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**Exploratory Committee on Scope of Practice
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

November 28, 2012

1400 W. Washington Street
Suite 235
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular session of the Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners Exploratory Committee on Scope of Practice was called to order by Chairman Bohanske at 7:31 a.m. on November 28, 2012. No Executive Sessions were held.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present

Bob Bohanske, Ph.D – Chair
Janice K. Brundage, Ph.D
Frederick S. Wechsler, Psy.D, ABPP

Staff Present

Dr. Cindy Olvey, Executive Director
Megan Martin, Deputy Director
Heather Duracinski, Licensing Coordinator

Assistant Attorney General

Jeanne Galvin, Esq.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 20, 2011

Dr. Brundage made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bohanske and carried (3-0) to approve the July 20, 2011, Exploratory Committee on Scope of Practice minutes as drafted.

4. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING INITIAL LEGISLATION DRAFTED BY THE ARIZONA PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INCLUDING POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS

Dr. Bohanske introduced Dr. Jeff Thomas, Past President of the Arizona Psychological Association (AzPA), who provided a brief summary of the draft legislation proposed by AzPA that would expand the scope of practice for psychologists to allow properly trained psychologists to prescribe some medications.

Committee members asked Dr. Thomas to elaborate on the residency requirements in the draft legislation. Dr. Thomas indicated the residency requirements are not detailed in the statute. Rather the Board would define and clarify the requirements in rule. Committee members inquired as to whether a section can be added in the draft legislation requiring a psychologist to be licensed in Arizona. Dr. Thomas stated that a section will be added. Committee members asked for clarification regarding the additional two-year supervision requirement provided in the draft legislation. Dr. Thomas stated that the Medical community in Arizona has indicated that they would like to see psychologists, who are licensed and wish to prescribe, receive a master's degree in psychopharmacology then be required to have two years of supervision by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner before a psychologist can apply to be licensed to prescribe independently. Committee members stated that the draft legislation refers to "certification" to prescribe and "license" to prescribe and asked for clarification. Dr. Thomas stated that it was an administrative error and would be changed to "licensed". Dr. Thomas elaborated that psychologists who are licensed to prescribe will be referred to as prescribing psychologists not medical psychologists. Dr. Thomas stated that holding a professional license carries more weight than certification and that the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners will maintain jurisdiction over prescribing psychologists. Further Dr. Thomas stated that a prescribing psychologist will have to maintain their psychology license in order to maintain their prescribing license.

Dr. Olvey noted administrative areas within the draft legislation for consideration:

- Prescriptive authority as a separate article,
- Identifying the citation for Uniformed Control Substance Act (A.R.S. 36-2501 *et seq.*),
- Differing definitions of exam,
- Continuing education may be better defined in rule,
- Authorize the Board to promulgate rules,
- Authorize the Board to summarily suspend a license,
- Consider including information from pharmacy statute regarding prescriptive authority

5. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SUNRISE APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Committee members noted discrepancies between the Sunrise Application and the draft legislation. Committee members inquired about the status of the Sunrise Application. AzPA representatives indicated that the Sunrise application is being withdrawn and may be resubmitted in 2013. AzPA will continue to hold stakeholder meetings and continue outreach for support.

6. AGENDA ITEM FOR FUTURE MEETINGS AND SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

Dr. Bohanske directed Board staff to include a Committee update item on the next Board agenda.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Brundage, seconded by Dr. Bohanske and unanimously carried 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

Bob Bohanske, Ph.D. **DATE**
Chair
Exploratory Committee on Scope of Practice