Ms. Bell reported that as of September 5, 2023, there are no open cases, no pending hearings, no agreements, no pending closures, no closed cases, and no appeals.

REPORT

Administrator's Report

Ms. Adams reported that for the period of March 8, 2023, to September 15, 2023, the Panel has 1,637 active licenses, 139 licenses have been issued, and 16 licenses have been reinstated.

The Panel's current balance as of July 31, 2023, is \$420,092.91.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Legislative Updates on Regulations

Mr. Tennis reported the regulations passed and go into effect May 26, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

a. 2024 Board Meeting Dates

Ms. Adams presented the 2024 meeting dates as March 6 and September 17, 2024.

Motion: To approve the 2024 Board Meeting dates as presented.

Meador/Duffell-Hoffman/Approved.

b. State Testing

Ms. Adams reported that the Panel has entered into an agreement with CDR for a state testing option for individuals who have completed their bachelor's degree and wants to become a licensed dietitian in South Carolina pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 40-20-60(2). The state testing agreement with CDR details how the process for applicants.

Mr. Tennis provided that the state testing option will look very similar to the current existing testing for being a registered dietitian. In the practice act, a registered dietitian is defined as someone who is registered with CDR and a licensed dietitian is someone who is licensed to practice dietetics in the state. If someone takes the state exam licensure pathway provided for in S.C. Code Ann. § 40-20-60(2), they would ultimately become a licensed dietitian.

c. CE's for State Licensed Dietitians

Ms. Adams reported that in order for state-licensed dietitians to report CEs, the licensed dietitian would send proof of continuing education units as provided for in Regulation 40-8(A)(2) and (B), which requires completion of thirty (30) hours of continuing education units from CDR-accredited providers. CEs will have to be reported every two years at renewal.

d. Forms Updated

Ms. Adams reported that forms are being reviewed and updated to be applicable for those seeking to be licensed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 40-20-60(2).

e. Panel Appointments

Ms. Adams reported that new panel appointees are in the process of being vetted.

Ms. Goodrich was sworn in by the court reporter, and she provided an update on the panel appointments. Per Ms. Goodrich, Ms. Amanda Groesbeck has started the application process for the management seat. For the consulting seat, Ms. Beth Griffith is pending Senate approval. Ms. Michelle Parisi is pending Senate approval.

f. Compact Document

Ms. Adams reported the included information regarding a potential dietetic licensure compact and model legislation is for information purpose only.

Mr. Tennis reported that it is the South Carolina Legislature's decision on whether South Carolina will be part of a compact for dietetics licensure. The creation of or entering into dietetics compact would began as a bill filed in either the House or Senate.

g. Good Cause

Mr. Tennis explained to the Panel that in May 2023 the General Assembly passed a law that amended one of the provisions in the Engine, S.C. Code Ann. § 40-1-80(B)(3), which now requires that if a complaint is filed against a licensee, within 30 days after an investigation is initiated the licensee must be sent the name of the complainant, unless the board believes good cause exists to withhold the name of the complainant. Mr. Tennis explained that due to the timing requirements in statute and the infrequency of Panel meetings, the Panel should consider delegating this good cause determination to a specific Panel member.

Motion: To approve delegate the good cause determination to the Vice Chair. Meador/Duffell-Hoffman/Approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Goodrich reported that SCAND has created a licensure task force and is using the services of a lobbyists to address legislative issues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn.

Duffell-Hoffman/Meador/Approved.

Meeting was adjourn at 10:49 a.m.