

**Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists**  
***Ethics Committee Meeting***  
**Friday, April 7, 2017, 9:00 AM**  
**8407 Wall Street, Austin, TX 78754, Exchange Building, N-102**

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rick Bruhn, Professional Member  
Jennifer Smothermon, Professional Member  
Evelyn Husband-Thompson, Public Member

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Cheryl Gomez  
Georgia Norman  
Gerard Bonner  
Oscar Draughn  
Anthony Luna  
Scott Merchant

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Tom Haygood  
Nancy Haygood  
Jodie Elder  
Pamela Bermerder  
Mary Beth Cooke  
Lauren McClair  
Jason Martin

**AGENDA ITEM 1** was to call the meeting to order at 9:10 am by Ms. Smothermon, chair.

**AGENDA ITEM 2** was to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2017 Ethics Committee meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Thompson to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

**AGENDA ITEM 3** was the discussion on the following pending complaints:

Complaint # 1062-15-0017 and # 1062-15-0025 were discussed. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn to propose a reprimand. The motion was seconded and passed.

Complaint # 1062-15-0036 was discussed. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn to close this complaint with a conditional letter of agreement. The motion was seconded and passed.

**AGENDA ITEM 4** was the report from staff on backlog of complaints and complaints closed by the Executive Director. Ms. Gomez gave the report.

**AGENDA ITEM 5** was the discussion on the policy to prioritize complaints. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn to accept. The motion was seconded and passed.

**AGENDA ITEM 6** was the discussion on the policy to settle cases informally. A motion was made by Dr. Bruhn to accept. The motion was seconded and passed.

**AGENDA ITEM 7** was the discussion on a penalty matrix. No action taken.

**AGENDA ITEM 8** was public comment. Two people addressed the committee.

**AGENDA ITEM 9** was announcements and comments not requiring committee action, such as statements regarding conferences and other recent or upcoming events.

**AGENDA ITEM 10** 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 10. The date is April 7, 2017. The time is 1:50 pm. The Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists came out of Executive Session at 1:55 pm. No action taken. The date is April 7, 2017.

**AGENDA ITEM 11** was to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.