

Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists
Board Meeting
Texas Department of State Health Services
Saturday, October 26th at 9 AM
Exchange Building, Room N102
8407 Wall Street
Austin, TX 78754

Minutes

Board Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Crystal Beard
Georgia Norman
Elaine Snow
Cindy Bourland
Carol Miller

Guests Present:

Jodie Elder
Rob Porter

Agenda Item 1 was to call the meeting to order at 9:05 am by Mr. Puhl, chair.

Agenda Item 2 was the approval of the minutes of the July 13, 2013 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:

Mr. Francis gave the Professional Development Committee report. The committee discussed continuing education provider audits, the quarterly summary from the Jurisprudence Examination vendor and professional organizations' efforts to assist LMFTs and LMFT Associates with insurance and reimbursement issues. A motion was made by Ms. Smotherman to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dr. Bruhn gave the Licensing Standards Committee report. The committee reviewed 3 cases, of which 3 were approved. The committee also discussed recommendations for rule changes related to rule 22 Texas Administrative Code ("TAC") §801.2, §801.42, Professional Therapeutic Services, §801.52, Display of License Certificate and discontinuation of the need for notarization of the Supervisory Agreement Form (Form III). 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 12 cases, of which 9 cases were closed and 3 cases were recommended for disciplinary action. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Stokes gave the Rules Committee report. The committee discussed potential changes to 22 TAC §801.113, §801.114, §801.142, §801.143 and §801.236. A motion was made by Mr. Francis to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Agenda Item 4 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; and general information regarding the routine functioning of the board. Mr. Puhl gave the report.

Agenda Item 5 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. Beard gave the report.

Agenda Item 6 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. Ms. Bourland gave the report.

Agenda Item 7 was the discussion regarding reciprocity request from the Tennessee Board for Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, and Clinical Pastoral Counselors. Ms. Snow gave the report.

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 8. The date is October 26, 2013. The time is 9:57 am. The Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists came out of Executive Session at 10:11 am. No action taken. The date is October 26, 2013.

Agenda Item 8 was the update by attorney on Texas Medical Association v. Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists lawsuit. Ms. Snow gave the report.

Agenda Item 9 was the discussion regarding the meeting location for the April 4-5, 2014 board and committee meetings.

Agenda Item 10 was the discussion regarding future priorities and activities of the board. There was none.

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

Agenda Item 12 was to schedule the next meeting. The next meeting date will be January 10-11, 2014.

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