

**Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists  
Board Meeting  
Saturday, July 11, 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

**Staff Present:**

Cheryl Gomez  
Georgia Norman  
Elaine Snow  
Tim Speer

**Guests Present:**

Jodie Elder  
Thao Phan

**Agenda Item 1** was to call the meeting to order at 9:40 am by Mr. Puhl, chair.

**Agenda Item 2** was the approval of the minutes of the April 18, 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 8 cases, of which 3 were approved and 5 cases were denied. The committee also discussed the personal information of licensees listed on the licensee rosters, potential changes to 22 TAC §801.114 Academic Course Content and §801.142 Supervised Clinical Experience Requirements and Conditions and the issuance and administrative procedures for provisional licenses. A motion was made by Mr. Miller 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, 1 case was tabled and 1 case was proposed for disciplinary action. The committee also discussed cases awaiting hearings or resolutions through formal and informal conferences. A motion was made by Mr. Francis 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, §801.18. Fees and 22 TAC §801.235. Late Renewal. The committee also discussed about licensees who conduct or receive telepractice and/or telesupervision. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn to approve the recommendations. The motion was seconded and passed. 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 and questions to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists' Jurisprudence Examination. A motion was made by Ms. Smothermon to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Agenda Item 4** was Executive Session and 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. No action taken.

**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. Mr. Speer gave the report.

**Agenda Item 9** was the discussion regarding the Orders for Final Action for # 1062-13-0005 & # 1062-14-0045 Gary Fashimpar.

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

**Agenda Item 11** was public comment. One person addressed the board.

**Agenda Item 12** was to set the upcoming meeting dates and locations. The next meeting will be October 9-10, 2015 in Belton, TX.

**Agenda Item 13** was adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.