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Telepractice Committee REGULAR SESSION MINUTES TELECONFERENCE MEETING

November 20, 2013

1400 West Washington, Ste. 240
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular session of the Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners Telepractice Committee was called to order by Chairman Bohanske at 8:00 a.m. on November 20, 2013.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present

Bob Bohanske, Ph.D – Chair
Janice K. Brundage, Ph.D
Frederick S. Wechsler, Ph.D., Psy.D., ABPP

Staff Present

Dr. Cindy Olvey, Executive Director
Heather Duracinski, Licensing Coordinator

Assistant Attorney General

Jeanne Galvin (8:22 a.m. -8:49 a.m.)

3. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING LITERATURE AND RESEARCH ON TELEPRACTICE

Dr. Wechsler provided a summary of a dissertation that was provided to the Committee regarding telepractice. Committee members stated that research provided on telepsychology does not substantiate the efficacy of telepsychology vs. face-to-face interaction. Committee members acknowledged the variance of guidelines between jurisdictions regarding telepsychology. Committee members expressed concern that psychologists are not aware that the American Psychological Association (APA) has issued best practice guidelines on telepsychology. Committee members expressed concern regarding ethical, professional and confidentiality issues.

4. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TELEPRACTICE RULES ADOPTED BY THE OHIO PSYCHOLOGY BOARD AND GUIDELINES ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Dr. Bohanske provided a summary stating that the Committee has been provided the American Psychological Association's (APA) best practice guidelines and the Ohio Psychology Board's Rules regarding telepractice. The Committee discussed providing the Ohio Psychology Board Rules and the APA's guidelines to the Board at its next in-person meeting. The Committee directed Board staff to research other regulatory Board's guidelines on telepractice.

5. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF RECOMMENDED TELEPRACTICE GUIDELINES TO PRESENT TO THE BOARD

The Committee discussed having a two day Board meeting with the second day dedicated to drafting guidelines for telepractice. The Committee discussed inviting the Arizona Psychological Association and other interested organizations to the Board meeting to discuss telepractice. The Board's legal counsel, Ms. Galvin, clarified that the Board may not have the authority to include telepractice in Rules. Ms. Galvin stated that she will research the issue and bring it to the Board.

After deliberation, Dr. Bohankse made a motion, seconded by Dr. Wechsler, to have a two day Board meeting to discuss telepractice and if the Board has authority to draft Rules or a Substantive Policy Statement. The motion carried 3-0.

6. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING NEXT STEPS FOR THE TELEPRACTICE COMMITTEE

It was the consensus of the Committee to continue to address the issue of telepsychology. The Committee will make a presentation to the Board at the next Board meeting and discuss the Ohio Psychology Board Rules, the dissertation and the APA's best practice guidelines.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The Committee did not schedule a future meeting at this time. The Committee will continue to develop recommendations for presentation at future Board meetings.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Dr. Brundage made motion, seconded by Dr. Wechsler, to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 a.m. The motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Bohanske, Ph.D.
Committee Chairman

Date