



Tennessee Board of Examiners in Psychology Meeting

Thursday, March 14, 2024

MINUTES

The Board meeting of the Tennessee Board of Examiners in Psychology was called to order at 9:04 a.m. in the Iris Room, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243 by Mark Fleming, Board President on Thursday, March 14, 2024.

Board members present:	Mark Fleming, PhD, Board Chair Alicia Victory, Vice Chair Timothy Arentsen John Tyler Overstreet Deborah Carter Amy Nicholson
Board member(s) absent:	Brittany Lett, Consumer Member Amanda Spiess, Ex-officio Member Neelam Jain Susan Douglas
Staff present:	Candyce Wilson, Board Director Katherine Trawick, JD, General Counsel

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Ms. Katherine Trawick reviewed the Board members conflict of interest policy.

ELECTIONS

Dr. Alicia Victory motioned to nominate and approve Dr. Mark Fleming as the Board Chairman. Dr. Timothy Arensten seconded the nomination and motion. The motion passed. Dr. Fleming will remain the Board Chairman.

Dr. Victory motioned to nominate and approve Dr. Arensten as Vice Chairman. Dr. Deborah Carter seconded the motion and nomination. The motion passed. Dr. Arensten will be the new Vice Chairman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Arentsen motioned to approve the September 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. Overstreet seconded the motion, and it passed. Dr. Carter motioned to approve the December 2023 meeting minutes. Dr. Victory seconded the motion, and it passed.

OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS REPORT

Ms. Dorsey Luther appeared before the Board to present the current investigative report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Emily Godwin presented the Boards 2024 current numbers and projected fiscal year end numbers. Currently, the Board continues to not excessively building their carry-over balance. Since the last meeting, there has been an increase in technological expenditures. The Board is still projected to end in a deficit.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REPORT

Ms. Candyce Wilson provided the Board with administrative report.

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

Ms. Katherine Trawick reviewed the Conflict-of-Interest Policy. There is one (1) open case in the office of general counsel. The emergency rules for the new professional category of Certified Psychological Testing Technician are in process. The rulemaking for the new licensure route that is for experienced psychologists moving to Tennessee from another state in which they have been licensed for the (10) of the last fifteen (15) years is also in process. Ms. Trawick reviewed the currently being monitored disciplinary report.

CORRESPONDENCE

B. Borkosky – submitted a request on whether licensees are allowed to disclose test data and how the interpretation factors in HIPAA compliance. The Board led a discussion on how there is no current law in terms of psychologists being required to release test data. Releasing the data would affect the integrity of the tests and run into copy right violations.

E. Shmikler – request for the Board to extend her provisional license to permit more time for her to complete the ethics and jurisprudence examination. Dr. Shmikler provided information regarding personal hardship that delayed her completion of her postdoctoral training and passing of the EPPP examination. This delay resulted in a delay in her ability to take the E&J examination. Dr. Victory motioned to extend the provisional license for another thirty (30) days. Mr. Overstreet seconded the motion, and it passed.

The Board led a discussion on the process of requesting extensions. The Board advised staff that staff has permission to grant provisional license extensions, up to the time limits permitted by law, when the need for extension is for more time to complete postdoctoral training. Any other reason for an extension request does require Board approval.

D. Johnson – submitted a request for continuing education extension. Dr. Johnson provided information regarding a medical illness delaying his ability to complete continuing education hours as he normally would in 2023. He requested to extend his time frame to complete his hours until March 31, 2024. He

provided proof of seventeen (17) hours he has completed so far in 2024. Mr. Overstreet motioned to grant the extension until March 31, 2024, to inform the licensee to not wait until the last quarter to complete continuing education requirements moving forward, and to inform the licensee that the hours completed now are to be used towards his last CE cycle and shall not be used to make him compliant with his next cycle for his 2026 renewal. Dr. Victory seconded the motion, and it passed.

J. DeCoster – a provisional license was granted on October 20, 2023, and is now requesting the Board to suspend her provisional license for two (2) months while she is on maternity leave. After review of the written request and supporting proof, Dr. Victory motioned to approve this request. Mr. Overstreet seconded the motion, and it passed.

K. Gorman – submitted a request to complete all continuing education hours online due to health concerns. The Board led a discussion on how their rules do not prevent anyone from completing all hours online. There is a requirement to obtain a specific number of hours through a live interactive means and this can be accomplished virtually.

RATIFICATION OF NEW LICENSEES

The Board reviewed the newly licensed and reinstated psychologist, psychological assistants, and behavior analyst licensees since the last Board meeting. Mr. Overstreet motioned to ratify the psychology and assistants list. Dr. Victory seconded the motion, and it passed. Dr. Victory motioned to approve the behavior analyst list. Dr. Arentsen seconded the motion, and it passed.

REVIEW AND DISCUSS TCAF UPDATE FROM MURPHY THOMAS, CHAIR OF TCAF BOARD

Dr. Thomas presented several updates regarding TCAF, and the Board reviewed a letter provided by Dr. Brian Wind, Executive Director of TCAF.

- 1) TCAF has five active contracts, three contracts pending, and two administrative inquiries.
- 2) TCAF has all of its RAMP-contracted clients in our digital monitoring platform and continues to see excellent compliance with RAMP contracts - current compliance rate = 100%.
- 3) Virtual connectivity with TCAF's clients continues to demonstrate multiple benefits.
- 4) The TCAF/Vanderbilt presentation at the TPA annual conference on the trend of increasing cases cognitive impairment in the profession of psychology went quite well, and positive feedback was received.
- 5) TCAF held its annual in-person Board meeting at the TPA Conference – it was well attended, and much work was completed related to policy development and approval, as well as the foundation's strategic vision.
- 6) TCAF's Board members have remained very actively involved in TCAF's operations and have continued to provide extra help for complex cases.
- 7) All of TCAF's activities continue to be carried out well within the TCAF budget.

UPDATE FROM DR. PAMELA AUBLE FROM TPA

Dr. Auble provided the Board with an update on pending bills for this legislative session. Practice State Leadership Conference, where APA thinks our profession is going. AI, population health issues and lack of access to care. There is a large increase in master's level providers. APA is looking into a pathway for master's level psychologists. The Board led a discussion on consideration of AI in the practice.

EPPP-2 documents to review were provided to the Board members prior to this meeting. Dr. Auble provided an overview of the EPPP-2 taskforce. Dr. Auble identified a poll and several documents the taskforce has reviewed. Additionally, members of the taskforce were present. Overall, the consensus is there are still many concerns with implementation of EPPP-2.

The Board requested to invite leaders from ASPPB to present before them at their next meeting.

Dr. Auble addressed the Boards recent rule changes regarding continuing education requirements for CPTT's and CPA's. The Board understands in their discussion they were only commenting on requiring continuing education for CPA's, but the section of the rule amended would end up applying to both professions.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REVISIONS TO THE EMERGENCY RULE PACKET

Ms. Trawick presented the Board with several parts of the pending emergency rule packet that have gone through internal review and are coming back to the Board for consideration.

The Board revised the continuing education section to require fifteen hours for CPA's and to leave it up to the supervisor for CPTT's. Mr. Overstreet expressed concerns with not requiring specific continuing education for CPTT's.

Dr. Victory motioned to approve the changes made today. Dr. Carter seconded the motion, and it passed by roll call vote. The Board will discuss requirements for CPTT continuing education at the next meeting.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APA ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

The Board discussed the idea of having a template for a side-by-side. Dr. Auble suggested she could contact the APA for this information.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR ATTENDANCE AT UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Dr. Victory motioned to approve two board members and one staff person to attend the spring 2024 ASPPB conference. Dr. Arentsen seconded the motion, and it passed.

Dr. Victory motioned to approve two board members and one staff person to attend the fall 2024 ASPPB conference. Mr. Overstreet seconded the motion, and it passed.

Dr. Victory motioned to approve one attorney, one staff, and one board member to attend the FARB fall 2024 conference. Dr. Carter seconded the motion, and it passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

April Hulling appeared before the Board to address a history of CPA's and the ability to use CPAs to a greater capacity.

Mr. Overstreet motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:15pm CT. Dr. Arentsen seconded the motion, and it passed.