

**MEETING MINUTES
TENNESSEE BOARD FOR LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS,
MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPISTS, AND
CLINICAL PASTORAL THERAPISTS MINUTES**

DATE: March 5, 2021

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Health Related Boards Conference Center
Poplar Room, 665 Mainstream Drive
Nashville, TN 3724- WEBEX

**BOARD MEMBERS
PRESENT:** Susan Hammonds-White, Ed.D. LPC/MHSP, Chair
Kimberly Speakman, LPC/MHSP
Howard Nelson, CPT
Shelly Steel, MFT

STAFF PRESENT: Samara Watkins, Board Administrator II
Nathaniel Flinchbaugh, Advisory Attorney

Due to gathering restrictions imposed by the Covid – 19 virus, it was necessary to conduct this meeting by webex, as a live stream. Ms. Watkins read the required script into the record, noting all votes must be conducted by roll call. Ms. Watkins called the roll to establish a quorum. All members were present except Jennifer Little. The meeting was turned over to Dr. Hammonds-White, Chair.

Dr. Hammonds-White called the meeting to order at 9:20.

Minutes

The minutes from December 4, 2020 were reviewed and a motion to approve was made by Ms. Speakman seconded by Dr. Nelson. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted to approve the minutes with corrections noted. Motion passed.

Office of Investigations Report

Ms. Lori Leonard, Disciplinary Coordinator, stated she is monitoring three (3) licenses which are under a board order, five (5) licensees on probation, (1) under suspension. She further stated there are currently a total of forty-six (46) new complaints for LPCs, seven (7) open complaints for MFTs, and zero (0) complaints year to date for CPTs.

Financial Report

The Mid Year 2021 financial report was presented by Matt McSpadden. For FY2020 the board had total direct expenditures of \$284,570.14 Revenue collected totaled \$321,680.82 with a Net of \$37,110.67 leaving a cumulative carryover of \$886,496.55. Technology improvements totaled \$28,657.10 and were taken from the carryover. The board made a proposal to institute a fee reduction process to reduce the fee for renewals of the board and the application fees for a new licensee. A motion was made by Ms. Speakman, seconded by Dr. Nelson to approve the fee reduction. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

Office of General Counsel Report

Mr. Flinchbaugh stated that currently, the Office of General Counsel has seven (7) open cases. Mr. Flinchbaugh had two orders for the board to review today.

Mr. Flinchbaugh presented consent order for Leah Newman #4073 LPC-MHSP. Respondent was employed as an LPC-MHSP and was working on clinical hours in January 2018. From January 2018 until December 2018, respondent was providing counseling to JM. In January 2019, the respondent began a personal relationship with JM. A suspension, practice monitor and fees were assessed. A motion was made by Ms. Speakman, seconded by Dr. Nelson to accept the consent order. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor to approve the consent order. Motion carried. Dr. Hammonds-White authorized Ms. Watkins to sign the consent order on her behalf.

Mr. Flinchbaugh presented an Agreed Order for Robert Price #2585 LPC-MHSP. Respondent was employed at Blanchfield Hospital. In December of 2015, respondent pleaded guilty to resisting arrest. As a result, the respondent lost his clinical privileges at the hospital. Respondent failed to disclose this conviction and loss of his clinical privileges in his 2015 renewal application. He did disclose his loss of clinical privileges and conviction in his 2019 renewal application. As a result, his license has been reprimanded. A type C civil penalty was assessed in the amount of \$50. A motion was made by Ms. Steel seconded by Ms. Speakman to accept the consent order. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor to approve the agreed order. Motion carried. Dr. Hammonds-White authorized Ms. Watkins to sign the consent order on her behalf.

Mr. Flinchbaugh informed the board that the rules are being drafted and will proceed to internal review and will be extensive. Mr. Flinchbaugh expects to have new rules ready by next board meeting of 2021 for the board's review and approval. This will include the fee reduction previously discussed. The LPC compact is going to be filed as an amendment.

Administrative Report

Ms. Watkins presented the Administrative Report stating there are two thousand nine hundred and sixty-six (2966) active Licensed Professional Counselors, of those, two thousand five hundred and fifty-two (2552) have the Mental Health Service Provider designation and five hundred and one (501) are approved supervisors. There are currently three hundred eighty-seven (387) temporary LPC/MHSP licenses. There are eight hundred and nine (809) active Licensed Marital and Family Therapists and two hundred thirty-three (233) temporary MFT licensees. There are twenty-two (22) Licensed Clinical Pastoral Therapists.

The next board meeting for 2021 is June 4, 2021

2021 Board Meetings

September 3, 2021

December 3, 2021

Newly Licensed *See attachments*

LPC/MHSP

Ms. Speakman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Steel, to approve the newly Licensed Professional Counselors with MSHP designation. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted to ratify the new licensees. The motion carried.

LPC without MHSP

Ms. Speakman made a motion, seconded by Dr. Nelson, to approve the newly Licensed Professional Counselors without MHSP designation. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

Marital and Family Therapists

Ms. Steel made a motion, seconded by Dr. Nelson, to approve the newly Licensed Marital and Family Therapists. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

Temporary Licenses

Temporary LPC/MHSP license

Ms. Speakman made a motion, seconded by Dr. Nelson, to approve the Temporary Licensed Professional Counselors. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

Temporary LMFT license

Ms. Steel made a motion, seconded by Dr. Nelson, to approve the Temporary Licensed Marital and Family Therapists. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

Reinstatement Applications

LMFT, LPC, CPT Reinstatements

Dr. Nelson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Speakman to approve the reinstatements. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

Correspondence

A request to the board for an extension of time to complete supervision. The temporary license cannot be extended. The board voted to approve a one-year extension to gain supervision hours. Ms. Speakman made a motion, seconded by Dr. Nelson. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

MFT Jurisprudence exam update

Questions and answers for the online Jurisprudence LMFT exam were reviewed. The first question on Dr. Craven's list of exam questions was not approved for the exam. The board voted to approve the remaining questions and answers for the LMFT online Jurisprudence exam that were submitted by the task force. Ms. Steel made a motion to approve, Dr. Nelson seconded the motion to approve the questions. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried. Dr. Phillips was recognized for all of his hard work on the MFT Jurisprudence task force. Dr. Phillips recognized others that contributed their knowledge and time to create the questions and answers for the online Jurisprudence exam.

File Review

Calvin Clark's background check was reviewed by the board and it was voted that his criminal background would not prohibit him from having a license. Ms. Speakman made a motion, seconded by Dr. Nelson to approve the background check review as such. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

Clinical Setting Policy

The Clinical Setting Policy has been revised. The revised version replaced the current version on the Health-Related Boards website under policies for Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marital and Family Therapists and Licensed Pastoral Therapists. Ms. Speakman made a motion, seconded by Dr. Nelson to approve the revision of the clinical setting policy. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

Discuss Other Board Business

Dr. Robin Lee informed the board about the TLPCA. This is a consultation service for those who are interested in becoming an LPC and may have questions about whether their coursework and or transcript meet the TN requirements for an LPC license.

Stacy Klimkowski requested to speak to the board concerning her request for an extension for her supervision requirement time. Ms. Speakman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Steel to approve Ms. Klimkowski a 6-month extension on her hours. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried.

Board discussed Art Therapy degrees and other questionable degrees and courses that may not meet the TN requirements for a license. The board specifically discussed that the rules do not define the LPC course requirements in detail. It was understood by the board that even though TN schools understand the coursework requirements, the out of state schools do not. Ms. Speakman is working on defining our coursework requirements more precisely for our rules.

Adjourn

With no other Board business to conduct Ms. Speakman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Nelson. A roll call vote was taken, and all voted in favor. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Ratified by the Board for Professional Counselors, Marital and Family Therapists, and Clinical Pastoral Therapists June 4, 2021