



Tennessee Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marital and Family Therapists and Licensed Pastoral Therapists Meeting

Thursday September 2, 2025

MINUTES

The regular Board meeting of the Tennessee Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marital and Family Therapists and Licensed Clinical Pastoral Therapists was called to order at 08:31 a.m. virtually in the Poplar Room, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243 by Kimberly Speakman, Board President.

Board members present: Kimberly Speakman, LPC/MHSP, Board President
Shelly Steel, LMFT
James Dalton, PhD, LPC/MHSP
Howard Nelson, LCPT, LCSW

Board member(s) absent: Vacant, Consumer Member

Staff present: Candyce Wilson, Board Director
Alexis Whitaker, Administrative Director
Stephanie Rigney, Board Administrator
Katherine Trawick, JD, General Counsel

Ms. Candyce Wilson read the required script into the record, noting all votes must be conducted by roll call. Ms. Wilson called the roll to establish a quorum. Dr. Howard Nelson was absent at the time roll call was taken and expected to join the meeting. Another preliminary vote was taken to establish all members were able to hear each other and that they had received meeting documents prior to the meeting. The meeting was turned over to Ms. Kimberly Speakman, Board President.

REVIEW OF REBECCA SCHNAKENBERG:

Ms. Schnakenberg submitted a request for declaratory order to review her file and approve for the LPC/MHSP license by reciprocity. The request for the declaratory order is due to the change in state statute that reads verification of 2 years supervision prior to licensure. At the time Ms. Schnakenberg was licensed in Arizona, they only required 1 year of supervision. Ms. Trawick explained the situation to the Board as well as the process for declaratory order.

* Dr. Nelson joined the meeting call at 8:47 am. Ms. Wilson verified that Dr. Nelson could hear the meeting and had access to the meeting materials, Dr. Nelson confirmed. *

Ms. Speakman explains the situation to Dr. Nelson to catch him up on what the Board is discussing regarding Ms. Schnakenberg's file.

EMERGENCY REVISION TO RULES DUE TO PUBLIC CHAPTER 204

The Board met to discuss rule revisions for Board Rule Chapter 0450-02.

The following changes were discussed:

1. Ms. Steel stated that she and the TNAMFT association made changes by pulling out language that was repetitious to help aid the process.
2. Use of license by endorsement was removed due to a statute change.
3. Language to specify how associate level licensure for MFTS are to state they are "AMFT."
4. Term licensed marital and family therapist was changed to licensed marriage and family therapist.
5. Language to verify that practicum and internship are interchangeable in which is used for pre-graduate training.
6. Language to clarify the necessity of licensure information.
7. Language to clarify applicants are able to apply prior to the graduate program being complete for an associate license, all documents must be submitted with the exception of the conferred transcript. The conferred transcript is needed to approve of the licensure application.
8. Discussion on whether we can automatically accept transcripts with a COAMFTE accreditation.
9. Ms. Wilson asked that the approval process read or Board designees approval.
10. Language for the associate level license to upgrade to the full independent license clarified.
11. Language to clarify that licensees from other states can apply for MFT license if they have been licensed as an MFT for the last 3 of 5 years.
12. Request for Temporary form language amended to read Request for Associate license process.
13. Clarification for the primary supervisor vs the additional supervisor, and the change of supervisor form.
14. Board fee review.
15. Language about the testing site for the AMFTRB was removed.
16. Language about the Board approved supervisor.
17. Language to restrict the number of supervisees a supervisor can have registered under their license.
18. Language to clarify post graduate clinical hours and supervision hours via telehealth.
19. Language to clarify the CEU cycle change to follow the renewal period not a calendar period.
20. Language regarding advertising.

Ms. Steel made a motion to approve of the changes made to emergency rule draft 0450-02. Dr. Nelson seconded, Ms. Wilson conducted a roll call vote and the motion passed.

REVIEW OF REBECCA SCHNAKENBERG CONTINUED:

The Board was provided new documentation from the State Board in Arizona to review, those documents included the Certificated Professional Counselor file, the upgrade from Certified to Licensed Professional Counselor, and the email from Board staff in Arizona to verify that at the time Ms. Schnakenberg was granted her CPT in AZ the supervision required was only 1 year. The Board reviewed the new information and discussed if there is a need for the Declaratory Order. Dr. Dalton made a motion to accept the information that Arizona has provided for Ms. Schnakenberg's application for LPC/MHSP licensure. Dr. Nelson seconded, and the motion passed.

The Board will meet again on September 22, 2025, to continue making rule revisions if needed and take up policies.

Dr. Dalton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dr. Nelson seconded, and the motion passed.
Meeting Adjourned.