



STATE OF ARIZONA
BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS
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KATIE HOBBS
Governor

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

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2024

Board Members

Aditya Dynar, Esq.– Chair
Diana Medina, Ph.D.– Vice Chair
Bryan Davey, Ph.D., BCBA-D
Linda Caterino, Ph.D., ABPP
Melissa Flint, Psy.D.
Donald Stenhoff, Ph.D., BCBA-D
Larry Sideman, Ph.D., ABPP
Joseph Stewart, Ed.D. – Secretary
Todd Wynn, M.A.

Board Staff

Heidi Herbst Paakkonen, M.P.A., Executive Director
Jennifer Michaelsen, M.P.A. Deputy Director
Krishna Poe, Program Projects Specialist
Kathy Fowkes, Psychologist Licensing Specialist
Zakiya Mallas, Behavior Analyst Licensing Specialist

Board Attorney

Jeanne Galvin, Assistant Attorney General

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dynar called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

The following Board members participated in the virtual meeting: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Caterino, Dr. Flint, Dr. Sideman, and Dr. Stenhoff.

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; Kathy Fowkes, Licensing Specialist, Zakiya Mallas, Licensing Specialist, and Krishna Poe, Projects Specialist.

3. REMARKS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Board [Survey](#)**

Mr. Dynar encouraged meeting attendees to provide feedback by contacting Board staff and completing a Board Meeting Assessment Survey.

- **Board Member and Staff Appreciation**

Mr. Dynar acknowledged and thanked Board members and staff for their hard work and efforts in facilitating the Board's meetings.

- **Continuing Education Credit for Board Meeting Attendance**

Mr. Dynar announced that the meeting is not expected to exceed four hours and it is therefore it is unlikely to be a continuing education credit awarding event.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No members of the public requested permission to address the Board.

5. COUNSEL UPDATE

Ms. Galvin did not have an update to provide to the Board.

6. CONSENT AGENDA - DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- February 9, 2024 Regular Session Minutes
- February 9, 2024 Executive Session Minutes

B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

C. DISCUSSION/DECISION REGARDING PSYCHOLOGIST APPLICATIONS

- 1. Requesting Approval to Sit for the EPPP Only (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071, 2071.01 & 2072)**
 - a) Anna Gutierrez, Psy.D.
 - b) Brandon Scott, Psy.D.

- 2. Requesting Approval to Sit for EPPP & Licensure (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071, 2071.01 & 2072)**
 - a) Shaina Townsend, Ph.D.
 - b) John Vanuk, Ph.D.
 - c) Veronica High, Ph.D.
 - d) Levi Cragun, Psy.D.
 - e) Michael O'Connor, Psy.D.
 - f) Katlyn Hanson, Psy.D.
 - g) Emily Marhan, Psy.D.

- 3. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Credential (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071.01)**
 - a) Tracy Mallett, Psy.D.
 - b) John Clifton, Ph.D.
 - c) Cynthia Anderson-Keene, Ph.D.

- 4. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Universal Recognition (A.R.S. § 32-4302)**
 - a) Lauren Perez, Ph.D.

- 5. Requesting Approval for Telehealth Registration (A.R.S. § 36-3606)**
 - a) Susan B. Palmer-Ansorg, Ph.D.

D. DISCUSSION/DECISION REGARDING BEHAVIOR ANALYST APPLICATIONS

1. Jill Kanterman, M.Ed.
2. Colleen Weidner, M.A.
3. Angelique Robles, M.A.
4. Heather Dorn-Deasy, M.S.
5. Gabriella Pinato, M.A.
6. Renee Carson, M.A.
7. Elizabeth Wilkerson, M.S.
8. Emily Deramus, M.A.
9. Olivia Setzer, M.S.

10. Ariel Ching, M.S.
11. Brittany Fechner, M.S.
12. Nicholas Lawson, M.A.
13. Stephanie Canonico, M.A.
14. Malik Stuckey, M.L.S.
15. Daisy Garcia, M.A.
16. Jason Silva, M.Ed.

E. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RECOMMENDATION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS PERTAINING TO REACTIVATION REQUEST SUBMITTED BY JESUS GREER, PH.D.

MOTION: Dr. Stenhoff moved for the Board to approve the items listed under the Consent Agenda.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Flint, Dr. Sideman, and Dr. Stenhoff.

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

MOTION PASSED.

THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS ARE UNTIMED AND MAY BE DISCUSSED AND DECIDED UPON AT VARIOUS TIMES THROUGHOUT THE MEETING AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR

7. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED SUPERVISED PRACTICE PLAN FOR ANN EBERHARDT, PSY.D.

Ms. Paakkonen informed the Board that Dr. Eberhardt is complying with the terms of a Consent Agreement that prescribes a monitoring program. The Consent Agreement also stipulates that Dr. Eberhardt will be granted a restricted psychologist license, requiring her to practice under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. She indicated that Fred Wiggins, Ph.D. has agreed to serve as the supervisor and submitted a plan summarizing the roles and expectations of both parties.

Both Dr. Eberhardt and Dr. Wiggins were present, and they described the proposed supervision plan. They also addressed questions posed by the Board relative to the proposed arrangement.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to approve the proposed supervision plan for Dr. Eberhardt to practice under the oversight of Dr. Wiggins.

SECOND: Dr. Stenhoff.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Flint, Dr. Sideman, and Dr. Stenhoff.

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

MOTION PASSED.

8. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION COMPLETED BY BRET RINGDAHL, PH.D., IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS INTERIM CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER FOR EVALUATION AND PRACTICE RESTRICTION FOR COMPLAINT NO. 24-17

Ms. Michaelsen summarized the status of this case noting that Dr. Ringdahl's license has been suspended, and he has recently submitted to an evaluation; the ensuing report has been received by the Board. She noted that Dr. Ringdahl has indicated he agrees with the evaluator's recommendation but is requesting his license date be restored such that the suspension time frame take into consideration the time that his license has already been in

this status.

Dr. Ringdahl was present and addressed questions posed by the Board. The Board members discussed possible terms of a proposed Consent Agreement to offer to Dr. Ringdahl.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to propose a new agreement to Dr. Ringdahl that reflects the recommendations in the evaluation report.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Dynar - yes

Dr. Medina - yes

Dr. Stewart - yes

Dr. Flint - yes

Dr. Stenhoff - yes

Dr. Stenhoff - yes

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

MOTION PASSED.

9. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED LEGISLATION INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: HB2050, HB2068, HB2100, HB2139, HB2171, HB2187, HB2243, HB2308, HB2312, HB2388, HB2481, HB2593, HB2686, HB2846, SB1021, SB1153, SB1249, SB1343, SB1365, SB1468, SB1565, AND SB1731; ADDITIONALLY AN UPDATE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED EXECUTIVE BUDGET FOR FY2025

Ms. Paakkonen provided an oral summary of the impact of certain bills in the tracking list that have been approved in the chamber of introduction and have been assigned in the opposite chamber. She noted specifically HB2050 and HB2068 have not been scheduled for hearings. Board members posed questions and Ms. Paakkonen provided her responses. She indicated she has received no updates specific to the Executive Budget recommendation to transfer money from the Board's fund to the General Fund to help address the state's operating deficit.

10. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS

a. COMPLAINT NO. 24-12 AGAINST DANA JOHNSON, M.S., BE DISMISSED

Ms. Paakkonen advised the Board the Committee on Behavior Analysts recently reviewed this case and is recommending it be dismissed. The Committee found that the testimony, including that of the subpoenaed witness Briana King, and the client service records, although incomplete, found that while Ms. Johnson provided behavior analytic services in Arizona for a period of time while unlicensed, she was appropriately supervised by Ms. King during that time as she was and continues to be a licensed behavior analyst.

Ms. Johnson and her attorney, Mandi Karvis, were present. Ms. Johnson stated to the Board that this experience taught her to not rely on information supplied to her by an employer relative to complying with Arizona law.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to accept the Committee recommendation and to dismiss the complaint.

SECOND: Dr. Stenhoff.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Flint, Dr. Sideman, and Dr. Stenhoff.

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

MOTION PASSED.

b. THE BOARD SUPPLEMENT ITS PREVIOUS REFERRALS OF CENTRIA HEALTHCARE TO VARIOUS REGULATORY, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PAYOR ENTITIES WITH INFORMATION GAINED DURING ITS INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINT NO. 24-12

Ms. Paakkonen informed the Board that several subpoenas were issued to Centria in order to obtain a complete set of records to fully inform the investigation. She noted that Centria demurred where certain documentation is concerned as is noted in the correspondence received from the company's legal counsel. Ms. Paakkonen reminded the Board that in September of 2023 it voted to refer Centria to specific entities for potential investigation concerning billing practices for services provided by BCBA's not licensed in Arizona; the Committee is recommending the Board supply the additional information obtained during its investigation of case 24-12 to augment those referrals.

Flynn Carey, Centria's attorney, was present and was given the opportunity to address the Board. He summarized his client's objections to the subpoenas it received, and asked the Board to reject the Committee's recommendation.

MOTION: Mr. Dynar moved for the Board to meet in Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Flint, Dr. Siideman, and Dr. Stenhoff.

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

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 9:04 a.m. to 9:32 a.m.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, the Board continued the discussion. It reflected that the Board's duty and obligation is to protect the public; this includes referring any potential concerns outside of its authority and jurisdiction to appropriate entities to include the Arizona Attorney General, the Office of Inspector General of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, the Arizona Department of Health Services, and accreditation organizations. It was noted this is consistent with the recent directives stated by Governor Katie Hobbs to the Arizona state regulatory boards, and her assurances to safeguard the public from harm.

MOTION: Mr. Dynar moved for the Board to accept the Committee recommendation to forward the new information concerning Centria to the entities that received the previous referrals.

SECOND: Dr. Stenhoff.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Flint, Dr. Sidemand, and Dr. Stenhoff.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Dynar - yes

Dr. Medina - yes

Dr. Stewart - yes

Dr. Flint - yes

Dr. Stenhoff - yes

Dr. Stenhoff - yes

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

MOTION PASSED.

c. INFORMATION IDENTIFIED IN THE INVESTIGATIVE RECORD FOR COMPLAINT NO. 24-12 CONCERNING KIARA BINNINGER (BCBA; UNLICENSED IN ARIZONA), BE REFERRED TO THE BEHAVIOR ANALYST CERTIFICATION BOARD FOR POSSIBLE INVESTIGATION

Ms. Paakkonen informed the Board that the investigation finds that Ms. Binninger, a BCBA and an employee of Centria, was identified as the source of the advisories to the company's employees in Arizona that service provision by unlicensed BCBAs is permissible under a "mid-tier" service delivery model. She noted that the Committee was unable to gather any facts concerning this matter directly from Ms. Binninger as she did not respond to the subpoena (the reasons for which are cited in a letter to the Board). Acknowledging the Board has no jurisdiction, the Committee recommend a referral of Ms. Binninger to the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) for possible investigation into any violations of that organization's ethical code.

Mr. Carey advised the Board that Centria has standing to object to the subpoena issued to its employee, Ms. Binninger, and he requested the Board reject the Committee's recommendation. Ms. Binninger was not present for the review and discussion of this matter.

The Board discussion reflected that while it understands the limitations of its authority, it cannot ignore that the evidence it has gathered suggests Centria is employing unlicensed persons to deliver behavior analytic services in Arizona; this warrants referrals of that information to any entity with appropriate oversight of these practices. It was also noted that the BACB Ethical Code obligates a BCBA to comply with its provisions notwithstanding that BCBA's employer's position.

MOTION: Mr. Dynar moved for the Board to accept the Committee recommendation to forward the information concerning Kiara Binniger to the BACB.

SECOND: Dr. Sideman.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Flint, Dr. Sideman, and Dr. Stenhoff.

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

MOTION PASSED.

11. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RECOMMENDATION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS TO REFER TO THE BEHAVIOR ANALYST CERTIFICATION BOARD INFORMATION CONCERNING DONNA CHEESEMAN, BCBA

Ms. Paakkonen informed the Board that when reviewing the behavior analyst application file for Melissa Payne, the Committee noted the applicant made numerous attempts to contact Ms. Cheeseman to compel her to send to the Board on her behalf documentation verifying the supervised experience she provided. Ms. Cheeseman failed to respond to Ms. Payne and never followed through with the submission of the documents. Consistent with its previous recommendations, the Committee is forwarding a request that the Board refer this matter to the BACB for possible investigation into whether Ms. Cheeseman may have violated that organization's ethical code.

The Board's discussion reflected that the supervisory relationship does not end with the conclusion of the provision of services; a supervisor agrees to maintain the responsibility into the future to supply requested information to support the supervisee's pursuit of licensure.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to accept the Committee recommendation to forward the information concerning Donna Cheeseman to the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Flint, Dr. Sideman, and Dr. Stenhoff.

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

MOTION PASSED.

12. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CORRESPONDENCE WITH GOVERNOR KATIE HOBBS CONCERNING HEALTH CARE LICENSING BOARDS TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Ms. Paakkonen summarized the contents of the letter Governor Katie Hobbs issued to all Arizona health care licensing boards on February 15, 2024 that includes a directive to submit to her office a preliminary response (due March 1, 2024), followed by a more comprehensive response due on July 1, 2024 that supplies specific deliverables. She explained that the March 1, 2024 deadline necessitated working with Ms. Dynar in his capacity as Board Chair to review and approve the initial response. She assured the Board that by virtue of her other professional regulatory experience, there are several disciplinary action rubric resources and tools available for the Board to evaluate and for purposes of informing what it ultimately adopts. The Board recommended Ms. Paakkonen focus some effort on drafting modifications to its existing disciplinary guidelines document. Ms. Paakkonen noted that any rubric should have the ability to apply mitigating and aggravating factors and considerations.

Ms. Paakkonen also advised the Board that she will formalize in a draft policies and procedures what the Board already practices in terms of considering whether information obtained in the course of an investigation should be referred to another investigative or enforcement source. She assured the Board she will have draft recommendations to begin reviewing with its next meeting on April 5, 2024.

13. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS FOR EPPP AND/OR LICENSURE

a. Heather Koutsogiannis, Psy.D. (ANEW - Exam and Licensure application)

Dr. Flint provided a historical summary of the application history for this applicant. She noted that she sees no deficiencies with this application as the documentation submitted establishes the file is administratively and substantively complete, and that the applicant meets the statutory qualifications to be approved to take the EPPP and be granted licensure upon the Board's receipt of a passing score.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to approve the application and grant licensure is a passing EPPP score is achieved.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Flint, Dr. Sideman, and Dr. Stenhoff.

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

MOTION PASSED.

b. Boikanyo Tlhong, Psy.D. (Licensure by Waiver application)

Dr. Flint provided a historical summary of the application history for this applicant that resulted in the applicant requesting and being granted approval by Board staff to switch the application type in accordance with Board policy. Dr. Flint explained that the internship documentation reflects there are some deficiencies with respect to the lack of a second licensed psychologist overseeing the program, the program did not include interaction with other psychologist trainees, some of the hours were non-qualifying due to the fact they were overseen by a licensed marriage and family therapist, and some of the post-doctoral program hours cannot be considered as they exceed the number permitted per week.

Dr. Tlhong was present and described her internship experience. The Board discussion and deliberation reflected that a FAIR letter would not enable the applicant to cure those deficiencies. Dr. Tlhong indicated she wishes to withdraw her application.

MOTION: Dr. Medina moved for the Board to approve an application withdrawal request if received in 10 days; if not received, the application shall be denied.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

VOTE: The following Board members voted in favor of the motion: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Flint, Dr. Sideman, and Dr. Stenhoff.

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

MOTION PASSED.

14. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATING TO THE PROPOSED CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER SIGNED BY CATHERIN TARR, PSY.D., IN CASE NO. 24-22, OR OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES AVAILABLE TO THE BOARD

Ms. Michaelsen summarized this matter for the Board, noting that Dr. Tarr was ordered by the Board to submit to a substance abuse and fitness for duty evaluation due to possible impairment, and was requested by the Board to agree to an interim suspension of her license. Dr. Tarr indicated instead she wished to surrender her license; accordingly, a proposed Consent Agreement including this resolution was transmitted to Dr. Tarr and she signed and submitted it to the Board for consideration and possible approval. The Board thanked the complainant MA for being present for the discussion of this matter. Dr. Tarr was not present.

The deliberation reflected that a license surrender is appropriate given Dr. Tarr has indicated she does not wish to participate in an evaluation.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to approve the surrender of Dr. Tarr’s license by approving the Consent Agreement.

SECOND: Mr. Dynar.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Dynar - yes

Dr. Medina - yes

Dr. Stewart - yes

Dr. Flint - yes

Dr. Sideman - yes

Dr. Stenhoff - yes

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

MOTION PASSED.

15. NEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

No items were requested.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dynar announced the adjournment of the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Stewart, Ed.D.
Secretary

