



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

September 6, 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 8:30 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

The following Board members participated in the virtual meeting: Mr. Dynar, Dr. Medina, Dr. Stewart (departed at 1:56 p.m.), Dr. Davey (joined at 8:56 a.m.), Dr. Flint, Dr. Stenhoff, Dr. Sideman, and Mr. Wynn.

ALSO PRESENT

The following Board staff participated in the virtual meeting: Heidi 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 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 reminded the Board that during its most recent meeting, the recommendations of the Administrative Law Judge presiding over the formal hearing concerning the two complaints against Nicole Huggins, Psy.D. were accepted. She stated that a motion has been filed by Dr. Huggins' attorney requesting the Board rehear or reconsider the case; she will file a response to that request, and the Board will consider it during the October meeting.

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

Dr. Stenhoff recused from the review and vote for 6.A.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- August 2, 2024 Regular Session Minutes
- August 2, 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) Chesleigh Keene, Ph.D.
 - b) Samantha Mongold, Psy.D.
- 2. Requesting Approval to Sit for EPPP & Licensure (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071, 2071.01 & 2072)**
 - a) Amelia Porter, Psy.D.
 - b) Lamese Abdelhamid, Psy.D.
- 3. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Waiver (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071, 2071.01 & 2072)**
 - a) Maci Slavin, Psy.D.
- 4. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Credential (A.R.S. § 32-2071.01)**
 - a) Elina Kugel, Psy.D., CPQ
 - b) Russell Buford, Ph.D., NRHSP
 - c) Myra Thompson, Psy.D., CPQ
 - d) Lyn Greenberg, Psy.D., ABPP, CPQ
- 5. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Universal Recognition (A.R.S. § 32-4302)**
 - a) Amy Kegel, Psy.D.
 - b) Kevin Settles, Psy.D.
 - c) Natalie Horn, Ph.D.
 - d) Jessica Morse, Ph.D.

D. DISCUSSION/DECISION REGARDING BEHAVIOR ANALYST APPLICATIONS

1. Erin Galloway, M.Ed.
2. Marisa Carroll, M.A.
3. Meris Alayne Santos, M.A.

4. Roxana Romano, M.Ed.
5. Elena Fedorocsko, M.S.
6. Rachel Moll, M.Ed.
7. Brian Pena, M.S.
8. Daniela Suarez, M.A.
9. Alexis Rogers, M.S.
10. Ashley Conklin, M.A.
11. Kailen Richardson M.S.
12. Rafael Prieto Moreno, M.A.
13. Theodore Windish, M.A.
14. Sierra Peters, M.S.
15. Cassandra Huerta, M.S.
16. Kristie Eggers, M.A.
17. Emily Petry, M.A.
18. Trisha Iannotta-Bieszczad, Psy.D.
- 19.Carolynn Baker, M.A.
20. Cheyenne Carlsson, M.A.

E. DISCUSSION, DECISION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BEHAVIORAL ANALYST TELEHEALTH REGISTRY ANNUAL UPDATES

1. Leah Friedman, Ph.D.
2. Adele Thomas, M.A.

F. DISCUSSION, DECISION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REQUEST FOR TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS FROM YANELY TARIN, PSY.D., SUPERVISED TEMPORARY LICENSE NO. PSY-T-000050

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to approve the items listed under the Consent Agenda (with the exception of 6.A).

SECOND: Dr. Stenhoff.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION: Mr. Dynar moved for the Board to approve the item 6.A on the Consent Agenda.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

TIMED ITEM - 8:45 A.M.

7. **DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING OFFER OF SETTLEMENT FROM JAMIE JONES FOR CASE NOS. 24F-2407-PSY AND 24F-2408-PSY. THE BOARD'S OPTIONS INCLUDE ACCEPTING, MODIFYING OR REJECTING MS. JONES' OFFER OF SETTLEMENT. IF THE BOARD ACCEPTS IT OR IF THE PARTIES AGREE TO MODIFIED TERMS THE BOARD MAY MOVE TO VACATE THE HEARING. IF THE BOARD DOES NOT CONSENSUALLY RESOLVE THE CASES WITH MS. JONES, THE MATTERS WILL PROCEED TO FORMAL HEARING AT THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

Mr. Dynar announced the purpose of the agenda item is to consider a counter-offer proposed settlement for the two cases for which Jamie Jones is the respondent, and to determine whether to accept or reject it. Ms. Jones and her attorney, Ms. Teresa Sanzio, were present. Ms. Sanzio presented her position to the Board as to why their proposed consent agreement represents the appropriate resolution for these cases. In doing so, she stated her client rejects the ethics coaching corrective action and challenged the term establishing that non-disciplinary resolution is public record. Ms. Galvin, representing the State of Arizona, commented that she will refrain from taking a position relative to whether the Board should accept the proposed counter-offer; rather, she will implement the Board's decisions relative to how the Board determines the case should be resolved.

The Board requested and received clarification and justifications from Ms. Sanzio relative to the revisions her client proposed

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. Davey, Dr. Flint, Dr. Medina, Dr. Sideman, Dr. Stenhoff, Dr. Stewart, and Mr. Wynn.

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

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 9:53 a.m. to 10:07 a.m.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, the Board deliberated this matter.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to reject the proposed counter-offer of settlement and to proceed with a formal hearing for these cases.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

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

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

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

8. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING INTERVIEW WITH ANN EBERHARDT, PSY.D. PURSUANT TO THE BOARD ORDER; ADDITIONALLY A REQUEST BY ANN EBERHART, PSY.D. TO MODIFY THE ACTIVE CONSENT AGREEMENT'S FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Paakkonen informed the Board that the Consent Agreement and Order of which Dr. Eberhardt is the subject requires the Board review her status at least six months after the effective date. Ms. Paakkonen stated that Dr. Eberhart has demonstrated maintaining compliance with the terms of the Order and her period of supervised practice under Fred Wiggins, Ph.D. initiated on April 5, 2024. However, recent developments to the health status of Dr. Wiggins have rendered him temporarily unable to practice and to provide her with supervision for an unknown period of time; accordingly, Dr. Eberhardt is proposing an interim psychologist supervisor to support her. Additionally, Dr. Eberhardt is seeking a modification to one of the Findings of Fact of the Consent Agreement to reflect that her Associate Counselor license issued by the Arizona Board of Behavioral Health Examiners was not revoked, but was suspended and then subsequently restored to active status with restrictions. Ms. Kelsey Whalen, counsel for Dr. Eberhardt, provided a statement to the Board on her client's behalf and explained that the proposed interim supervisor, George Goldman, Ph.D., had to depart the meeting. The Board posed

questions to, and received answers from, Dr. Eberhardt regarding her practice acumen, her personal well-being, and her supervisory experience. The Board also reviewed the interim supervision proposal submitted, and in the process discussed the fact that some of the supervision would be provided remotely.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to approve the proposed interim psychologist supervisor.

SECOND: Mr. Wynn.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

Ms. Galvin explained how the Board may issue an Order that grants Dr. Eberhardt's requests.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to issue an Order that corrects the incorrect Finding of Fact and that acknowledges Dr. George Goldman will serve as Dr. Eberhardt's interim supervisor.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

9. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SELF-REPORT FOR DUI CHARGES SUBMITTED BY NICOLE MIRKIN, PSY.D.

Ms. Michaelsen informed the Board that Dr. Mirkin self-reported an extreme DUI arrest that occurred in May of 2024 and that she reported the charges to the Board within the 10-day period required by law. The police report indicates a breathalyzer test measured her blood alcohol content at more than twice the legal limit. Ms. Michaelsen reported these charges are pending in court and given the case is not expected to be adjudicated in the near future, staff is seeking direction from the Board relative to what actions to take at this time. Ms. Michaelsen noted Dr. Mirkin was present for this discussion, along with her attorney, Andrew Turk.

Mr. Turk addressed the Board on Dr. Mirkin's behalf, stating that the incident has no connection to patient care, and asserted she does not have a substance abuse problem. He requested the Board take no disciplinary action against Dr. Mirkin. In response to a question posed by the Board relative to whether Dr. Mirkin would agree to submit to a substance abuse evaluation, Mr. Turk stated that under the circumstances this is not necessary. He represented Dr. Mirkin's 2008 DUI as irrelevant as she was not licensed at that time. Dr. Mirkin described her regret and remorse for the event and mentioned some measures she is taking to circumvent another DUI. The Board posed several questions to Dr. Mirkin relative to this event.

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

SECOND: Dr. Sideman.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 11:21 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, the Board deliberated this matter. The discussion reflected that the Board is charged with protecting the safety of the public, and gathering additional facts, clarity, and information is essential in the process.

MOTION: Dr. Medina moved for the Board to issue an Interim Order, with the typical timeframes and deadlines, requiring Dr. Mirkin to submit to a substance abuse evaluation, and to direct the licensee to report all developments in the pending criminal case in a timely manner to the Board.

SECOND: Dr. Stenhoff.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

10. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATING TO INITIAL CASE REVIEW OF COMPLAINT NO. 24-30 AGAINST SUSAN SCHWARTZ, PH.D.

Dr. Medina provided a summary of the complaint filed by KG, a former client of Dr. Schwartz, in which she alleged Dr. Schwartz used a portion of her personal story in a book she wrote. Dr. Medina noted that Dr. Schwartz's response refutes the allegations and characterized the story as one that is common to many of her clients. The complaint response reflected there were no client records maintained for KG as the services provided were not typically psychological services. Dr. Medina noted that the Complaint Screening Committee voted to forward the case to the Board having found potential violations of A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(b), betraying professional confidences; A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(e), gross negligence in the practice of a psychologist; A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(g), engaging or offering to engage as a psychologist in activities not congruent with the psychologist's professional education, training and experience; A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(h), failing or refusing to maintain and retain adequate business, financial or professional records pertaining to the psychological services provided to a client or patient; A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(r), failing to obtain a client's or patient's informed and written consent to release personal or otherwise confidential information to another party unless the release is otherwise authorized by law; A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(y), exploiting a client or patient, student or a supervisee; and A.R.S. § 32-2061(16)(dd), violating an ethical standard adopted by the Board as it pertains to section 6.01 (Documentation of Professional and Scientific Work and Maintenance of Records) of the APA ethics code.

KG was present with her attorney, Elliot Alford. She indicated she is willing to address questions. Dr. Schwartz was present with her attorney, Robert Beardsley, and made a statement in which she denied betraying professional confidences. In response to questions posed, Dr. Schwartz admitted her scant notes for the services provided to KG did not meet the standards required of a psychologist, and she affirmed she did not develop a treatment plan, require completion of intake forms, nor did she require a signed informed consent form. KG stated she did recall signing a brief informed consent statement prior to receiving services, but she no longer has a copy.

Ms. Galvin reminded the Board that the purpose of an initial review is to determine the future course of the investigation, and not to conduct an evidentiary hearing.

The Board deliberated the case and, in the process, reviewed the possible violations.

MOTION: Mr. Wynn moved to remand the complaint to an informal interview regarding the seven violations referenced by the Board's Complaint Screening Committee.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

11. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RECOMMENDATION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS TO DISMISS COMPLAINT NO. 24-41 AGAINST KILEY SHEEHAN, M.S.

Dr. Stenhoff provided an overview of the complaint allegations, and of the findings and recommendations of the Committee. He explained the complainant AG alleged that Ms. Sheehan failed to properly address safety and health concerns relative to two clients receiving services under her supervision. He summarized the investigative record which does not support AG's allegations, and he noted that the Committee was very thorough in its review of the case given the serious nature of the allegations, and the fact that it was two child clients who were named in the complaint.

MOTION: Dr. Stenhoff moved for the Board to dismiss complaint 24-41.

SECOND: Mr. Wynn.

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

VOTE: 7-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recused.

MOTION PASSED.

12. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPLICATION WITHDRAWAL REQUEST FROM KATHRYN HOLLORAN

Ms. Paakkonen summarized this request, and supplied an explanation of the history of the application and the Committee's review of the file. She explained the applicant has indicated that a change in employment means she anticipates having no need for an Arizona license.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved to approve the application withdrawal request.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

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

VOTE: 7-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recused.

MOTION PASSED.

13. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC) RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT APPLICATION WITHDRAWAL REQUEST FROM JULIE KERLEY, PH.D., AND OTHER POSSIBLE ACTIONS REGARDING TRAINING PROGRAM CONCERNS IDENTIFIED BY ARC

Dr. Flint provided a summary of the application file. She noted that the application was reviewed on one previous occasion by the Board, and several times by the Application Review Committee (ARC), and in the process, concerns emerged relative to whether during her internship Dr. Kerley was compensated based on productivity as opposed to an acceptable stipend arrangement. Dr. Flint also noted that Dr. Kerley's training supervisor, Jodi Cuneo, Psy.D., supplied many inconsistent and contradictory internship verification reports for Dr. Kerley's application. Additionally, the ARC noted compensation paid to Dr. Kerley varied from week to week suggesting that it was productivity based and not a stipend. Dr. Flint described the ARC's concerns that possible exploitation of a trainee has occurred, and that Dr. Kerley's application deficiency is uncurable which compels her to request the Board approve its withdrawal as opposed to denying the application.

In response to questions posed by Board members, Ms. Galvin affirmed a complaint investigation may be opened against Dr. Cuneo to investigate whether trainee exploitation and negligent supervision may have occurred.

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. Davey, Dr. Flint, Dr. Medina, Dr. Sideman, Dr. Stenhoff, Dr. Stewart, and Mr. Wynn.

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

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 1:10 p.m. to 1:23 p.m.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, the Board deliberated this matter. The discussion reflected concern that psychologist trainees, while responsible for knowing the licensure requirements that they must meet, trust that they are placed into programs that are ethically sound and compliant.

MOTION: Mr. Dynar moved for the Board to open a complaint concerning Jodi Cuneo, Psy.D. for potential unprofessional conduct relative to the internship and doctoral training programs she oversees; the investigation may expand to include additional psychologists as facts are uncovered.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to approve the withdrawal of Dr. Kerley’s application.

SECOND: Dr. Sideman.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

14. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF SUPERVISED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE HOURS FOR LICENSURE SUBMITTED BY BRONA DAVIDS, PSY.D.

Dr. Flint recused from the consideration and vote on this item. Dr. Sideman provided a summary of the application file. He noted that her review does not identify any deficiencies with this application as the documentation submitted establishes the file is administratively and substantively complete, and that the applicant meets the statutory qualifications for the supervised experience hours for licensure to be approved.

It was the consensus of the Board to direct staff to write to the applicant’s training director to share its observations on the design of the program and its possible implications for future applicants for licensure.

MOTION: Dr. Sideman moved for the Board to approve Dr. Davids’ request.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

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

15. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING UNLICENSED BOARD CERTIFIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS EMPLOYED IN ARIZONA SCHOOLS

Dr. Stenhoff provided an overview of the recommendation forwarded by the Committee on Behavior Analysts consisting of a proposed action plan to establish a pathway to compliance for board certified behavior analysts (BCBAs) who are of the mistaken assumption that they are in compliance with A.R.S. §32-2091(A)(1) by virtue of the fact they are employed by a school. Board members suggested certain stakeholder groups be included in the

distribution list for gathering input. It was the consensus of the Board to implement the phase of the proposed plan involving gathering stakeholders into the draft communication.

16. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A.R.S. §32-2072 SPECIFIC TO EXAMINATION CANDIDATE APPROVAL FOR PART 1 OF THE EPPP

Ms. Paakkonen reminded the Board of its unsuccessful attempts to revise the Board’s statutes to clearly articulate that applicants for licensure may elect to take Part 1 of the EPPP once the education requirements were completed, and prior to completing the degree’s dissertation requirement and completing the 1,500 hours of internship experience. She explained how her analysis of various subsections of A.R.S. §32-2072 and of A.R.S. §32-2071 finds support for the Board to otherwise arrive at this determination. The Board posed questions relative to the proposed novel interpretation of the language, and discussed the potential benefits to applicants and examination candidates. The discussion reflected that staff has not identified any unintended consequences to this potential change. Ms. Paakkonen advised the Board that its interpretation of the statutes’ language ideally should be memorialized in a Substantive Policy Statement.

MOTION: Mr. Wynn moved for the Board to formalize a position that an applicant for psychologist licensure may elect to take Part 1 of the EPPP once the education requirements were completed, and that the position be articulated in a Substantive Policy Statement.

SECOND: Dr. Flint.

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

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

17. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PRESENTATION ON THE ASCEND INSTITUTE REGULATORY EFFECTIVENESS (AIRE) INDEX AND FRAMEWORK

Ms. Paakkonen reminded the Board that during its January 2024 meeting, the members viewed a presentation that introduced a Board self-assessment tool called the Ascend Institute Regulatory Effectiveness (AIRE) Index. The presentation was well received, and it was the consensus of the Board elected to commit to completing this exercise. Ms. Paakkonen recommended the Board Chair appoint a subcommittee of members to assemble for purposes of completing the index through a series of self-paced short work sessions guided by staff. Ms. Paakkonen suggested the subcommittee consist of at least one psychologist, a behavior analyst, and a public member. The subcommittee’s recommended responses will be presented to the entire Board for review and approval prior to submitting it to the Ascend Institute. Dr. Stenhoff and Mr. Dynar volunteered, and Dr. Stewart was recommended as the psychologist representative.

MOTION: Mr. Dynar moved for the Board to approve his appointment of Drs. Stenhoff and Stewart and himself to a subcommittee to prepare draft responses to the AIRE self-assessment tool. The responses will be reviewed and approved by the full Board at the conclusion of the subcommittee’s work.

SECOND: Mr. Wynn.

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

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

18. NEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board requested staff invite representatives of Walden University to a future Board meeting to discuss concerns with its vetting process for approved internship placement sites.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dynar announced the adjournment of the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph B. Stewart, EdD". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial letter.

Joseph Stewart, Ph.D.
Secretary