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Telepractice Committee REGULAR SESSION MINUTES TELECONFERENCE MEETING

October 13, 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 12:00 p.m. on October 13, 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
Megan Hunter-Williams

Staff Present

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 21, 2011 MEETING

Dr. Brundage moved approval of the minutes from the June 2, 2011, Telepractice Committee meeting; seconded by Dr. Wechsler. Motion carried 3-0-1, with Ms. Hunter-Williams abstained.

4. STATUS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND PROVINCIAL PSYCHOLOGY BOARDS/AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION JOINT COMMITTEE ON TELEPSYCHOLOGY

Dr. Olvey summarized her conversation with staff from ASPPB (Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards). Dr. Olvey informed the committee that the Joint Task Force has met once and plans to meet again in November. In addition, the APA Insurance Trust is included in the Joint Task Force. An information sheet regarding the Task Force was provided to Committee members.

5. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MESSAGE PERTAINING TO TELEPSYCHOLOGY FROM DR. JEFF YOUNGGREN, CONSULTANT TO THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INSURANCE TRUST REGARDING RISK MANAGEMENT.

The Committee discussed Dr. Younggren's message, which indicated that the Federal Government is encouraging expansion of healthcare services through the internet and emphasized that psychologists who chose this modality need to manage their risks. Dr. Younggren will be providing a continuing education workshop in Tucson on December 3, 2011, titled Adventures in the Electronic Frontier: Ethics and Risk Management in the Digital Era. Three Committee members indicated an interest in attending the workshop.

6. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE USE OF TELEPRACTICE IN THE VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Olvey summarized email correspondence from psychiatry and psychology within the Veterans Administration in Phoenix. Psychiatry has used technology in the VA since the 1990s. Technology may be used in the future with some psychological services.

7. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A.R.S. § 36-3601 PERTAINING TO DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE THROUGH TELEMEDICINE; AND POLICY REGARDING THE USE OF TELEMEDICINE ISSUED BY THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Dr. Bohanske summarized A.R.S. § 36-3601 which defines telemedicine and identifies the Title 32, Chapter 19.1—regulation of psychology—as health care providers. Committee members discussed that more and more states are taking the same position that the provider should be licensed in the state in which they practice and where they live. The Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services policy on the Use of Telemedicine (CO 1.3) requires that providers who use telemedicine must be licensed in Arizona.

8. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE UNIVERSAL LICENSURE APPLICATION FORM DEVELOPED BY THE ASSOCIATION IF STATE AND PROVINCIAL PSYCHOLOGY BOARDS (ASPPB)

Dr. Olvey stated that ASPPB staff have volunteered to come to Arizona to demonstrate the new universal licensure application to the Board at ASPPB's expense. The demonstration will be scheduled for a future in-person Board meeting.

9. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS REGARDING NEXT STEPS FOR THE TELEPRACTICE COMMITTEE

It was the consensus of Committee members that the Committee has reviewed available literature and is prepared to begin development of policy recommendations for presentation to the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The Committee scheduled the next meeting for November 9, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. to begin development of policy recommendations for presentation at a future Board meeting.

11. 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 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Bohanske, Ph.D.
Committee Chairman

Date