

**BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2006**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Board Member Ronald K. Walthall who read the notice of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present:

Board Member, Ben K. Beitin  
Board Member, Gina Kassel  
Board Member, Dawn M. Lacy  
Board Member, J. Barry Mascari  
Board Member, Verice Mason  
Board Member, Judith A. Owens  
Board Member, Edward Reading  
Board Member, Ronald K. Walthall

Excused:

Board Member, Barbara Andrews  
Board Member, Samira Haddad  
Board Member, Amy Meckeler  
Board Member, James Verser

Staff Present:

Executive Director, Elaine L. DeMars  
Deputy Attorney General, Mileidy Perez  
Administrative Staff, Celeste Paige  
Administrative Staff, Aishah Figueroa

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion made by J. Barry Mascari, seconded by Verice Mason, and unanimous vote the Public Session Minutes of the May 11, 2006 and June 8, 2006 meeting were approved as amended.

**IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Elaine DeMars reported that Board Chair James Verser, in his capacity as AMFTRB treasurer, is attending the AMFTRB/ C.L.E.A.R. Conference. Ms. DeMars also reported that Stuart Rabner has been nominated as Attorney General designee. At the Division level, Stephen B. Nolan has been named as Acting Director replacing Kimberly Ricketts who is now serving as administrator of the Department of Law and Public Safety.

**V. BIENNIAL LICENSE RENEWAL**

Executive Director Elaine DeMars reports that 92 percent of marriage and family therapists have successfully completed the license renewal process. To date, 43 licensees have not completed the renewal requirements and have been placed in the expired status. Standard notification of license termination will be mailed to anyone not

completing the renewal requirements.

## **VI. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY**

### Assembly Bill 3063

This bill amends the Open Public Meetings Act to require each public body that has an established Internet site to post annual notice of regular meetings, keep comprehensive minutes and audio record regular meetings, identify anyone who speaks at a meeting, and make the recordings and drafts of minutes available to the public within 5 business days. The Board noted the proposed legislation does not differentiate between the public session and executive session meetings and is concerned that proposal may affect the confidentiality of executive session agenda items. It was also noted that ratified public minutes are currently posted to the Board's website. On a motion by Barry Mascari, seconded by Verice Mason, the Board voted to forward their concerns comments to the Division's legislative liaison.

## **VII. CONSENT ORDERS**

The following consent orders have been filed by the Board of Marriage and Family

Therapy Examiners:

- A. Glenard Burke - Consent Order granting licensure to practice alcohol and drug counseling.
- B. Robert DeYoung, LMFT, LCADC - Voluntary Surrender of License with Prejudice
- C. Roberta Medi Spa - A Consent Order to Cease and Desist was filed on behalf of the Board of Cosmetology, medical-related and mental health boards.

## **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### A. Professional Counselor Examiner Committee

J. Barry Mascari reported that the Committee continues to deal with the issues related to the revised regulation implemented on April 20, 2006. (N.J.A.C. 13-34-11.2(a)3i), which requires that an acceptable degree include the word "counseling" or "counselor" in the graduate degree title and that the institution offering the degree states in the catalog or in another format that the purpose of the graduate degree is to prepare students for the professional practice of counseling. It was also reported that the on-line renewal notification letters are scheduled to be mailed to active license holders this week.

### B. Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee

Edward Reading, reported that the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee continues to function as a two-member committee.

## **IX. NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held November 16, 2006 at 9:00 a.m., 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

## **X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Edward Reading, seconded by J. Barry Mascari, the Board moved to Executive Session at 10:51 a.m. to discuss pending confidential matters.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by J. Barry Mascari, seconded by Ed Reading, the meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m.