

**Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists
Board Meeting
Saturday, July 16, 2016, 9:00 AM
Texas Department of State Health Services, Exchange Building
8407 Wall Street, Room N-102
Austin, TX 78754**

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Evelyn Husband-Thompson, Public Member
George Francis, Public Member
Rick Bruhn, Professional Member
Sean Stokes, Professional Member
Jennifer Smothermon, Professional Member
Kenneth Bateman, Professional Member
Michael Miller, Public Member

Staff Present:

Cheryl Gomez
Georgia Norman
Molly Fudell
Tim Speer

Guests Present:

Jodie Elder
Jan Friese
Jeanene Smith
Chuck West
Peter Bradley

Agenda Item 1 was to call the meeting to order at 9:15 am by Ms. Smothermon, chair.

Agenda Item 2 was the approval of the minutes of the April 16, 2016 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 4 cases, of which 3 cases were denied and 1 case was tabled. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Miller gave the Ethics Committee report. The committee reviewed 16 cases, of which 9 cases were closed and 7 cases were proposed for disciplinary action. 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 tele-practice and/or tele-supervision and potential changes to 22 TAC §801.115– Academic Requirements and Supervised Clinical Practicum Equivalency for Applicants Currently Licensed in Another Jurisdiction. 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 Jurisprudence Examination vendor. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn 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 pending or contemplated litigation and/or settlement offers.

The Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists having convened on this date and with a quorum present will now go into Executive Session in accordance with Government Code Chapter 551 (Open Meetings Act) of the State of Texas, for the purposes of consulting with the board attorney concerning the matter of agenda item 4. The date is July 16, 2016. The time is 9:35 am. The Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists came out of Executive Session at 10:15 am. No action taken. The date is July 16, 2016.

Agenda Item 5 was the discussion regarding pending or contemplated litigation and/or settlement offers.

Agenda Item 6 was the discussion regarding contingency plans for the current TMA lawsuit against the Board.

Agenda Item 7 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. Ms. Smothermon gave the report.

Agenda Item 8 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 9 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 10 was the discussion regarding future priorities and activities of the board.

Agenda Item 11 was public comment. Seven people addressed the board.

Agenda Item 12 was to set upcoming meeting dates and locations. The next meeting dates will be October 14-15, 2016, January 20-21, 2017, April 14-15, 2017, July 14-15, 2017 and October 13-14, 2017.

Agenda Item 13 was adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.