



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 7, 2025

Board Members

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

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
Elizabeth Campbell, 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, Dr. Davey, Dr. Flint, and Dr. Sideman.

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 will not exceed four hours and therefore no continuing education credit will be awarded for attendance.

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No members of the public requested to speak.

5. COUNSEL UPDATE

Ms. Galvin reminded the Board that the formal hearing for the cases involving behavior analyst Jamie Jones is continued to a date later in March with the Office of Administrative Hearings. She also advised that Elizabeth Campbell, Assistant Attorney General, will be covering a portion of this meeting.

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

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

SECOND: Dr. Flint.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 8:35 a.m. to 8:47 a.m. for this matter.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, Mr. Dynar prompted the members Dr. Sideman announced he would abstain from the consideration and vote of items 6.C.1.b and 6.C.1.e.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- February 7, 2025 Regular Session Minutes
- February 7, 2025 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) Jack Deeming, Psy.D.
- b) Eden Buchanan-Anderson, Psy.D.
- c) Alison Anglen, Ph.D.
- d) Caitlin Ellis, Psy.D.
- e) Christina Horner, Psy.D.

2. Requesting Approval to Sit for EPPP & Licensure (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071, 2071.01 & 2072)

- a) Marisa Sanchez, Psy.D.
- b) Matthew Stowers, Psy.D.

3. Requesting Approval of Supervised Experience for Licensure (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071, 2071.01 & 2072)

- a) *None in this category*

4. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Waiver (A.R.S. §§ 32-2071, 2071.01 & 2072)

- a) Jennifer Ahn, Psy.D.
- b) Tammy Kushner, Ph.D.
- c) Catalina Uribe Rini, Psy.D.
- d) Dimitra Kourtesi, Ph.D.

5. **Requesting Approval for Supervised Temporary License w/ EPPP (A.R.S. § 32-2073)**
 - a) *None in this category*
6. **Requesting Approval for Licensure by Credential (A.R.S. § 32-2071.01)**
 - a) Kathryn Carhart, Ph.D.
7. **Requesting Approval for Licensure by Universal Recognition (A.R.S. § 32-4302)**
 - a) Rebecca Moe, Psy.D.
 - b) Jessica Wertz, Psy.D.
8. **Requesting approval for Telehealth Registry (A.R.S. § 36-3606)**
 - a) Dean Leav, Psy.D.

D. DISCUSSION/DECISION REGARDING BEHAVIOR ANALYST APPLICATIONS

1. Abigail Hughes, M.Ed.
2. Davis Bench, M.A.
3. Lauren Trainor, M.A.
4. Amy Wolfe, M.S.
5. Rachael Nye, M.A.
6. Lauren Bergemann, M.Ed.
7. Michelle Chaidez, M.A.
8. Sarah Stafford, M.S.
9. Jessica Gonzales, M.Ed.
10. Samantha Lopes, M.A.
11. Cathrine Garcia, M.S.
12. LaTisha Harris, M.S.
13. Jenifer Guzman, M.S.
14. Amber Meador, M.A.
15. Misti Sarracino, M.A.
16. Matthew Arellano, M.S.
17. Derek Ball, M.A.
18. Ariana Baldevia, M.S.
19. Quyen Nguyen, M.A.
20. Michael DeLaet, M.S.

E. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REQUEST FOR TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS SUBMITTED BY RENE RIVERA, PSY.D.

F. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REACTIVATION REQUEST SUBMITTED BY TRACY DRAHOTA, PSY.D.

G. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING PLAN MODIFICATION SUBMITTED BY JAMIE STEPHENSON, PSY.D., SUPERVISED TEMPORARY LICENSE NO. PSY-T-000059

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to approve the items listed under the Consent Agenda (with the abstentions as noted).

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

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

VOTE: 6-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

7. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION PERTAINING TO COMPLAINT NO. 25-41 AGAINST NATALIE TORRES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE POSSIBLE SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF HER LICENSE TO PRACTICE BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS, REFERRAL TO FORMAL HEARING, OR OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES AVAILABLE TO THE BOARD

Ms. Michaelsen advised the Board that Natalie Torres was issued her behavior analyst license in 2023, and that in November of 2024 she began working as a behavior analyst for a company in Tucson. She stated that on February 20, 2025 the Board received a complaint from that company's ABA director, JD, a licensed behavior analyst, informing that Ms. Torres' employment was terminated on February 11, 2025 as she tested positive for cocaine after exhibiting unsafe behavior in the clinic and in the presence of clients. She further noted that staff met with Ms. Torres by phone to discuss the complaint, at which time she denied using cocaine. Accordingly, staff requested Ms. Torres submit to a substance screening hair test, the results of which are positive for cocaine.

Ms. Michaelsen commented that Ms. Torres was notified by email of today's review of the complaint, and advised she is to submit a written response to the allegations. She noted that no such response was received, and observed that Ms. Torres was not present.

The complainant JD was present and provided a brief statement explaining the two reports she received reports of Ms. Torres falling asleep in the clinic. She described the actions taken by the company relative to Ms. Torres as consistent with those summarized by Ms. Michaelsen.

MOTION: Dr. Davey 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. Davey, Dr. Flint, and Dr. Sideman.

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

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 8:57 a.m. to 9:06 a.m. for this matter.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, Dr. Davey disclosed that he has very recently received information that Ms. Torres may have been hired by the company for whom he works, but he is unable to verify whether this is the case. He stated he is able to continue the complaint review objectively.

MOTION: Dr. Flint moved for the Board to adopt the interim findings of fact and conclusions of law cited in the legal advice memorandum and that necessitate emergency action.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

DISCUSSION: A clarifying statement was made that the interim findings of fact and conclusions of law relate to Mr. Torres' positive tests for use of cocaine, including in one instance while she was providing behavior analytic services.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION: Dr. Flint moved for the Board to summarily suspend license BEH-001262 issued to Ms. Torres.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Dynar – yes

Dr. Medina – yes

Dr. Stewart – yes

Dr. Davey – yes

Dr. Flint – yes

Dr. Sideman – yes

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

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION: Dr. Flint moved for the Board to remand the case to a formal hearing to seek a revocation of Ms. Torres' license during a formal hearing, either in the Office of Administrative Hearings, or before the Board.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Dynar – yes

Dr. Medina – yes

Dr. Stewart – yes

Dr. Davey – yes

Dr. Flint – yes

Dr. Sideman – yes

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

MOTION PASSED.

8. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE'S LICENSING ENFORCEMENT SECTION NOTICE OF REPRESENTATION LETTER

Ms. Paakkonen explained to the Board that, due to a change in the Rules of Procedure, the Attorney General's Office (AGO) is issuing formal letters of representation to client State of Arizona agencies. She noted this is not new information. Ms. Galvin affirmed that this does impact the agreement executed between the AGO and the agency. The Board acknowledged for the public record having received the notice.

9. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FY2025 APPROPRIATION SHORTFALL AND ENSUING IMPLICATIONS TO THE ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

Ms. Paakkonen advised the Board that since late 2022, the agency's Employee Related Expenses (ERE) costs have exceeded the 45% the Board was appropriated. She explained that the FY2024 funding request to the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budget (OSPB) requested a \$12,000 adjustment to address that year's ERE appropriation shortfall; OSPB rejected this request. She reported that, to date in FY2025, ERE costs are at 52.6% which amounts to an actual appropriation shortfall of nearly \$24,000. She stated her analysis found there are only two expense categories to reduce to ensure there is no cost overrun for the year: payroll, or terminate the Interagency Service Agreement with the Attorney General's Office for the 4th Quarter of FY2025. Ms. Paakkonen has informed the Section Chief of the Licensing Enforcement Section of the Attorney General's Office of this decision. She noted this does not mean a loss of legal representation, but the Board must anticipate some yet unknown modifications to the current arrangements. Ms. Paakkonen stated she has assured the staff that they are not the cause of this problem; rather, it is a result of a flawed methodology on the part of OSPB, and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, to estimate costs that can fluctuate. Finally, Ms. Paakkonen noted the ultimate solution would involve securing a supplemental appropriation increase which she is pursuing in earnest.

Board discussion lamented the fact that this situation could have been circumvented had access to use its own funds been granted when the problem initially emerged. Additionally, the Board commended the dedication of the

staff and affirmed that they should not be expected to sacrifice the benefits to which they are entitled to solve a problem that is not of their own making. The members reminded one another, and the public, that they all have the opportunity to raise this issue with policymakers and encourage a solution to be found.

10. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATING TO THE PROPOSED CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER SIGNED BY SUSAN SCHWARTZ, PH.D., FOR CASE NO. 24-30; OR OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES AVAILABLE TO THE BOARD

Ms. Michaelsen reminded the Board this matter pertains to a complaint that was filed by Dr. Schwartz's former client, KG, and the Board's review of this case found several additional concerns relative to Dr. Schwartz's recordkeeping and billing practices, practice management and her ability to competently practice. She noted the Board issued to Dr. Schwartz an Interim Order for Practice Management Evaluation and Fitness for Duty Evaluation. Dr. Schwartz's attorney subsequently informed staff that Dr. Schwartz elected to surrender her license, and a proposed consent agreement memorializing the action is before the Board for consideration as a final disposition for the case. Ms. Michaelsen suggested the Board obtain clarification from Dr. Schwartz regarding the status of her practice closure prior to making a decision on the proposed agreement. In response to a question, Ms. Michaelsen confirmed this action is required to be reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

Robert Beardsley, counsel for Dr. Schwartz, was present and on behalf of his client confirmed she has closed her practice having conducted her final appointments recently. He also noted Dr. Schwartz does not hold a psychologist license in any other U.S. jurisdiction at this time.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to approve the Consent Agreement formalizing the surrender of Dr. Schwartz's license.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Dynar – yes

Dr. Medina – yes

Dr. Stewart – yes

Dr. Davey – yes

Dr. Flint – yes

Dr. Sideman – yes

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

MOTION PASSED.

11. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE BY WAIVER WITH ADDITIONAL FAIR MATERIALS SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER KRAUSE, PH.D.

Dr. Flint summarized Dr. Krause's application file, noting that the documentation of her internship program suggests her compensation was productivity based, and not in the form of a stipend as is required by A.A.C. R4-26-209(C). Dr. Flint explained that in spite of requesting and receiving a copious amount of records and documentation, the contents make inconsistent representations and have yet to establish compliance with the Board's rule. She observed that statements made by Dr. Krause's primary and secondary internship supervisors, Benjamin Bushman, Ph.D. and Jodi Cuneo, Ph.D., found they were both unfamiliar with the language in their own supervision agreements. Dr. Flint stated that with the disparity of information provided, the inability to reconcile hours invoiced to payments made, and lack of evidence that Dr. Krause was not paid on a productivity basis, the Application Review Committee determined this application must be reviewed by the entire Board.

Dr. Bushman was present and provided an overview of how he managed the administrative duties associated with Dr. Krause's internship. He admitted he and Dr. Krause agreed upon an hourly rate of pay that was based on time

spent in the practice. When asked about his relationship to Dr. Cuneo, he responded they have known each other as colleagues for many years, have collaborated on co-supervising interns, but do not share a business. He explained that they are in a “consortium-like” arrangement with oversight by Walden University. Dr. Bushman stated he has had no interns since Dr. Krause.

Dr. Krause commented that she did not believe her internship was an exploitative arrangement. Board discussion reflected concerns that this is an instance where a trainee may have been exploited, and there are problems with both the supervision and the compensation arrangements.

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

SECOND: Mr. Dynar.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 10:41 a.m. to 10:55 a.m. for this matter.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, the Board continued the substantive review of Dr. Krause’s application.

MOTION: Mr. Dynar moved to open a complaint against Dr. Bushman to investigate the documentation concerns associated with Dr. Krause’s internship experience; specifically, failure to maintain adequate business and financial records, violating ethical standards relative to the supervision of Dr. Krause, and for establishing an exploitative internship relationship.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved to grant licensure to Dr. Krause.

SECOND: Mr. Dynar.

MOTION: Dr. Davey moved for the Board to leave the motion on the table and to meet in Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice.

SECOND: Mr. Dynar.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

The Board met in Executive Session from 11:08 a.m. to 11:27 a.m. for this matter.

Upon resuming the meeting in public session, Mr. Dynar called for a roll call vote for the motion on the table.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Dynar – yes

Dr. Medina – no

Dr. Stewart – yes

Dr. Davey – no

Dr. Flint – no

Dr. Sideman – no

VOTE: 2-yay, 4-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recused.

MOTION FAILED.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved to issue a third FAIR to Dr. Krause reiterating the requirements of the previous two FAIRS to include evidence she was compensated for all of her indirect (unbillable) hours in the internship. The motion included a provision that the Board would accept a request from Dr. Krause to approve the withdrawal of her application.

SECOND: Mr. Dynar.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Flint stated she would assist Board staff in preparing the FAIR. Dr. Sideman stated on the record that it is the responsibility of the applicant to establish having met the requirements for licensure.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

12. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATING TO INITIAL CASE REVIEW OF COMPLAINT NO. 25-15 AGAINST JODI CUNEO, PH.D.

Dr. Sideman presented a summary of the complaint, noting that Dr. Cuneo is the sole owner of Grandis Health which provides supervised training programs including internship and post-doctoral experiences. He reminded the Board that this complaint was opened by the Board upon its discovery that former intern, Dr. Julie Kerley, was compensated by Grandis Health based on her productivity and not paid by a stipend as required by A.A.C. R4-26-209(C). He also noted that Dr. Cuneo appears to have falsely stated on Dr. Kerley's supervised experience verification form that a secondary supervisor was on staff; rather, that psychologist was Dr. Benjamin Bushman who is not employed by Grandis Health. Dr. Sideman stated that another intern was removed from Grandis Health by Walden University in September of 2024 given awareness of this investigation, and that Dr. Cuneo falsely stated to the Complaint Screening Committee (CSC) that this intern would be permitted to use his accrued hours (slightly over 1,000) for his application for licensure. Dr. Sideman noted that a former intern contacted the Board office to clarify that none of his hours were qualifying for an internship and that he is starting over in a new program to acquire the required 1,500 hours.

Robert Beardsley, representing Dr. Cuneo, advised the Board that, due to a risk management coverage dispute, she was only very recently able to retain legal counsel. Accordingly, he requested a continuation of today's proceedings. Board staff clarified the respondent had since September of 2024 to obtain representation. In response to questions, Dr. Cuneo confirmed she is not currently supervising trainees, nor does she have any plans to do so.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved to grant the requested continuance.

SECOND: Dr. Davey.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

13. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE COMMITTEE ON BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS RECOMMENDATION TO DISMISS COMPLAINT NO. 25-03 AGAINST NEDA NAZARABADI-GHOUCHA, M.ED.

Dr. Davey presented a summary of the complaint which alleged fraudulent billing practices on the part of Ms. Nazarabadi-Ghoucha. He stated that the Committee did a thorough review of the investigative record, and

questioned both the complainant and the licensee in the process. He further stated that the Committee found no possible violation of the Board's statutes or rules, and voted to recommend the Board dismiss the complaint.

Attorney Sara Stark and Ms. Nazarabadi-Ghoucha, were present and Ms. Stark indicated her client is available for questions and supports the Committee's recommendation.

MOTION: Dr. Stewart moved for the Board to dismiss complaint 25-03.

SECOND: Dr. Davey.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

14. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FEE WAIVER REQUEST SUBMITTED BY RAMP PARTICIPANT 2025-02

Ms. Paakkonen reminded the Board that the license of RAMP Participant 2025-02 was placed on inactive status for over four years beginning in 2020. Participant renewed her inactive license in March of 2021 and again in March of 2023, submitting the required \$85 with each renewal. She then paid a \$500.00 reactivation fee on August 29, 2024 and on February 5, 2025 her license was reactivated by the Board pursuant to the execution of a Stipulated Confidential Rehabilitation Agreement (SCRA) pursuant to RAMP; Ms. Paakkonen explained that Participant's now active license renewal deadline is March 31, 2025 which requires submission of a \$500 fee, and participant is requesting the Board waive that fee. Ms. Paakkonen suggested the Board review A.R.S. §32-2067(C) and A.R.S 32-2073(G).

Mr. Beardsley, appearing on behalf of Participant, indicated he is available for questions and reiterated the basis upon which the fee waiver is requested.

In response to Board questions, Ms. Paakkonen explained the license renewal deadlines and fees are established by statute, and the Board's system and procedures conform to those requirements.

MOTION: Mr. Dynar moved for the Board to deny the fee waiver request.

SECOND: Dr. Davey.

DISCUSSION: It was noted that this decision has the potential to be precedent setting.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

15. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TELEHEALTH REGISTRY ANNUAL UPDATE AND REPORT SUBMITTED BY TATIANA DELTORO, BCBA, PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §36-3606(A)(9); ALSO, REQUEST BY TATIANA DELTORO TO APPROVE THE RELINQUISHMENT OF HER TELEHEALTH REGISTRY AUTHORIZATION

Ms. Paakkonen reminded the Board that Ms. Deltoro was approved by the Board to be granted a Telehealth Registry authorization to practice on September 1, 2023, but she failed to comply with the provision of A.R.S. § 36-3606 that requires authorization holders to annually update their registration and to submit to the applicable regulatory board a report with the number of patients served in Arizona and the total number and type of encounters in this state for the preceding year. Ms. Paakkonen also noted that on January 10, 2025 the Board issued an order to Ms. Deltoro to submit the delinquent report within 30 days, and that failure on her part to do so will result in the opening of a complaint against her. The motion included the provision that Ms. Deltoro's request to approve the relinquishment of her Telehealth Registry authorization request is tabled until the issue of the report is resolved. Ms. Paakkonen advised the Board Ms. Deltoro submitted the annual report within the 30 days as ordered, and the content of the report is presented for the Board's review.

Board discussion reflected that Ms. Deltoro's scant report meets the bare minimum acceptable standard, and noted her unresponsiveness to, and redirects by, Board staff has consumed a considerable amount of Board staff time and may constitute a violation of the BACB Ethical Code.

MOTION: Dr. Davey moved for the Board to accept the report and to make a referral to the BACB for a possible investigation into whether Ms. Deltoro violated any provision of the Ethical Code.

SECOND: Mr. Dynar.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION: Dr. Davey moved for the Board to approve Ms. Deltoro's Telehealth Registry authorization relinquishment request.

SECOND: Mr. Stewart.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

16. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING NICOLE MIRKIN'S INTERIM CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER FOR VOLUNTARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE FOR CASE NO. 25-14

This item was not addressed and was rescheduled for the Board's April 4, 2025 meeting.

17. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATING TO RENEWAL APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY DEMETRIA BROWN, PSY.D.

Ms. Poe advised the Board that Dr. Brown's application to renew her inactive status license application reflected she is under investigation by the Virginia Board of Psychology for two complaints. She called to the Board's attention the documents that Dr. Brown has submitted associated with this matter, and requested direction from the Board relative to the application.

Dr. Brown was present for the application review and explained that she has been advised by the Virginia Board that her case may be scheduled for review relatively soon. She explained that her practice focus of criminal forensics renders her as vulnerable to complaints that lack merit. She denied the allegations in the complaints are true.

MOTION: Dr. Davey moved for the Board to approve the application and to direct Dr. Brown to provide updates to the Board relative to the complaint outcomes in Virginia.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

18. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PSYCHOLOGIST APPLICATIONS:

. Marissa Mascorro, Psy.D., Approval of Supervised Experience for Licensure

Dr. Flint announced she will abstain from the vote on this agenda item. Dr. Medina provided a summary of the supervised experience proposal, noting Dr. Mascorro has passed the EPPP and has completed all other licensure requirements. She noted that her review does not identify any deficiencies with this application.

MOTION: Dr. Medina moved for the Board to approve the supervised experience hours completed and to grant licensure to Dr. Mascorro.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

VOTE: 5-yay, 0-nay, 1-abstain, 0-recused.

MOTION PASSED.

b. Tammy Ricci, Psy.D. (REAPP), Exam and Licensure w/ Accommodations

Dr. Flint summarized the application file noting that Dr. Ricci is seeking approval for her sixth attempt to achieve a passing score on the EPPP, and to be granted an accommodation consisting of a reader. She noted that the file is administratively and substantively complete, however, the Application Review Committee took notice that Dr. Ricci used credentials in her email signature that are misleading. Dr. Ricci was present and advised the Board she has experienced some health-related events that have adversely impacted her ability to prepare for the exam. She described the therapeutic treatment she is receiving, and confirmed she is only requesting the assistance of a reader. Additionally, she confirmed she will correct her email signature to remove the indication that she is a psychologist.

MOTION: Dr. Flint moved for the Board to approve Dr. Ricci to re-take the EPPP with the requested accommodation.

SECOND: Dr. Medina.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

c. Joanne Choi, Psy.D., Request to Withdraw Licensure by Waiver Application

Dr. Flint summarized the application file noting Dr. Choi is licensed in California. She explained that the documentation reflects content deficiencies in the applicant's education program, and noted the program provides an advisory that it does not meet Arizona's qualifications for licensure. Dr. Flint informed the Board that this was discussed with the applicant who elected to request approval from the Board to withdraw her application.

MOTION: Dr. Flint moved for the Board to approve the withdrawal of Dr. Choi's application.

SECOND: Dr. Stewart.

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

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

MOTION PASSED.

19. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FY2025 EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION & PROPOSED LEGISLATION INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: HB2027, HB2061, HB2173, HB2276, HB2351, HB2441, HB2451, HB2632, HB2707, SB1037, SB1125, SB1235, SB1243, SB1372, SB1447, SB1527 AND SB1587

Ms. Paakkonen provided an oral summary of the impact of select bills that are on the current legislative session tracking list, and supplied an analysis of how the bills will impact the Board and the licensees it regulates. She explained a potential amendment to HB2027 may be required in order for it to clear the Rules Committee of the House of Representatives.

20. NEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board requested an update relative to when representatives of Walden University's psychology program will be invited to address questions and concerns. It was the consensus that the invitation be scheduled in the relatively near future when an agenda can accommodate this item.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dynar announced the adjournment of the meeting at 12:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Flint PsyD, FT, CTP, CGP

Melissa Flint, Psy.D.
Secretary