

**Texas State Board
of Examiners of
Marriage and Family Therapists**

Official Minutes

Meeting Date: October 6, 2003

Number on Board: 9

Number Present: 6

Marvarene Oliver, Chairman, at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 9505 Stonelake Blvd, Austin, Texas 78759, called the meeting of the Board to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present:

The following members of the Board were present: Marvarene Oliver, Waymon Hinson, Joe Ann Clack, Reverend B.W. McClendon, Brenda VanAmburgh and Jackie Weimer.

Absent:

Sandra DeSobe, Simon Aguilar and Bishop Watson were absent.

Staff:

The following departmental staff were in attendance: Andrew Marks, Executive Director; Jim Zukowski, Division Director; Debbie Peterson, Assistant Division Director, Dan Meador, Office of General Council and Georgia Norman, Administrative Assistant, Professional Licensing and Certification.

Guests:

There were no guests.

Minutes Approved:

The Board reviewed the minutes from the July 14, 2003 meeting. Joe Ann Clack made the motion to accept the minutes and seconded by Waymon Hinson. The motion passed.

Agenda Item V:

Marvarene Oliver informed the board that Bishop Watson has offered his resignation from the board. She also discussed the need for all committees to meet in January, especially the Rules Committee.

Agenda Item VI:

Andrew Marks discussed the restructuring of the division, the new phone system and the new board support and complaint section.

Agenda Item VII:

Jim Zukowski discussed the reorganization and the smoother functioning of the organization. He discussed about the Sunset Advisory that will begin auditing in April 2004. He discussed the increase of fees because of the legislative mandate that created the Office of Patient Protection. Debbie Peterson discussed the budget.

Agenda Item VIII:

There was no report.

Agenda Item IX:

Waymon Hinson gave the Ethics Committee report.

The Ethics committee discussed the following complaints:

MF-03-08- concerning dual relationship. The committee recommended this case to be closed as unsubstantiated.

MF-03-16- concerning dual relationship and exploitation. Tabled for further investigation specifically intake forms, case notes, clarify relationship between Dr Benkert and her husband in regards to business, confidentiality issues, does Dr. Benkert work at El Centro or her relationship with agency, translation of letter from Maria to Dr. Benkert.

MF-03-20- concerning the release of information and the consent to treatment of children of divorce. Close as unsubstantiated with letter of advisement in regards to release of mental health records and consent to treatment and send records immediately.

MF-03-22- concerning sexual misconduct. Licensee has surrendered his license. The Committee has recommended the acceptance of the surrender of the license. Jackie Weimer made the motion and seconded by Reverend McClendon seconded. The motion passed.

MF-03-30- concerning confidentiality. The committee has recommended a letter of reprimand.

MF-03-32- concerning sexual misconduct. The committee recommends revocation of licensure.

MF-03-38- concerning misleading claims. Close as unsubstantiated but with letter of advisement in regards to services provided by a therapist.

MF-03-27 – tabled for additional investigation; postponed until later date.

Jackie Weimer made the motion and seconded by Reverend McClendon to accept the report. The motion passed. The committee also recommended that investigators attend the future ethics committee meetings. This concluded the committee report.

This concluded the Ethics Committee report.

Brenda VanAmburgh gave the Application Review Committee report.

The committee reviewed the examination of Celina Millerd and agreed to allow her to sit for the examination.

The committee reviewed the examination of Linda-Rae Bimstein and agreed to allow her to sit for the examination.

The committee reviewed the examination of Carrie Benefield and agreed to allow her to sit for the examination.

The committee also discussed the possibility of alternative methods of testing.

Joe Ann Clack made the motion to accept the report of the committee and seconded by Reverend McClendon. The motion passed.

This concluded the committee report.

Agenda Item X:

Waymon Hinson made the motion to accept the ratification of amendments to Title 22, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 801 Published in the Texas Register on March 28, 2003 and seconded by Brenda VanAmburgh. The motion passed.

Agenda Item XI:

Andrew Marks discussed about the Self-Evaluation Report (SER) submitted to the Texas Sunset Commission in August 2003 and the first step in the sunset process, which is the self-evaluation report and the possibility of inviting someone from that commission to attend a board meeting.

Agenda Item XII:

Andrew discussed the report the status report on the Texas Online Common Occupational Licensing System.

Agenda Item XIII:

Andrew discussed the Internal Customer Satisfaction Survey and the positive results from the survey

Agenda Item XIV:

The next meeting will be held on January 17-18, 2004 in Houston, Texas.

Agenda XVI:

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Marvarene Oliver, Chair

Andrew Marks, Executive Director