

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

BOARD OF MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPY

**MINUTES OF MEETING
March 18, 2011**

By authority of AS 08.01.070(2), and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Board of Marital and Family Therapy was held March 18, 2011, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the 550 W. 7th Ave/Suite 240, Anchorage, Alaska.

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Patricia White at 9:00 am. The two new Board Members, Leon Webber and JoAnn Young, were introduced.

Board Members present, constituting a quorum:

Patricia White, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
Father John Downing, Public Member
Kennith McCarty, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
Leon Webber, Licensed Marriage and Family therapist
JoAnn Young, Public Member

Attending from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing were:

Cathy Mason, Administrative Officer (by telephone)
Gary Keiser, Investigator
Eleanor Vinson, Licensing Examiner

1. Review Agenda

The Board reviewed the agenda. There were four items added to correspondence.

2. Review Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the December 3, 2010, meeting.

On a motion duly made Kenneth McCarty, seconded by JoAnn Young, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to accept as amended, the December 3, 2010 meeting minutes.

3. Application/Audit Review

The Board reviewed 94 applications 10 audit reviews. The Board requested more information on many of the applications for continuing education approval.

On a motion duly made Leon Webber, seconded by JoAnn Young, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to accept the following applications and audits:

MFT BY CREDENTIALS

HOOD, JENNIFER

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDERS APPROVAL APPLICATIONS

AKAMFT

AKAMFT's 2nd Annual Pieces & Parts Teleconference

ALASKA ATTACHMENT & BONDING ASSOC

Attachment Disorder 201 Parts I & II

CODI

**Excellence in Outcomes
Cross Cultural Competence
Co-Occurring Disorders Program**

UAF/ARBHTA

Ethics in Clinical Supervision

CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDITS

**BUSSEY, JEANNE
GILBREATH, DIANE
MAGOWNAN, MICHAEL
NEWHOUSE, KATHERINE
PATINE, LAURA
RHODES-WOODMANCY, VIRGINIA
SCHLOSSER, CURTIS
SCOTT, SUSAN**

On a motion duly made Father John Downing, seconded by JoAnn Young, with Leon Webber abstaining, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to accept the following continuing education audit:

LEON WEBBER

There was extensive discussion regarding a packet of 87 applications submitted by Program Services Continuing Education. Members of the Board declined to review them, as there were so many and wanted to know if they were face-to-face, although the Chair cautioned them that they were to determine the content, based on 12 AAC 19.320, not if it is face to face or not.

12 AAC 19.320. (a) To be accepted by the board, continuing education must contribute directly to the professional competency of a marital and family therapist and must be directly related to the skills and knowledge required to implement marital and family therapy principles and methods.

Members of the Board felt there were too many courses taught by only a few people and will write a letter to them requesting they clarify their expertise for each class taught.

There was discussion regarding continuing education applications and changing the questions regarding live, face-to-face hours. The Board has decided they wish to know if the training will be face-to-face or not and want a new question on the application.

4. Statutes

a. Change 08.63.120

This was just an “FYI” for the Board.

5. Investigator’s Report

The Board’s Investigator, Gary Keiser, presented the report. There is one open complaint at this time; for unlicensed activity.

6. Budget Report

Administrative Officer Cathy Mason gave the budget report by telephone. Ms. Mason reported that the Board is currently to the good by \$29, 585.00, but there is one year and three months to go before the next renewal.

There was discussion on whether the current amounts are correct; discussion on how fees are determined; and discussion regarding charging for continuing education provider approvals.

7. Public Comment

Ellen Maling, Coordinator with the Alaska Health Workforce Coalition, came to the meeting to introduce herself and explain the work done by the coalition. Master level behavioral health clinicians have been identified as a priority occupation for workforce development.

8. Old Business

a. AKMFT Liaison report

Board member Ken McCarty is the Liaison between the AKMFT and the Board. He reported that there are sixty eight members and they were involved in the renewal fee information. They are working on a statute change regarding who can bill Medicaid.

b. Yearly Report/Goals

This was an FYI on what done at previous meeting

c. Regulations change to 12 AAC 19.210

The Board had previously worked on changing the regulations related to supervision. They had wanted an approved supervisor for marital and family therapist licensing to have to be licensed as an MFT for five continuous years. The Division Regulations Specialist, Jun Maiquis, had submitted regulations changes to the Board.

On a motion duly made Father John Downing, seconded by JoAnn Young and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to accept the changes to 12 AAC 19.130(b) and 12 AAC 210(a)(3) as presented by the Regulations Specialist and instruct the Regulations Specialist to public notice the changes.

9. New Business

a. NBCC/Internet Counseling

This is an “FYI” for the Board. They reviewed the National Board for Certified Counselors’ statement of principles for guiding internet counseling (“The Practice of Internet Counseling”).

b. Practice Protection

This was tabled until next meeting, due to time limits.

c. Medicaid Statute

Board Member McCarty reported that the state organization was working on getting a statute passed and he asked that the Board write a letter to support it if it came to the Governor’s desk. There were questions regarding whether or not this is a function of the Board. If the Governor’s Office were to ask for a response, the Board would give it, by working together through the Department by email.

d. AMFTRB Dues

On a motion duly made JoAnn Young, seconded by Father John Downing and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to pay Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards' 2011 membership dues.

10. Correspondence

a. Gelhar – Internship question

Ms. Karla Gelhar asked for clarification regarding education requirements in 08.63.100. She asked if “one year” needs to be completed in four consecutive quarters or if the four quarters of internship may be completed while skipping a quarter in the middle.

The Board discussed whether it would be a calendar year or an academic year, and they determined that the statute was referring to an academic year—a continuous three quarters, not four.

Ms. Gelhar also asked the Board to tell her if her masters degree program meets the requirements for MFT licensure. Board Chair White will review the courses and make a determination for the Board.

b. Gentz

Ms. Gentz had asked if she was attending a large supervision group and her supervisor was there only to supervise her, with a different leader of the group, would this be accepted for the group supervision requirements?

She also asked if she was allowed to use supervision hours both for LPC and MFT.

The Board replied that yes, but only if the supervisor is an approved Marital and Family Therapy Board supervisor and is there only in the context as a supervisor for marital and family therapy. It must be supervising the following:

(5) “practice of marital and family therapy” means the diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders that are referenced in the standard diagnostic nomenclature for marital and family therapy, whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral, within the context of human relationships, particularly marital and family systems; marital and family therapy involves

c. Hood

This was an FYI. The Board read a copy of a letter, written by Dixie Hood, to the governor’s Office regarding the fee increase. A letter thanking her for her support and interest will be written.

d. Tamera Randolph – PC courses to MFT requirements

Ms. Randolph has questions regarding her degree and if it would be accepted by the Board for licensure.

This was assigned to Chair White for her decision for the Board.

e. AMFTRB - FYI

This was information regarding what the AMFTRB is doing and their examination information.

f. Clarke-Frechette – questions on MFT Associate application

Ms. Nicole Clarke-Frechette wrote asking questions regarding applying for a Marital and Family Therapy Associate. She was questioning if she could apply before knowing who would be her supervisor or where she was working.

In reference to Sec. 08.63.110, the Board noted that as long as it is “a clinic, social service agency a clinic, social service agency” it would be accepted, as long as there is an approved MFT supervisor. The supervisor may not have to be on-site, but the agency may have their own requirements/restriction on off-site supervision.

The application cannot be approved before a supervisor is found because of the paperwork and information required for the license.

g. Peterson – correspondence programs

Sharon Patterson, of Western Schools, wrote with questions regarding what continuing education is acceptable for MFTs. She asked for clarification regarding the acceptance of correspondence programs.

She asked if a correspondence program must be offered by a provider who is approved by the American Assoc. or the Alaskan Assoc. for Marital and Family Therapy or if any correspondence program is accepted as long as the content contributes directly to the professional competency of a MFT and is directly related to the skills and knowledge required to implement marital and family therapy principles and methods.

She is referring to:

12 AAC 19.320. APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES. (a) To be accepted by the board, continuing education must contribute directly to the professional competency of a marital and family therapist and must be directly related to the skills and knowledge required to implement marital and family therapy principles and methods.

(b) The following continuing education activities are acceptable if they are related to marital and family therapy in accordance with (a) of this section:

- (1) postgraduate courses given by a regionally accredited academic institution, either audited or for credit;
- (2) courses offered by the American Association for Marital and Family Therapy;
- (3) courses offered by the Alaska Association for Marital and Family Therapy;
- (4) seminars, workshops, or mini-courses offered by professional organizations;
- (5) cross-disciplinary courses, seminars, or workshops in the fields of medicine, law, behavioral sciences, ethics, or other disciplines;
- (6) courses, seminars, or workshops in substance abuse, domestic violence, cross-cultural issues, gender issues, or child abuse;
- (7) other courses not covered under (1)--(6) of this subsection that are specifically preapproved by the board, up to a maximum of 15 contact hours

(Board answers will be available at a later date.)

11. Board Business

The Board will send Larry Severson a letter of appreciation for his work on the Board.

On a motion duly made by Father John Downing, seconded by Kenneth McCarty, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to send Larry Severson a letter of thank you for his work on the Board.

a. Ethics reports

There were no Ethics reports submitted.

b. Task List

All members: timely response to email voting

Pat White: Review letters regarding education coursework

Leon Webber: Write letter regarding CEUs

Ken McCarty: Liaison for AkAMFT

c. Schedule next meeting

July 15, 2011 in Juneau (later changed to Anchorage)

d. Sign meeting minutes

The previous Board meeting minutes will be signed after researching minute tapes and voted on.

e. Travel Authorizations

The travel authorizations were signed.

f. Board travel/conferences

There was discussion regarding sending Leon Webber to the annual meeting of the AMFTRB.

On a motion duly made by Kenneth McCarty, seconded by JoAnn Young, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to send someone to represent the Board to the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards' annual (2011) meeting.

On a motion duly made by Kenneth McCarty, seconded by JoAnn Young, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to adjourn meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.