

Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists
Board Meeting
Texas Department of State Health Services
Saturday, July 13, 2013, at 9 AM
Exchange Building, Room N102
8407 Wall Street
Austin, TX 78754

Minutes

Board Members Present:

Beverly Womack, Professional Member
Keith Rosenbaum, Professional Member
Sean Stokes, Professional Member
Michael Puhl, Public Member
Joe Ann Clack, Public Member
George Francis, Public Member
Jennifer Smothermon, Professional Member
Rick Bruhn, Professional Member
Michael Miller, Public Member

Staff Present:

Crystal Beard
Georgia Norman
Elaine Snow
Cindy Bourland

Guests Present:

Jodie Elder

Agenda Item 1 was to call the meeting to order at 9:10 am by Mr. Puhl, chair.

Agenda Item 2 was the approval of the minutes of the April 6, 2013 Board meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Miller to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 3 was the discussion regarding reports from the following board committees:

Mr. Francis gave the Professional Development Committee report. The committee discussed audits of continuing education providers and the board's jurisprudence examination. A motion was made by Ms. Smothermon to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Bruhn gave the Licensing Standards Committee report. The committee reviewed 1 case which was approved. The committee also discussed implementation of a new rule requiring applicants to have 60 semester credit hours in the academic preparation, the implementation of a new rule addressing the specific number of hours counseling couples and/or families graduate students seeking licensure as Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Associates accumulate during the practicum in order to attain full licensure and rule change recommendations to be sent to the Rules Committee for consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Smothermon gave the Ethics Committee report. The committee reviewed 8 cases, of which 6 cases were closed and 2 cases were tabled. Mr. Miller gave the report relating to the impact of House Bill 300 (82nd Legislative Session, 2011, Regular Session) concerning the privacy of protected health information and the provision of administrative, civil and criminal penalties. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 4 was the report from the Board Chair and update concerning: current challenges and accomplishments; lawsuits; interaction with stakeholders, state officials, and staff; committee appointments and functions; workload of board members; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the board. Mr. Puhl gave the report.

Agenda Item 5 was the report from the Executive Director and update concerning: program operations; customer service accomplishments, inquiries, and challenges; current and/or historical licensee statistics; media, legislative, and stakeholder contacts and concerns; workload processing; special projects assigned to executive director; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the licensure program. Ms. Beard gave the report.

Agenda Item 6 was the Management report and update from the Professional Licensing and Certification Unit manager, including: unit organization and staffing; program costs and revenue; current operational initiatives; customer service accomplishments and challenges; workload processing and statistical information; status of rulemaking within the unit; legislative and media contacts and tracking; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the unit. Ms. Bourland gave the report.

Agenda Item 7 was the discussion regarding the Order for 1062-12-0001 Gerald Shipp. A motion was made to accept the order. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 8 was the discussion regarding the Order for 1062-11-0057 Darrel DeGraw. A motion was made to accept the order. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 9 was the update by attorney on Texas Medical Association v. Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists lawsuit. Ms. Snow gave the report. No action was taken.

Agenda Item 10 was the discussion regarding future priorities and activities of the board.

Agenda Item 11 was public comment. Ms. Elder addressed the board.

Agenda Item 12 was to schedule the next meeting(s). The next meeting will be October 25-26, 2013.

Agenda Item 13 was adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.