

Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists
Board Meeting
Texas Department of State Health Services
Saturday, April 6, 2013, at 9 AM
Exchange Building, Room N102
8407 Wall Street
Austin, TX 78754

Minutes

Board Members Present:

Rick Bruhn, Professional Member
George Francis, Public Member
Michael Miller, Public Member
Michael Puhl, Public Member
Jennifer Smothermon, Professional Member
Sean Stokes, Professional Member
Beverly Womack, Professional Member

Staff Present:

Crystal Beard
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 January 12, 2013 Board meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

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

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

Ms. Smothermon gave the Licensing Standards Committee report. The committee reviewed 3 cases, of which 3 were denied. The committee also discussed the implementation of a new rule requiring applicants to have 60 semester credit hours in the academic preparation for the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Associate and the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist license and the implementation of a new rule addressing the specific number of hours counseling couples and/or families Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Associates shall accumulate during his or her practicum in order to attain full licensure. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Bruhn gave the Ethics Committee report. The committee reviewed 7 cases, of which 6 cases were closed and 1 case was proposed for disciplinary action. A motion was made to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 4 was the discussion and possible action regarding the Order for Final Action for BC, case 1062-12-0029. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn to approve the order. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 5 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 6 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 7 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.

Agenda Item 8 was the update by attorney on Texas Medical Association v. Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists lawsuit. No action taken.

Agenda Item 9 was the discussion and possible action regarding future priorities and activities of the board.

Agenda Item 10 was public comment. Two people addressed the board.

Agenda Item 11 was to schedule the next meeting(s). The next meeting dates will be July 12-13, 2013.

Agenda Item 12 was adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.