



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

May 3, 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 Michaelson, 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 8:31 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, Dr. Stenhoff, and Mr. Wynn. Dr. Davey was absent.

ALSO PRESENT

The following Board staff participated in the virtual meeting: Heidi Herbst Paakkonen, Executive Director; Jennifer Michaelson, 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 unlikely to be a continuing education credit awarding event.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No members of the public requested to speak.

5. COUNSEL UPDATE

Ms. Galvin advised the Board that the formal hearing for the two complaints concerning behavior analyst Jamie Jones have been scheduled with the Office of Administrative Hearings for June 24-25, 2024.

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

Dr. Medina recused from the review and vote on the application at 6.C.4.a. (Megan McCarthy, Psy.D.).

The application of 6.D.9 (David Kelton, M.S.) was removed for separate review, discussion, and vote.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- April 5, 2024 Regular Session Minutes
- April 5, 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 - 2072)**
 - a) Brandon Lipin, Psy.D.
2. **Requesting Approval to Sit for EPPP & Licensure (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071 - 2072)**
 - a) Leslie Belt, Ph.D.
 - b) Justin Gardner, Psy.D.
 - c) Nacona Bunker, Psy.D.
 - d) Estrella Ochoa, Ph.D.
 - e) Shaunta Hemingway, Psy.D.
 - f) Fen Salix, Ph.D.
 - g) Cynthia Grunsten, Psy.D.
 - h) Amelia Porter, Psy.D.
 - i) Victoria Schilder, Ph.D.
 - j) Jordan Surina, Psy.D.
 - k) Krystal Galvan, Psy.D.
3. **Requesting Approval of Supervised Experience for Licensure (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071 - 2072)**
 - a) Rochelle Sykes, Psy.D.
4. **Requesting Approval for Supervised Temporary License w/ EPPP (A.R.S. § 32-2073)**
 - a) Megan McCarthy, Psy.D.
5. **Requesting Approval for Licensure by Waiver (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071 - 2072)**
 - a) Patricia McGuire, Psy.D.
 - b) Brinna Barlet, Ph.D.
 - c) Sarah Hahn, Ph.D.
 - d) Krystal Akbar, Ph.D.
 - e) Lauren Brooks, Ph.D.
 - f) Cassandra Rasmussen, Psy.D.

g) Destiny Hoffman, Psy.D.

6. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Credential (A.R.S. § 32-2071.01)

- a) Richard Durant, Jr., Psy.D.
- b) Paige Mission Wilson, Ph.D.
- c) Eric Rosmith, Ph.D.
- d) Leah Jacobs, Psy.D.

7. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Universal Recognition(A.R.S. § 32-4302)

- a) Jon Dennig, Psy.D.
- b) Megan Thompson, Ed.D.
- c) Angela Turner, Psy.D.
- d) Valerie Baker, Ph.D.

8. Requesting Approval for Telehealth Registry (A.R.S. § 36-3606)

- a) Shannon Hackett, Ph.D.

D. DISCUSSION/DECISION REGARDING BEHAVIOR ANALYST APPLICATIONS

- 1. Shanleye Rasmussen, M.A.
- 2. Olivia Copti, M.S.
- 3. Brianna Jack, M.A.
- 4. Sara Mertel, Ph.D., M.Ed.
- 5. Jesse Rhodes, M.S.
- 6. Lydia Krichevsky, M.A.
- 7. Maddison Page, M.A.
- 8. Sydney Cardiff, M.A.
- 9. David Kelton, M.S.
- 10. Reilly Rowland, M.S.
- 11. Paola Saiki, M.A.
- 12. Melissa Broderick, M.S.
- 13. Shantel Berwick, M.S.
- 14. Katelynn Merriman, M.A.
- 15. Lindsay Lee, M.A.
- 16. Laura Vargas, M.S.F.S.
- 17. Breianna Reid, M.S.

E. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REINSTATEMENT REQUEST SUBMITTED BY LAUREN HAGWOOD, PSY.D.

F. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RECOMMENDATION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS PERTAINING TO REINSTATEMENT AND REACTIVATION REQUEST SUBMITTED BY MYESHA ARGUELLES, M.A.

G. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REQUEST TO WITHDRAW PSYCHOLOGIST APPLICATION FOR EXAM AND LICENSURE SUBMITTED BY NOHEMI VASQUEZ, PSY.D.

H. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TELEHEALTH REGISTRY ANNUAL REPORT SUBMITTED BY AMANDA GLOVER, PSY.D., REGISTRATION NO. PSY-TR-0005

I. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TELEHEALTH REGISTRY ANNUAL REPORT AND AGREEMENT TO CANCEL THE SAME SUBMITTED BY

MICHAEL SCOTT, PSY.D., REGISTRATION NO. PSY-TR-0003

MOTION: Mr. Wynn moved for the Board to approve the items listed under the Consent Agenda (with 6.D.9 reserved for separate consideration).

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recused.

MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Kelton was present and agreed to address the Board’s questions concerning his application declaration of a prior criminal charge. He apologized for not having checked his email in time to learn that his presence was requested at the April 26, 2024 meeting of the Committee on Behavior Analysts. The board affirmed having reviewed the written statement he recently submitted. In response to questions posed by the Board he assured the members he will be attentive and responsive to future communications. He explained that his criminal charges occurred in 2019 when he was a college student and making some poor choices, and that he understands how his conduct was foolish and wrong. Mr. Kelton described to the Board how he has since reformed his behaviors, including maintaining compliant driving speeds.

MOTION: Dr. Stenhoff moved for the Board to approve the application of David Kelton.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

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

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recused.

MOTION PASSED.

TIMED ITEM - 9:00 A.M.

7. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATING TO INITIAL CASE REVIEW OF COMPLAINTS NOS. 24-11 AND 24-15 AGAINST NICOLE HUGGINS, PSY.D., TO INCLUDE THE COMPLAINT SCREENING COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO ISSUE AN INTERIM ORDER FOR EVALUATION, OR OTHER AVAILABLE REMEDIES

Drs. Caterino, Davey, and Stenhoff recused from this agenda item. Dr. Medina supplied a summary of the investigation for both complaints. Complaint 24-11 alleges that Dr. Huggins was terminated from employment with a behavior analytic agency for failure to complete reports and for abruptly canceling and failing to maintain client appointments. Complaint 24-15 contains allegations that Dr. Huggins exhibited a series of harassing behaviors toward the complainant, which resulted in criminal charges being filed against Dr. Huggins; those charges are pending in Court. Dr. Medina noted that in her response to 24-15, Dr. Huggins indicated she wished to “relinquish” her license. Dr. Huggins failed to appear before the Complaint Screening Committee on March 20, 2024; the Committee voted to forward the complaint to the Board with a recommendation to issue an Order to Dr. Huggins to submit to a fitness for duty evaluation, and to issue a subpoena to Dr. Huggins to compel her attendance before the Board during the initial review of the case. Dr. Medina summarized the conclusions of law the Committee recommended the Board consider relative to the allegations of both cases.

The Complainant for 24-11, AG, was present and made a brief statement to the Board summarizing the bases for the complaint. She addressed questions posed by the Board relative to the conduct that led to Dr. Huggins’ termination. JM, the Complainant for 24-15, was not present.

Dr. Huggins failed to appear at the proceeding in violation of the subpoena.

MOTION: Dr. Medina moved to meet in Executive Session to obtain legal advice.

SECOND: Mr. Dynar.

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

VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 2-recused.

The Board met in Executive Session from 9:28 a.m. to 10:03 a.m.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, the Board deliberated the cases. The discussion reflected concerns that Dr. Huggins' conduct reflects several instances of ethical code violations, and it signals that she is unregulatable to the extent the public is at risk of harm. It was also noted that the level of concern is acute enough to warrant a fitness for duty evaluation. Additionally, the Board cited statements Dr. Huggins has made that call into question her ability to practice safely as a psychologist.

MOTION: Dr. Medina moved to issue an Interim Order for Dr. Huggins to schedule a fitness for duty evaluation within 7 days of issuance, and for that report to be received by the Board within 30 days of the evaluation; failure to comply with the terms of the Interim Order will trigger a Summary Suspension of her license with a finding that the public's health, safety, and welfare is at risk. The violations cited were at A.R.S. 32-2061(16) at subsections (aa), (bb), and also (dd) specific to Section 2.06 of the APA Code of Ethics.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

ROLL VOTE:

Mr. Dynar – yes

Dr. Medina – yes

Dr. Stewart – yes

Dr. Flint – yes

Dr. Sideman – yes

Mr. Wynn – yes

VOTE: 6-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 2-recused.

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

8. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CASE ADJUDICATION RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS FOR COMPLAINT NO. 24-09 AGAINST PAIGE HUFF, M.S.

Dr. Stenhoff provided a historical summary of complaint 24-09 concerning behavior analyst Paige Huff. He explained that the original recommended disposition of the complaint was to propose a Consent Agreement with a term to issue a Decree of Censure specific to the findings of the investigation. That proposal was rejected by Ms. Huff, accompanied by a counter-proposal that Ms. Huff was willing to accept non-disciplinary action, and citing the fact that Ms. Huff is currently on probation and completing a practice monitoring order relative to another case. Upon reconsideration of complaint 24-09, on March 31, 2024 the Committee on Behavior Analysts elected to issue an updated recommendation to the Board that the case be resolved with a Letter of Concern. Dr. Stenhoff noted a draft has been prepared for the Board's consideration and possible approval.

Ms. Huff was unable to attend the meeting but her attorney, Michael Raine, was present and addressed the Board, summarizing his client's position and her request in the process.

MOTION: Dr. Stenhoff moved for the Board to approve the Letter of Concern as the resolution for 24-09.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recused.

MOTION PASSED.

9. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH DIRECTIVE ISSUED BY GOVERNOR KATIE HOBBS CONCERNING HEALTH CARE LICENSING BOARDS TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Ms. Paakkonen presented to the Board the revised documents consisting of the deliverables due to Governor Hobbs by July 1, 2024, noting that she believes them to reflect the previous discussions held, and the directions given by the Board.

The Board discussed the documents and noted they appear to be appropriate for submission to Governor Hobbs, as well as useful in terms of fulfilling their intended purpose. The Board and Ms. Paakkonen discussed how and when these tools will be implemented.

MOTION: Mr. Dynar moved for the Board to approve and implement the draft complaints referral policy and the disciplinary sanctions rubric; the motion included a provision that the Board grant him approval as Chair to sign the submission letter that will accompany the materials.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recused.

MOTION PASSED.

10. 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; AND AN UPDATE ON BUDGET CUTS FOR FY2024 AND FY2025

Ms. Paakkonen commented on the status of the bills listed on the report, noting that only a few have been signed, some have been vetoed, many have failed to reach Governor Katie Hobbs for her consideration, and a small number remain that may or may not progress. She also explained that there is no clarity yet on what, if any, level of funds are to be swept from the Board's dedicated funds in order to address the State of Arizona General Fund shortfall for FY2024 and for FY2025. She described a proposed set of potential budget reductions amounting to 2% that state agencies were directed to submit to Governor Hobbs. Ms. Paakkonen explained to the Board that the Governor's staff has advised the 90/10 agency Executive Directors to expect these solutions to be implemented on some level. She also clarified how raising fees is not possible or practical at this time.

11. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPLICATION FOR EXAM AND LICENSURE SUBMITTED BY JUDIT BRISSETTE, PSY.D.

Dr. Sideman recused from this agenda item. 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.

SECOND: Mr. Wynn.

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

VOTE: 7-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 1-recuse.

12. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REAPPLICATION FOR EXAM AND LICENSURE SUBMITTED BY ARIEL SHEMESH, PSY.D.

Dr. Flint recused from this agenda item. Dr. Sideman provided a historical summary of the application history for this applicant. He 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.

SECOND: Dr. Caterino.

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

VOTE: 7-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 1-recuse.

13. NEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Ms. Paakkonen advised the Board that staff representatives of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) are anticipated to be on the July 8, 2024 meeting agenda for purposes of providing an EPPP Part 2 update, and also to share some related information.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dynar announced the adjournment of the meeting at 10:53 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph B. Stewart, EdD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joseph Stewart, Ph.D.
Secretary