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Telepractice Committee REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

June 2, 2011

1400 West Washington, Ste. 235
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular session of the Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners Telepractice Committee was called to order by Chairman Bohanske at 12:01 p.m. on June 2, 2011. No Executive Sessions were held.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee Members Present

Bob Bohanske, Ph.D – Chairman
Janice Brundage, Ph.D
Frederick Wechsler, Psy.D

Staff Present

Dr. Cindy Olvey, Executive Director
Heather Duracinski, Administrative Asst
Ryan Litner, Intern

Committee Members Absent

Megan Hunter-Williams

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 21, 2011 MEETING

Minutes from the April 21, 2011, Telepractice Committee Meeting were considered for approval. Dr. Brundage made a motion, seconded by Dr. Wechsler to approve the minutes. Motion carried. Corrections were noted.

4. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REVIEW OF LITERATURE TO DATE WITH FURTHER DISCUSSION ON SCOPE OF ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE COMMITTEE

Drs. Wechsler and Brundage expressed that it may be appropriate to recommend a statutory change regarding the section of the statute (A.R.S. §32-2075(A)(4)) that allows psychologists licensed in other jurisdictions to practice in Arizona up to 20 days without an Arizona license.

Dr. Bohanske indicated that some professions are further ahead of psychology in the area of telepractice and requested that staff research the nursing profession as well as the Federation of State Medical Boards for additional information. He also requested that staff look at the American Counseling Association provision for telephonic services.

Dr. Olvey indicated that the Chair of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Board's (ASPPB) Telepsychology Committee sent reading material, which was included in meeting materials for the Committee. The ASPPB Telepsychology Committee Chair has indicated that ASPPB hopes to have guidelines available to jurisdictions within one to two years. Committee members inquired about the possibility of a uniform licensure application form. Dr. Olvey responded that ASPPB has

developed a form that will soon be piloted in Oklahoma and New Mexico. Staff will request a copy of the form from ASPPB.

Committee members discussed position papers developed by New York and North Carolina. In addition, security and confidentiality issues were discussed. Dr. Wechsler expressed concern over computer hacking and Dr. Bohanske raised the issue of verifying the identity of clients. Dr. Brundage indicated that University of Arizona's Medical School has successfully used technology in the telemedicine program. Dr. Bohanske noted concern over the possibility of technology crashing when communicating with clients, as well as the need for developing backup plans in the event crisis intervention is needed when the psychologist is practicing from a distance. Dr. Brundage indicated that individuals in private practice may face specific challenges that differ from agencies using technology in service delivery. Dr. Wechsler noted that telepractice is happening in the field of Coaching, which does not deal with personal health records.

The Committee recessed at 12:28 p.m. and reconvened at 12:34 p.m.

The Committee discussed draft standards for telepsychology services developed by the Canadian Psychological Association. The issue of jurisdiction was discussed, particularly when the psychologist practices in one jurisdiction and the client is located in another jurisdiction. The Committee also discussed whether professional liability insurance should be required.

Ohio's draft rules for telepractice were also discussed. Draft rules indicate that psychologists must be licensed in Ohio in order to provide services via telepractice in Ohio. The Committee asked Board staff to inquire about the status of Ohio's draft rules and when they might be approved and implemented.

5. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, POSSIBLE ACTION PERTAINING TO APPLICABLE CASES IN ARIZONA

The Committee briefly talked about jurisdiction pertaining to a case in which two psychologists located in another state provided assessment services to Arizona residents via videoconference within the 20 days allowed by statute. In addition, questions are posed to the Board office regarding provision of psychological services to individuals in Arizona via electronic means by psychologists licensed in other states, or psychologists licensed in Arizona who wish to provide services by electronic means to individuals located in other states.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Committee scheduled the next meeting for July 14, 2011 at 12:00 p.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Wechsler, seconded by Dr. Brundage, and unanimously carried 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Bohanske, Ph.D.
Committee Chairman

Date