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New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



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BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

STEVE C. LEE
Acting Director

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

APRIL 10, 2014

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I. CALL TO ORDER

This scheduled meeting of the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners was called to Order at 9:42 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, Hudson Conference room, 6th floor, Newark, New Jersey.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Ben K. Beitin, LMFT, *Board Chair*
Jose Perez, LMFT, *Board Vice Chair*
Lorraine M. Barry, LMFT, *Board Member*
Jennifer W. Plungis, LMFT, *Board Member*
Edward Reading, LCADC, *Board Member*
Mia Sena, *Public Board Member*
Alyson Smith, LMFT, *Board Member*
Michelle Weinberg, LMFT, *Board Member*

Excused:

Ketrin S. Maxwell
Eileen Thornton
Johanna Klena

Also in attendance:

Milagros B. Collazo, *Executive Director*
Shirley Dickstein, *Deputy Attorney General*
Rachel Glasgow, *Regulatory Analyst*
Celeste Paige, *Administrative Assistant*

Chair Ben Beitin announced the presence of a quorum.

III. OATH OF OFFICE

Deputy Attorney General Shirley Dickstein read the Oath of Office and swore in the following new board members:

Lorraine M. Barry, Jennifer W. Plungis, Mia Sena, Alyson Smith and Michelle Weinberg. The new board members introduced themselves and provided brief descriptions of their education and work experience.

IV. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion by Jose Perez, seconded by Edward Reading the minutes of the March 13, 2014 public meeting were approved as amended. The vote was unanimous.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. *Rhoda Ondov, NJAMFT Legislative Chair* attended the public meeting. Ms. Ondov thanked the Board for the new supervision ratio regulation and informed the Board that new licensees are having concerns regarding the number of continuing education hours required for license renewal., specifically the 40 hour requirement that is due for their first renewal. Regulatory Analyst Rachel Glasgow will research the statute and regulations and provide guidance on the rules for 1st time continuing education submissions.

B. *Tamika Stewart, marriage and family therapy applicant*, attended the public meeting to clarify the course work descriptions that were submitted with her application for licensure. Ms. Stewart was advised that her s application will be reviewed again and she will receive a written response to the Board's determination

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

The administrative staff of the Board and it's Committees, in part have responsibility for application intake, preliminary review of documentation, notification to applicants of missing documentation, licensing status and assisting in the preparation of material for board and committee meetings.

The following are the current licensee stats for the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy and the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee and Professional Counselor Committee for March 2014.

Licensing Activity Report - Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners

Active	592
Inactive	167
*Pending	159
Reinstatements Pending	11
Suspended	3
Voluntary surrender	3
Withdrawn	2

3 year permits - 98

1 year permits - 1

Licensing Activity Report for Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee

	LCADC	CADC
Active	1746	739
Inactive	83	39
*Pending	332	628
Reinstatements Pending	4	3
Suspended	4	2
Voluntary surrender	2	5
Withdrawn	27	23

Licensing Activity Report for Professional Counselor Examiner Committee

	<u>LAC</u>	<u>PC</u>	<u>LRC</u>
Active	1746	3304	125
Inactive	34	278	43
*Pending	715	548	10
Reinstatements Pending	4	20	6
Suspended	1	4	0
Voluntary surrender	0	12	1
Withdrawn	7	10	0

***NOTE:** the pending category includes applications that are ready for review and licensure, those that have been abandoned by the applicant and applications where the applicant (s) require additional time to complete course work and/or documentation is missing.

VII. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

A. Parent/Custody Time Evaluations

Rachel Glasgow informed the Board that the regulation is ready to be published. The unofficial copies of the regulation were distributed to Board members.

B. Assembly Bill 682

This Bill seeks to establish a process to bar certain health care providers from receiving reimbursement under PIP(Personal Injury Protection).

On a motion by Edward Reading, seconded by Jose Perez, the Board voted to oppose the Bill as written. (***The Board determined that they would like to be a part of the investigation should there be an investigation in these instances.***) The Board had concerns about existing patients whose treatment may be affected.

C. Assembly Bill 1630

The Board reviewed this Bill which seeks to require counseling for certain domestic violence offenders. The Board supports efforts for persons to receive the appropriate treatment. However, the Board determined that the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment should be completed by licensed professionals.

E. Assembly Bill 2460

The Board reviewed this Bill which seeks to waive certain professional and occupational licensing fees for veterans and spouses of veterans. The Board determined that there already exists a waiver for professional and occupational licensees who are veterans.

F. Assembly Bill 2557

The Board reviewed this Bill which seeks to require health care providers to observe certain practices concerning collection of outstanding balances on patient accounts. On a motion by Edward Reading, seconded by Jose Perez, the Board voted to support this Bill.

G. Assembly Bill 1254

This Bill seeks to require certain civil actions against certain licensed person to be brought within two years. The Board voted to oppose the Bill as written. They concluded that there was not enough information to make a determination.

VIII. AAMFTRB/NJ-AMFT

Nothing to report

IX. OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report

X. NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Edward Reading, seconded by Jose Perez, the Board moved to Executive Session at 10:53 a.m. to conduct a investigative inquiry.

XII. APPLICATION REVIEW

The Board reviewed and approved the following applications:

Licensure

Meghan Aborn
Jolene Bredrick
Joanne Ducrepin
Michelle Nardella
Jonathan W. Smith

Examination Approval

Phillip R. Bracco
Mitchell E. Cogan
Chris A. DeSilvestri
Kristi Marinco
Gloria A. Narvaez -Emera

Three-year Temporary Permit

Linda Wachtel

Supervision Reports

Nevolia Ogletree
Karishma Raparella
Natalie Setliff
Alexa Squire
Xuhua Zhang

XIII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Jose Perez, seconded by Edward Reading the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.