

STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
September 21-22, 2017
MINUTES OF MEETING

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and AS 08.95.020, and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, Article 6; a scheduled meeting of the Board of Professional Counselors was held in Anchorage, Alaska, at 550 W. 7th Avenue.

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Call to Order/Roll Call 9:35 A.M.

Board members present, forming a quorum of the Board, were:

Debra Hamilton, Licensed Professional Counselor, Acting Chair
Stephanie Johnson, Licensed Professional Counselor
Eleanor Vinson, Public Member

Present from the Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing at various times were:

Renee Hoffard, Records & Licensing Supervisor
Chris Francis, Licensing Examiner
Nina Akers, Investigator III, CBPL

Present as a member of the public:

Shalome Cederberg, Boards & Commissions Assistant

Discussion: move Ethics Reports to Old Business

Agenda Item 2 Election of Board Chair

On a motion duly made by Stephanie Johnson, seconded by Eleanor Vinson, and passed unanimously, it was RESOLVED that Debra Hamilton be acting chair December board meeting.

Agenda Item 3 Review Agenda

The Board reviewed the agenda:

Agenda Item 5 Division Update and Agenda Item 10 Correspondence to be struck from the agenda for lack of updates and correspondence. Move Ethics Reports to Agenda Item 7 Old Business.

On a motion duly made by Eleanor Vinson, seconded by Stephanie Johnson, and passed unanimously, it was RESOLVED to adopt the agenda as amended.

The board moved ahead to agenda item 6 while awaiting item 4 Investigations Report to begin.

Agenda Item 6 Conference Reports

NBCC Conference:

Board member Stephanie Johnson attended and reported that keynote speaker Alex Sheen, founder of the organization “because I said I would” gave a powerful speech.

- Presentation also entitled “because I said I would.”
- Drew from his life experience including with his father.
- Organization has distributed 3.5 million business-card-size “promise cards” pre-printed with the quote “because I said I would.” at bottom. Participants write their promise onto a card and give it to the person to whom they are making their promise.
- For Stephanie, presentation highlighted disparity of services to village Alaska, and she would like to see Alex Sheen give presentations in Western Alaska.

Testing Report at NBCC Conference:

- Online survey at nbcc.org is worth three (3) free CEUs.

Portability Discussion at NBCC Conference: Past President S. Walker spoke to greater portability of licenses and standards across jurisdictions.

- Uniform license endorsement process
- Minimum standards
- Consistency in licensing standards
- Protection of the public
- National counselor endorsement

Board Discussion of portability of licenses:

- Laws and standards vary greatly.
- More stringent states might resist less stringent requirements.
- Still, portability must improve.
- Licensure portability especially important for military staff and family; some military counselors are licensed nowhere.
- Board member Eleanor Vinson: expressed shock that 50% of states don’t require background checks for counselors.

10:10 am: Shalome Cederberg, Boards & Commissions Assistant, joined the meeting:

- Boards & Commissions recommends members to the Governor for appointment.
- LPC board applicants have been interviewed, are pending Governor’s approval.

(NBCC Conference, continued)

Board member Eleanor Vinson: expressed shock that 50% of states don’t require background checks for counselors.

Board discussion regarding renewals and background checks:

- 46% of states don’t require Ethics CEUs at renewal.

Stephanie Johnson reported on Telehealth at NBCC:

- Rules vary by state.
- Will become more important for rural areas.

Debra Hamilton:

- SB 74: NBCC would screen tele- mental health

- Any talk at NBCC of allowing cross-state telehealth practice?

Eleanor Vinson: not reduce standards, and increase commonality

Sense of Board: NBCC is a valuable conference.

Agenda Item 4 Investigations Report

Nina Akers: no change from the last Investigations Report: one investigation opened; one closed; one still on probation and in compliance.

Eleanor Vinson: any increase or decrease in number of cases recently?

Nina Akers: will research for future report. Many potential cases are closed on intake.

10:34 am: Shalome Cederberg and Nina Akers exit meeting.

10:35 am: short break

10:57 am: back on record

Agenda Items 1-6 finished.

Agenda Item 7 Old Business

The board reviewed the minutes for the May 2017 meeting.

On a motion duly made by Eleanor Vinson, seconded by Stephanie Johnson, and passed unanimously, it was RESOLVED that the Board approve the May 2017 meeting minutes as amended.

Ethics Report:

Debra Hamilton's review: not a pressing need to change current ethics code.

Eleanor Vinson:

- ACA ethics code is clearest.
- NBCC is OK.
- AMHCA is most vague, lacking in specific guidance.

Debra Hamilton: what are the expenses of ethics change?

Stephanie Johnson:

- AMHCA past President Suzanne Walker offered to consult on ethics at a board meeting if asked.
- Stephanie will send Suzanne Walker's contact information to staff Chris Francis.

Renee Hoffard will email codes of ethics to board members for review at December board meeting.

Other Old Business:

Debra Hamilton: review of SB 74 language will continue at next board meeting in December.

Chris Francis, before December board meeting:

- will check how many LPCs are on Telemedicine Business Registry

Supervisor regulation 12 AAC 62.320. Approved Continuing Education. (b)(2) review tabled until after Agenda Item 9 Application Review.

12:07 pm: lunch recess

1:25 pm: back on record

Agenda Item 9 Application Review

[Board acknowledged 2:00 – 2:15 for **Agenda Item 8 Public Comment**; there was no public comment.]

2:45 pm:

On a motion duly made by Stephanie Johnson, seconded by Eleanor Vinson, and passed unanimously, it was RESOLVED that the Board enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion. Board staff members Renee Hoffard and Chris Francis to remain during the session.

2:45 pm: executive session

2:56 pm: back on record

4:31 pm: Recess until 9:30 am 9/22/17

Friday, September 22, 2017

Call to Order/Roll Call 9:29 A.M.

Board members present, forming a quorum of the Board, were:

- Debra Hamilton, Licensed Professional Counselor, Acting Chair
- Stephanie Johnson, Licensed Professional Counselor
- Eleanor Vinson, Public Member

Present from the Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing at various times were:

- Renee Hoffard, Records & Licensing Supervisor
- Chris Francis, Licensing Examiner

The Board continued with the agenda as amended.

Agenda Item 9 Application Review

On a motion by Eleanor Johnson, seconded by Stephanie Johnson, and approved unanimously it was RESOLVED to approve the following list of applications with the stipulation that the information in the applicants' files will take precedence over the information in the minutes:

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR – EXAM

- Anderson, Marie
- Doggett, Justin
- Dolphin, Jennifer
- Hornung, Carla
- Knight, Joy
- Koogje, Sarah
- Korta, Tanya
- Kuka, Brittany

- Porter, Laura
- Scott, Michele
- Compton, Wendi

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR – CRED

- Hentges, Kristina
- Schroeder, Shanna
- Sterle, Ann
- Thompson, Julie

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SUPERVISOR

- Bjork, Kacea
- Callam, Fay
- Edwards, Elizabeth
- Ercanbrack, Brandon
- Kabatt-Kennedy, Laura
- Miller, Jonathan
- Mortenson, Christian
- Sanchez, Yronelly

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER APPROVAL

- Alaska Regional Hospital; Mothers, Infants & Families w/substance dependence
- Alaska Children’s Alliance: Trauma-focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy

DISTANCE SUPERVISION APPROVAL

- Colquette, Joetta
- Mickenham, Shana
- Sams, Ginessa
- Short, Patricia
- Samorajski, Linda

Agenda Item 11 New Business

Legislative Audit Report – Sunset Review

- All prior sunset recommendations were resolved including administrative support.
- No new recommendations were made as part of this audit.
- Legislative audit recommends the legislature extend the board’s termination date to June 30, 2026.

The board discussed proposing changes to requirements for board-approved professional counselor supervisors:

- Increase portability of supervised experience
- Require the five (5) years of counseling experience be post-licensure
- Require re-certification in place of perpetual licensure to implement supervision CEU requirements
- *Changes would appear in:*
- AS 08.29.210. Supervisor certification
- 12 AAC 62.200. APPROVED COUNSELOR SUPERVISOR CERTIFICATION.
- 12 AAC 62.220. SUPERVISED EXPERIENCE.

The board discussed alternatives to listing pre-approved entities providing and approving CEUs under 12 AAC 62.320. APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION. The board declined making changes.

The board discussed proposing amendments to **AS 29.210. Supervisor certification.** to require five (5) years experience as a licensed professional; completion of CEU requirements established by the board; periodic re-certification as an approved supervisor with ongoing CEU requirements including on supervision.

On a motion duly made by Eleanor Vinson, seconded by Stephanie Johnson, and passed unanimously, it was RESOLVED that the Board ask the division to consider for presentation to the legislature changes to AS 8.29.210 as discussed in this meeting.

Agenda Item 12 Board Business

A. Task List

- Staff: send information on ethics codes to board members for review.
- Stephanie Johnson: send staff contact information for Suzanne Walker for invitation to next board meeting.
- Staff: minutes, and send regulatory information to CBPL Director Hovenden for division presentation to legislature.

B. Sign Wall Certificates-Wall certificates were signed by board members.

C. Schedule future meetings- The Board confirmed the following meeting dates for the upcoming year.

- Board Meetings: December 7 – 8, 2017; April 12 – 13, 2018
- Conferences: FARB January 10 – 12, 2018; AASCB January 10 – 18, 2018

D. Sign Meeting Minutes – Acting Chair Debra Hamilton signed the May 2017 board minutes.

At this time the Board concluded all scheduled Board business.

Upon a motion made by Stephanie Johnson and seconded by Eleanor Vinson, and approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 11:18 A.M.

Respectfully submitted:


Licensing Examiner

Approved:


, Chair
Board of Professional Counselors

Date: 4-20-18