



STATE OF ARIZONA
BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS
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DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
Governor

HEIDI HERBST PAAKKONEN, M.P.A.
Executive Director

Regular Session Meeting Minutes

Held virtually via Zoom on July 14, 2022

Board Members

Diana Davis-Wilson, DBH, BCBA – Chair
Bryan Davey, Ph.D., BCBA-D – Vice-Chair
Linda Caterino, Ph.D., ABPP – Secretary
Aditya Dynar, Esq.
Matthew A. Meier, Psy.D.
Ramona N. Mellott, Ph.D.
Tamara Shreeve, MPA
Joseph Stewart, Ed.D.
Todd Wynn, M.A.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Davis-Wilson called the Board's meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

The following Board members participated in the virtual meeting: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Vice-Chairman Davey, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Meier, Dr. Mellott, and Mr. Wynn.

ALSO PRESENT

The following Board staff participated in the virtual meeting: Heidi Herbst Paakkonen, Executive Director; Jennifer Michaelsen, Deputy Director; Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General (AAG); and Kathy Fowkes, Licensing Specialist. The following Board staff did not participate: Zakiya Mallas, Licensing Specialist and Krishna Poe, Projects Specialist.

3. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MOTION SUBMITTED BY AUSTIN MCCALL, PSY.D. FOR CONTINUANCE OF JULY 14, 2022 BOARD MEETING REGARDING AGENDA ITEM #4

MOTION: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson moved to go into Executive Session to obtain confidential legal advice from the Board's Assistant Attorney General and to review confidential health information.
SECOND: Dr. Meier.

Dr. McCall's attorney, Tammy Thibodeau, Esq., was present with Dr. McCall and requested to speak before the Board moved to Executive Session. Ms. Thibodeau explained the reason for her continuance request. Ms. Thibodeau suggested continuing this matter another 1-2 business days as Dr. McCall recently underwent several other tests and those results are pending. Ms. Thibodeau stated that Dr. McCall is complying with her treating physician's recommendations.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Dr. Mellott and Mr. Wynn.
VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 12:11 p.m. to 12:23 p.m.

Dr. Meier opined that this matter rises to a public health issue therefore the matter should not be continued.

MOTION: Dr. Meier moved to deny the continuance request.

SECOND: Dr. Davey.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Dr. Mellott and Mr. Wynn.

VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.

MOTION PASSED.

4. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION PERTAINING TO AUSTIN MCCALL, PSY.D., AND POSSIBLE NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER FOR COMPLAINT NO. 20-47 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED, TO THE POSSIBLE SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF HER LICENSE TO PRACTICE PSYCHOLOGY, REFERRAL TO FORMAL HEARING OR OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES AVAILABLE TO THE BOARD

Ms. Michaelsen provided a summary indicating that since September 2020, Dr. McCall has been under a Board Order for probation and monitoring. Board staff recently became aware that Dr. McCall may not be in compliance with the Order based on recent test results. Ms. Michaelsen stated that the Order provides a stipulation for a summary suspension if Dr. McCall is found to be in non-compliance with the Order.

MOTION: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson moved to go into Executive Session to obtain confidential legal advice from the Board's Assistant Attorney General and to review confidential health information.

SECOND: Mr. Wynn.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Dr. Mellott and Mr. Wynn.

VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 12:28 p.m. to 1:10 p.m.

Dr. Meier expressed concern that Dr. McCall is not in compliance with the Order. Dr. Meier expressed concern that Dr. McCall is in contact with individuals who currently use substances. Dr. Mellott indicated that she would like to see the additional test results that Dr. McCall underwent before making a decision regarding her license. Chairwoman Davis-Wilson expressed credibility concerns with the monitor, Dr. Monica Faria. Dr. Caterino expressed concern with Dr. McCall seeing clients while the test results are pending. Dr. Meier indicated that the inpatient Cottonwood evaluation recommended by Dr. Faria would not be valuable to the Board. Dr. Davey echoed Board members' sentiments. Dr. Caterino indicated that Dr. Faria is a subject matter expert and she recommended the Cottonwood evaluation. Chairwoman Davis-Wilson asked whether the Board wants to restrict Dr. McCall's practice until the Board receives the pending test results.

MOTION: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson moved to go into Executive Session to obtain confidential legal advice from the Board's Assistant Attorney General.

SECOND: Mr. Wynn.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Dr. Mellott and Mr. Wynn.

VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 1:14 p.m. to 1:40 p.m.

Dr. Meier stated that one of Dr. McCall's recent hair test results were positive, which is in violation of the Order. Dr. Meier indicated that the Board can summarily suspend Dr. McCall's license or request that Dr. McCall agree to not practice until the additional test results are received. Dr. Davey stated that Dr. McCall has made a case that the last hair test was invalid. Dr. Mellott asked Dr. McCall if she will agree to not practice until the Board can review the pending test results and schedule a Board meeting. Dr. McCall asked if she can practice if the results of the hair test are negative. Ms. Galvin stated that if the test result is negative, the Board can allow Dr. McCall to practice prior to the next Board meeting. In response to the Board's inquiry regarding her current employment, Dr. McCall stated that she is currently working for an agency and has a private practice, although she does not have any patients scheduled at her practice in the coming weeks. Dr. Meier asked if the Board can request documentation that confirms Dr. McCall is not practicing while the test results are pending. Dr. McCall indicated that she will notify her supervisor and provide that verification to Board staff. Dr. Davey impressed upon Dr. McCall the seriousness of this matter. Dr. McCall asked if the Board will be scheduling another emergency meeting regardless of the test results. Board members indicated that if the hair test is positive for any substances, it will schedule an emergency Board meeting, and if the hair test is negative, the issue concerning Dr. McCall's possible violation of the Order regarding the positive test that they have reviewed today will be considered at a future scheduled meeting. Dr. McCall asked whether she should schedule a fitness for duty evaluation pursuant to the terms of the Order. Ms. Galvin stated that the Board cannot advise Dr. McCall as to when she should schedule the evaluation.

MOTION: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson moved that Board staff memorialize the agreement between the Board and Dr. McCall that she will not see clients until the pending test results are received and if the test result is negative she can resume practicing.

SECOND: Dr. Meier.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Meier, Dr. Mellott and Mr. Wynn.

VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.

MOTION PASSED.

5. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE REQUEST TO RETAKE THE EPPP FROM OKSANA SLYAROV BLANKENSHIP, PSY.D., TEMPORARY LICENSE HOLDER PSY-T-000040

Dr. Meier provided a summary of Dr. Blankenship's application, noting that it meets the requirements of statute and rule.

MOTION: Dr. Meier moved to allow Dr. Blankenship to retake the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP).

SECOND: Dr. Caterino.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Davey, Dr. Mellott, Dr. Meier and Mr. Wynn.

VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 1-recuse.

MOTION PASSED.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dr. Mellott moved to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Mr. Wynn.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Davis-Wilson, Dr. Davey, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Meier, Dr. Mellott, and Mr. Wynn.

VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse.

The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Linda C. Caterino Ph.D., ABPP

Linda C. Caterino, Ph.D. A.B.P.P.
Secretary