

Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists
Board Meeting
Saturday, April 18, 2015, 9:30 AM
Texas Department of State Health Services, Exchange Building
8407 Wall Street, Room N-102
Austin, TX 78754

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Cheryl Gomez
Georgia Norman
Elaine Snow
Molly Fudell

Guests Present:

Jodie Elder

Agenda Item 1 was to call the meeting to order at 9:30 am by Mr. Puhl, chair.

Agenda Item 2 was the approval of the minutes of the January 10, 2015 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:

Dr. Bruhn gave the Licensing Standards Committee report. The committee reviewed 3 cases, of which 2 cases were approved and 1 case was tabled for additional information. The committee also discussed revisions to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists' Licensed Supervised Experience Verification Form (Form V) and personal information of licensees listed on the licensee rosters. A motion was made by Ms. Smothermon to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ms. Smothermon gave the Ethics Committee report. The committee reviewed 6 cases, of which 5 cases were closed and 1 case was proposed for disciplinary action. The committee also discussed 2 cases of

which are awaiting State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) hearings or resolution or informal settlement conferences, of which 1 case was recommended to SOAH for non-compliance. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Stokes gave the Rules Committee report. The committee discussed potential changes to 22 TAC Chapter 801, §801.44. Relationships with Clients, §801.143. Supervisor Requirements and §801.263. Requirements for Continuing Education. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Francis gave the Professional Development Committee report. The committee discussed the quarterly summary from the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists' Jurisprudence Examination vendor. A motion was made by Ms. Clack to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 4 was Executive Session: Consultation with Board attorney pursuant to TEX. GOV'T CODE § 551.071 regarding Texas Medical Association v. Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists.

Agenda Item 5 was the discussion regarding Texas Medical Association v. Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists. No action taken.

Agenda Item 6 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; conferences; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the board. Mr. Puhl gave the report.

Agenda Item 7 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. Gomez gave the report.

Agenda Item 8 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. There was no report.

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

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

Agenda Item 11 was to set upcoming meeting dates and locations. The next meeting date will be July 10-11, 2015 and October 3-4, 2015 in Belton.

Agenda Item 12 was adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

