Alaska Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners March 26, 2020 COVID-19

State Of Alaska 1 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 2 3 **DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING** 4 5 BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE EXAMINERS 6 March 26, 2020 7 8 By the authority of AS. 08.01.070(2), and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.64, Article 6, a 9 scheduled board meeting was held at 333 Willoughby Ave. Juneau Alaska. 10 11 Thursday, March 26, 2020 12 13 Agenda Item - Call to order and Roll call 14 Board Chair Al Levy called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. 15 16 Those present constituting a quorum of the Board: 17 Al Levy, Psychological Associate 18 Bradley McConnell, Psychologist 19 Chris Durham, Psychologist 20 Bernard Gatewood, Public Member 21 22 In attendance from the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of 23 Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing were: 24 25 Lacey Derr, Licensing Examiner 26 Sara Chambers, Director 27 28 Agenda Item – Review & Approve Agenda 29 30 The board reviewed the drafted agenda of the meeting. Board Chair Levy explained to the Board the 31 intention is to hold short, precise, frequent meetings to discuss items and then subsequent meetings to 32 allow follow up voting. 33 In a motion duly made by Bernard Gatewood and seconded by Chris Durham, with unanimous 34 consent, it was resolved to approve the agenda as written. Hearing no Ethics to report, the Board moved on with business. 35 36 <u>Agenda Item – Review/Discuss CE Requirements</u> 37 Chair Levy suggested there could be a need to relax the CE Requirements which limit the number of 38 hours that can be obtained by self-study. Another suggestion made would be to send out a 39 recommendation to licensees to focus some of their CE work to Telemedicine Practice and on the 40 Coronavirus Pandemic. Mr. Gatewood inquired if this would be for this licensing period or next; it was clarified to this license period only in response to this emergency. Dr. Durham brought up how the 41 42 administrations recommendations on relaxing CE requirements was for 2020 renewals. Psychology 43 Licenses Renew in 2021 and the need for relaxing CE requirements can be addressed closer to the

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renewal date if needed. But due to the timeline it takes to obtain CE's, it was agreed to monitor the situation to stay abreast of the deadline.

It was unanimously agreed Telehealth Delivery Continuing Education was recommended if providing telehealth services. The Board agreed to send OLE Derr pertinent links to recommended resources for information on Telemedicine Delivery, COVID-19 Topics, and APA related resources for licensee's use. It was clearly stated the Board does not endorse or favor any one resource, it is for informational intent. OLE Derr was requested to distribute the information to the Divisions COVID-19 Response website once it was completed.

## Agenda Item - Review/Discuss Tele-Supervision

Tele-Supervision had been a discussion brought up before but it has been the stance of the Board to have Supervised Experience face-to-face. Because of current world needs, it was explained the need to discuss and develop expectations for Tele-Supervision requirements. After some discussion on various experience with other jurisdictions, appropriate platforms to provide services, and the current needs of supervisees, the Board agreed develop a policy statement on recommendations on how to best deliver those TeleHealth Services. The Board discussed the concerns raised by supervisees who have contacted the Division they're unable to meet face-to-face with their Supervisors. Additional resources would be added to the policy statement being prepared for OLE Derr regarding appropriate delivery of Tele-Supervision and documentation of records for licensure.

Director Chambers joined the meeting and provided a brief update of what's going on with the Division and where things are at. She explained she's been in regular contact with Unified Command to get question answered and tools to use to navigate the current situation. She reassured the Board they're not the only ones in these situations and together we'll get through it. The Board was told they're doing exactly what is needed by meeting and discussing these issues and providing resources to equip people with the essential tools they need to succeed. If after providing the direction and problems do arise, it can be investigated and handled from there. It was also advised if the Board wanted to create "must do" items, it would be a regulations change. OLE Derr was tasked with scheduling the regulations specialist for the next meeting to assist in answering questions.

It was also stated by Director Chambers, a bill moving through legislation giving boards the powers to be able to relax regulations or implement paths to overcome barriers to licensure and/or service. More information on the bill would be available in the upcoming week.

The Board discussed the need to develop an Emergency License Type for interjurisdictional practice. It was directed to be added to next week's meeting agenda.

## <u>Agenda Item – Review Telehealth/TeleMedicine S &R</u>

It was agreed to postpone reviewing the Statutes and Regulations for next week when meeting with the Regulations Specialist.

The Board agreed to set their next meeting for March 31, 2020 for the next follow up meeting to discuss the emerging COVID-19 needs.

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92	Agenda Item – Adjourn	
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94	Upon a motion made by Chris Durham, second	ed by Brad McConnell, and approved
95	unanimously, it was resolved to adjourn the m	eeting.
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97	Chair Levy Adjourned the meeting at 10:27pm.	
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103	Respectfully submitted,	
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105	Car Ellas	
106	_ Jacy C Delle	5.6.2020
107	Lacey Derr	Date
108	Occupational Licensing Examiner	
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111	Wording LIT	5/6/2020
112	Allen Levy	Date
113	Board Chair	
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