

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 THE MEETING
Friday, October 23rd, 2015

These are DRAFT minutes prepared by the staff of the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing. These minutes have not been reviewed or approved by the Board.

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 on Friday, October 23rd, 2015 beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the Robert B. Atwood Building, Suite 1560 in Anchorage, Alaska.

Agenda Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call Time: 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Leon Webber at 9:00 a.m.

Board Members Present, constituting a quorum:

Leon Webber, Chair
Father John Downing, Public Member
Linda King, Licensed Marital and Family Therapist,
Kennith McCarty, Licensed Marital and Family Therapist
JoAnn Young, Public Member

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

Laura Carrillo, Licensing Examiner
Martha Hewlett, Administrative Officer
Sonia Lipker, Investigator (*via telephone*)

Present from the Public:

No one from the public was present

Agenda Item 2 Review Agenda

Time: 9:02 a.m.

Mr. Webber prompted the Board to review the agenda and stated that a few items would be added for discussion: a letter from Mercy Dennis to be added to public comment; a response from Attorney, Harriet Milks to be added to agenda #7; a “Report of Contact” form for Board members to report communications with outside parties, i.e.: legislators, media, and the Department of Law. Joann Young commented to the Board that conversion of semester to quarter hours was available for review, to which Ms. Carrillo added that there was a conversion in the MFT statutes and regulations. Ms. Carrillo added that two additional applications were ready to be reviewed under agenda item #6 for Susanne Jenemann and Karla Gelhar, and that a discussion regarding title protection under AS 08.63.220 would be added to agenda item #7. Also to be added to agenda item #7 was discussion on military status applications per AS 08.01.064(a)(c)(e). Mr. McCarty also suggested discussion of a previously approved continuing education course in which the delivery format does not appear to be “live”—this item was added to agenda item #6.

On a motion duly made by Linda King, seconded by Joann Young, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to accept the amended agenda.

Agenda Item 3 Review Minutes

Time: 9:08 a.m.

Hearing nothing further on reviewing the agenda, Mr. Webber moved to discussion on reviewing the minutes from the Board’s July 17th meeting. Mr. Webber provided clarification on the “final thought from the Chair”, in which he meant that while it is expected for Board members to have individual differences, each individual represents the Board in public.

The Board then discussed the subsequent meeting dates, of which the next meeting was scheduled for January 28th, 2016. Mr. Webber commented that he may not be able to attend the meeting due to a conflicting travel schedule.

On a motion duly made by Ken McCarty, seconded by Linda King, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to accept the minutes from the July 15th, 2015 meeting.

Agenda Item 4 Ethics Report

Time: 9:14 a.m.

There were no ethics to report.

Agenda Item 5 Investigative Report

Time: 9:14 a.m.

Sonia Lipker joined the meeting telephonically at 9:14 a.m.

Ms. Lipker joined the room to present the Board's investigative report, which included activity from June 23rd, 2015 through September 30th, 2015. During this period, two matters had opened and one had closed. Linda King inquired to Sonia about the investigative process, which Sonia summarized as having a complaint stage and an investigative stage. The Board then discussed investigation fees in relation to the Board's budget.

Sonia Lipker eft the meeting telephonically at 9:27 a.m.

Agenda Item 6 Board Business

Time: 9:28 a.m.

Applications and CE Review – Hearing nothing further on the investigative report, Mr. Webber prompted the Board to begin discussion of continuing education and license applications. Mr. Webber reminded the Board that Mr. McCarty desired to discuss a previously approved continuing education course that did not seem to adhere to the “live” delivery method. Ms. Carrillo distributed the applications to the Board for review. Mr. McCarty inquired to Ms. Carrillo how a reviewer would be able to decipher whether the course being presented is live or distance, to which Ms. Carrillo stated that there currently is not a checkbox to distinguish the delivery format. Ms. Carrillo commented that she could create a new check sheet for the continuing education application, but understood the Board was still in the process of having this application revised. She further commented that other CE applications ask providers to specify the type of delivery format, and that the Board could discuss similar changes for the revised application.

The Board continued to discuss delivery formats for continuing education. Linda King commented that half of the credits required for renewal can be obtained through non-live formats. Mr. McCarty expressed concern that courses should clearly be indicated as live or not live; the former being considered live if there is an opportunity to interact, and the latter being when the participant is able to participate in a punctuated manner without interacting. Ms. Carrillo suggested that the Board clarify live vs. non-live in “Definitions” under AS 08.63.900. Mr. McCarty disagreed with needing to clarify definitions on the basis that the Board has the authority to preside over matters per their discretion. For example, Mr. McCarty stated that if an unlicensed instructor with historical knowledge wants to present a course, s/he cannot present on historical knowledge alone, but can do so—at the Board's discretion—if accompanied by a licensed co-instructor.

Upon reviewing a CE application, JoAnn Young expressed concern that an instructor is not a licensed marital and family therapist. Ms. Carrillo commented that in the statutes and regulations, instructors aren't required to be licensed.

The Board continued to review the applications, and Ms. Carrillo commented to the Board that some documents may appear to be an informal scanned or faxed version, but that this is because the Division has transitioned to an electronic records system.

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

RESOLVED to approve the course, "Emotionally Focused Therapy 4 Day Externship" submitted by Shawn Marie Carpenter on behalf of the Alaska Marital and Family Therapy Association.

On a motion duly made by Ken McCarty, seconded by Linda King, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the course, "Circle of Life Parenting DVD Training" submitted by Laurie Lopez on behalf of Sprout Family Services.

On a motion duly made by JoAnn Young, seconded by Linda King, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve Greta Gard for licensure as a Marital and Family Therapy Associate.

On a motion duly made by JoAnn Young, seconded by Linda King, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve Curry Long to take the National Marital and Family Therapy Examination .

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

RESOLVED to approve Karla Gelhar for licensure as a Marital and Family Therapist by examination.

On a motion duly made by JoAnn Young, seconded by Linda King, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve Kimberly Daggs to take the National Marital and Family Therapy Examination.

On a motion duly made by Linda King, seconded by JoAnn Young, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve Susan Jenemann for licensure as a Marital and Family Therapy Associate pending administrative confirmation of the Associate Plan for Supervision.

Mr. McCarty then addressed his concern regarding a previously approved course that he does not interpret as live. The concern was that part of the content may be delivered in a “live” format, but may just involve watching a video with no discussion or interaction. Ms. Carrillo commented that for continuing education auditing purposes, if a certificate of completion states that the participant completed the training at a physical location, rather than on a website, it would administratively be perceived as “live”. In other words, live participation occurs when an individual is physically present at the venue in which the course is being presented.

Mr. McCarty opined that attending a course that involves watching a pre-recorded video is not considered live. Mr. Webber commented that even if an hour and a half long course involved a presentation of 15-minute video, it would facilitate understanding and growth in the area, and likely provide an opportunity for discussion amongst participants. Mr. McCarty disagreed, stating that in cases where the video involves the presenter of the course, the course is then not live because the instructor is not physically present. The Board continued to discuss delivery formats of continuing education courses.

Review Goals and Objectives – The Board acknowledged that the Goals and Objectives were included in the recent annual report.

List the board’s FY15 goals and objectives and how they were met:

1. The board will develop a strategy to address the need for distance therapy and distance supervision.

The board contacted the national organization AAMFT, the APA, and different MFT boards nationwide. We had replies from 16 of the 50 State boards we contacted. Along with the responses from other inquires and research we have put together a proposal for legislation of statues and regulations.

2. The BMFT will continue to review statutes and regulations to be consistent with the practice of marital and family therapy.

The Board will continue to recommend other statutes and regulations as needed.

3. The board will continue to review applications of marriage and family therapists by credentials, by examination, for supervisor status and for associates in an established manner. This is a major function of the BMFT meetings.

The board is satisfied with our process of reviewing applications.

4. The board will continue its responsibility to improve the process of approving continuing education, including supervision and continuing education, while maintaining professional standards.

The licensing examiner worked with the board to tweak some parts of the application processes. At this time, the application process is satisfactory.

5. The board will continue to work closely with the investigator assigned at their request. At every meeting, the investigator assigned to this board will give a report on their work related to the BMFT. The board will continue to be updated on the functions of the investigator's office.

The investigator reported at each board meeting.

6. The board will implement brief evaluations after each board meeting.

The Board has been consistent in completing the evaluations. The evaluation form have been reviewed by the Board at its next meeting.

7. The board will continue to work with the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing with the goal to continue to reduce fees as is reasonable to maintain a balanced budget.

The Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing has continued to work with the board to clarify budget needs including building expenses and hopefully reducing fees while maintaining a balanced budget. Meeting in Anchorage instead of traveling to meet in other cities is one of the ways that the Board had helped to reduce its expenses.

8. The board will continue to work with the Governor's office to fill vacant board seats in a timely manner. The board will have an opening in March 2014. The board encourages the Governor's office to reappoint this person or appoint a new member in a timely manner.

The Governor's Office filled two boards' vacancies in March of 2014 in a timely manner. The next vacant seat will occur in March of 2016, as Father John Downing's term will expire. The Board will work with the office of the Governor to fill the vacancy in a timely manner.

9. The BMFT will work to standardize and streamline the process for approval of continuing education while maintaining the integrity of the mission of the board, which is to approve training relevant to the profession in a changing post-modern world.

The Board has been using electronic means to review the continuing education applications so as to be able to deliver the Boards decision in a timely manner.

10. The board will continue collaborative relations with the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing.

The board has continued to collaborate with the Division of Corporation, Business and Professional Licensing, especially with the Licensing Examiner whose assistance has been irreplaceable to the functioning of the board.

11. The board will be a presence and an information source for Legislators and Executive branches of the state government.

A form will be provided to board members to be completed after each contact made with a legislator or legislative office on behalf of the Board. The Board member will submit the completed form to the licensing examiner within three days. This report will be available to the Board upon request and will be included in the following Board meeting. As of the end of FY 2015 our Board has not had to fill this form out.

12. The board will continue to review, research and consider new technological advances as it pertains to therapy, supervision and training.

These issues will be addressed in the coming legislative session, especially with regards to distance supervision and distance therapy.

13. The board will explore the concept of challenges and issues of labor mobility and how MFTs may be affected in Alaska.

The board will be seeking support from the administration and Legislature in changing statutes and regulations to encourage labor mobility for applicants transferring into Alaska prior to receiving licensing.

14. The board will work to introduce changes necessary to require licensing as an MFT associate before acquiring clinical and supervision hours. The board will address the issue of previous experience and labor mobility before this change.

(See #13)

15. The board will research and consider ways of insuring MFT licensees have knowledge of their statutes and regulations. A mail out is an example of one way that the Board can get this knowledge out to its licenses.

During FY 2015, the Board did not do any mail outs due to the regulations project.

16. The board will continue their affiliation and full membership with the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulation Board (AMFTRB). Attendance at the annual meetings is crucial to provide an Alaskan perspective and to stay informed of what is occurring nationwide that will affect Alaska.

The Board sent one representative, Linda King to the AAMFT annual conference in Milwaukee.

17. The board will continue its goals to increase board education to improve its function by sending delegates to national conferences and/or trainings such as the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy's yearly conference, Board Regulator and CLEAR.

The Board sent one representative, Leon Webber to the CLEAR conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

18. The board will continue to review and explore title vigilance.

The board regularly reviews and is open to explore issues relating to title vigilance.

19. The board will be a presence and information source for Legislators and Executive branches of the state government.

The board will continue to represent its mission, goals, and mandates, as it interacts with legislators and executive branches coming legislative session.

List the board's FY16 goals and objectives. Include any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, as well as any resources needed:

Goal 1. The Board of Marital and Family Therapy will develop a strategy to address the need for distance therapy and distance supervision.

Objective 1: Continue to seek input from the National Organization, AAMFT, the APA and various MFT boards.

Objective 2: Continue to work toward the completion of the drafted regulations until the desired outcome is accomplished.

Goal 2. The Board of Marital and Family Therapy will continue to review statutes and regulations to be consistent with the practice of marital and family therapy.

Objective 1: Continue to research and recommend changed to Regulation as needed

Goal 3. The board will continue to review applications of marriage and family therapists by credentials, by examination, for supervisor status and for associates in an established manner.

Objective 1: The Board will work with the licensing Examiner to utilize the secured website so that completed applications can be reviewed and approved in a timely manner.

Goal 4. The board will continue its responsibility to improve the process of approving continuing education, while maintaining professional standards.

Objective 1: The Board will work with the licensing Examiner to utilize the secured website so that completed applications can be reviewed and approved in a timely manner.

Goal 5. The board will continue to work closely with the investigator assigned at their request.

Objective 1: Continue to be updated on the functions of the investigator's office.

Goal 6. The board will implement brief evaluations from each board member at each meeting.

Objective 1: A report will be drafted by Board Secretary Joann Young and presented to the Board at the end of each fiscal year.

Goal 7. The board will continue to work with the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing with the goal to continue to reduce fees as is reasonable to maintain a balanced budget.

Objective 1: Continue to clarify budget needs.

Objective 2: Continue to review expenses at each regular scheduled Board meeting.

Goal 8. The board will continue to work with the Governor's office to fill vacant board seats in a timely manner.

Objective 1: Continue to encourage the Governor's office to reappoint current members or appoint a new member in a timely manner.

Objective 2: Father John Downing's term will expire in March 2016, the Board will assist and encourage the office of the Governor to fill that vacancy as soon as possible.

Goal 9. The board will continue collaborative relations with the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing.

Objective 1: Continue to respond and correspond with the Licensing Examiner in a timely manner with the licensing examiner.

Goal 10. The board will be a presence and information source for Legislators and Executive branches of the state government.

Objective 1: Complete forms provided to board members after each contact made with a legislator or legislative office on behalf of the Board. Return said form to the Licensing Examiner within 3 business days.

Goal 11. The board will continue to review, research and consider new technological advances as it pertains to therapy, supervision and training.

Objective 1: Continue to address these issues during the legislative session.

Objective 2: Seek support, awareness, and endorsements by legislative members and the Governor.

Objective 3: The Board will address changing the terminology of, "face-to-face" to, "real-time".

Goal 12. The board will explore the concept of challenges and issues of labor mobility and how MFTs may be affected in Alaska.

Objective 1: The board will explore the concept of challenges and issues of labor mobility

Goal 13. The board will continue to require licensing as an MFT associate before acquiring clinical and supervision hours.

Objective 1: Continue to address the issue of previous experience and labor mobility before this change.

Objective 2: Continue to review current statutes and regulations and propose changes necessary to match national trends.

Goal 14. The board will research and consider ways of insuring MFT licensees have knowledge of their statutes and regulations.

Objective 1: Send mail outs to licensees to up-date and inform them of current statutes and regulations.

Goal 15. The board will continue their affiliation and full membership with the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulation Board (AMFTRB).

Objective 1: The Board has approved Board member Linda King to attend the AAMFT conference in Sept in Austin TX

Goal 16. The board will continue its goals to increase board education to improve its function by sending delegates to national conferences and/or trainings such as the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy's yearly conference, Board Regulator and CLEAR.

Objective 1: the Board has approved Board member Leon Webber to attend the AMFTRB conference and

Goal 17. The board will continue to review and explore title vigilance

Objective 1: Continue to regularly review and be open to exploring issues relating to title vigilance.

Agenda Item 7 Old Business

Time: 10:31 a.m.

Regulations:

Hearing nothing further on Goals and Objectives, Mr. Webber addressed regulation changes. Ms. Carrillo clarified that the regulation changes intended for discussion were those listed on the tentative agenda, and for which Mr. McCarty and Linda King prepared updates. Ms. Carrillo noted that in terms of feedback from public comment, regulations for license by examination, license by credentials, instructor qualifications, the course approval fee change, the continuing education application and ethics definition changes had positive or no feedback. The regulation changes that did have negative feedback from public comment were license for supervised practice, 12 AAC 19.200 and continuing education requirements, 12 AAC 19.310. It was noted that most of the concerns were provided in writing by Mercy Dennis, but several other licensees expressed the same sentiment towards the said regulations.

Ms. Carrillo asked the Board for a status update of these regulations. Mr. Webber responded that after having recently returned from the regulatory meeting in Boston, he learned that state Boards are prohibited from lobbying for statute change since it's often associations and state entities that are able to connect with legislators and carry bills through. He stated that because the Alaska Board has been having a difficult time accessing legislators, he had spoken with Division Operations Manager, Sara Chambers, about getting assistance with facilitating legislative involvement. Sara Chambers advised that to do so, the Board would have to select a single Board member to work with her on drafting language. Mr. Webber stated that, specifically, teletherapy is a priority statute that needs to get through to the legislators. He further commented that the Board's draft on teletherapy was used by the Texas Board during the regulatory meeting. Mr. McCarty suggested moving this discussion to New Business, to which Mr. Webber agreed.

12 AAC 19.310 – Continuing Education Requirements – The Board moved to discussion on continuing education requirements. Ms. Carrillo commented that if the Board could clarify re-wording and placement of changes, she could send the draft to the Regulations Specialist. As part of a task from the previous meeting, Linda King and Mr. McCarty met to discuss several changes, including continuing education. It was suggested that 12 AAC 19.310(a)(b) and (c) be amended to read:

“At least

- (1) two contact hours in professional ethics;*
- (2) **two** hours in **addictions**;*
- (3) **two** hours in cross cultural education; and*
- (4) two contact hours related to issues of domestic violence”*

Linda King stated that the reasoning behind the suggestion of replacing “substance abuse” with “addictions” is to allow a more broad area of focus, since clients may be in need of help with other addictions, such as sexual addictions or video games.

On a motion duly made by JoAnn Young, seconded by Linda King, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve 12 AAC 19.310 as amended.

12 AAC 19.200 – License for Supervised Practice – The Board moved to discussion on associate licensure. Linda King informed the Board that she and Mr. McCarty discussed amending 12 AAC 19.2009(f) to read:

*“A marital and family therapy associate candidate seeking licensure in this state must attain marital and family associate licensure status prior to accruing hours **in Alaska**. No therapy or counseling may begin **in Alaska** before the applicant is registered and approved.”*

Linda King commented that the logic behind this change was to make the requirements for supervised practice unequivocal; that those who wish to accrue supervision hours must first become a licensed Marital and Family Therapy Associate in Alaska before being licensed as a Marital and Family Therapist.

On a motion duly made by JoAnn Young, seconded by Linda King, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve 12 AAC 19.200 as amended.

Mr. McCarty stated that other jurisdictions don’t create restrictions on associates owning and operating their own business. Mr. McCarty added that he had spoken with licensing examiner, Karl Marx, who stated that the Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners had spent a lot of time defining what a supervisor’s role would be in a clinical setting owned by an associate, where the supervisor must have access to records and the possibility of entering a meeting. The supervisor would do her/his due diligence in

supervising under such circumstances. Mr. McCarty suggested removing the proposed change to 12 AAC 19.200(c), which reads:

“A holder of a license for the supervised practice of marital and family therapy may practice under supervision in a clinic, social service agency, or private marital and family therapy practice. No holder of a license for supervised practice may own or operate a private practice for marital and family therapy services

On a motion duly made by Linda King, seconded by Ken McCarty, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve 12 AAC 19.200(c) as amended.

Statutes:

AS 08.63.220 - License required if designations used – Mr. McCarty then brought to the Board’s attention the occurrence of individuals who are using the designation, “MFT”, which he believes to be a violation of this statute, and consequently is a class B misdemeanor. Ms. Carrillo disagreed because the statute specifically states that an individual cannot indicate or imply that they are licensed, which, by using “MFT” rather than “LMFT” doesn’t seem to imply licensure. Mr. Webber added that in his understanding, an individual who is not licensed as a marital and family therapist can say that they practice marital and family therapy, but that they can’t call themselves and Marital and Family Therapist. Ms. Carrillo commented that she had spoken with licensing supervisor, Dawn Hannasch about designations, and that it didn’t appear that using “MFT” is a violation, so long as the individual is not using the key word, “licensed”. Mr. McCarty disagreed and stated that using “MFT” is still misleading. Ms. Carrillo agreed that it may be misleading, but may not be a violation. Mr. McCarty stated that the big picture is protecting the title of Marital and Family Therapists.

Agenda Item 8 Budget Report/Division Updates Time: 11:20 a.m.

Janey Hovenden, Division Director, and Administrative Officer, Martha Hewlett Joined the room telephonically at 11:20 a.m.

Sara Chambers, Division Operations Manager joined the room telephonically at 11:26 a.m.

Ms. Carrillo distributed the FY15 Year-End reports that Sonia Lipker brought to the meeting. Martha Hewlett discussed direct and indirect expenditures, travel procedures, mileage and per diem, as well as a collocation code breakdown of expenses. Ms. Hewlett also added that the Board sees an increase in revenues during renewal years. Mr. McCarty asked about the current number of licensees, as he was concerned that this number has decreased,

causing the Board's budget to be negatively impacted. Division Operations Manager, Sara Chambers responded to the Board with the license count for FY15 at 119 licensees, which is 13 more than in FY14 (12% increase). Mr. McCarty then addressed fees. Director, Janey Hovenden stated that the Board will be up for fee analysis within the next 6 months, and that Ms. Chambers created a tool to analyze fees. Ms. Chambers stated that improvements in fee analysis should bring more clarity to the Board's budget situation. Ms. Chambers also added that increasing fees isn't necessarily a reflection of annual expenses but may be an effort to relieve debt.

Mr. Webber than asked Ms. Chambers if she could speak to the difficulty in proceeding with statutory changes; Mr. Webber learned while in Boston that it is considered illegal in some states for Boards to contact legislators to lobby for statute changes. Ms. Chambers recognizes the challenge in initiating contact with legislators to have bills sponsored for statutory changes, and offered to assist with this process. Mr. Webber referenced a letter sent by Ms. Chambers, in which it was recommended that the Board appoint a member to work with her to maneuver around the political process. Mr. Webber asked Ms. Chambers if it would be ideal to have two Board members work with her rather than one, to Ms. Chambers stated she agreed, so long as the Board clearly appoints the participating members on record.

Janey Hovenden, Sara Chambers, and Martha Hewlett left the room telephonically at 11:48 a.m.

Agenda Item 7 Old Business

Time: 11:49 a.m.

Quarter-Semester Conversion – Hearing nothing further on the budge report, the Board resumed discussion on Old Business. Ken McCarty addressed the need for a conversion table for quarter to semester hours. Ms. Carrillo stated that this conversion was in the statutes under AS 08.63.100. Ms. King added that the semester conversion was under B of the said statute. The need for converting hours arose from an applicant who had both semester and quarter hours, where the Board was unsure as to how to convert the hours. JoAnn Young did some research and was able to obtain a conversion table from Pacific University:

Converting Semester hours to Quarter Hours (multiply semester hours by 1.5 to obtain quarter hours)

- 1 semester hour = 1.5 quarter hours
- 2 semester hours = 3.0 quarter hours
- 3 semester hours = 4.5 quarter hours
- 4 semester hours = 6.0 quarter hours
- 5 semester hours = 7.5 quarter hours

The Board clarified that they wanted to make sure that Ms. Carrillo or another examiner is making sure that the applicant has the minimum required education, especially if they attend a mixture of semester and quarter hours, or just quarter hours.

Portability for Military Spouses – Hearing nothing further on converting quarter hours to semester hours, Mr. McCarty addressed portability for military spouses. Mr. McCarty suggested that if an associate is being transferred to an Alaska military base, their current (out-of-state) supervisor should be allowed to apply as an Alaska-approved supervisor so that the associate can continue accruing hours. Mr. McCarty further stated that he had been in contact with Harriet Milks from the Department of Law, who will be looking further into this situation. Ms. Carrillo pointed to the military courtesy license handout, AS 08.01.63, which allows Boards to adopt regulations pertaining to military-type applications. It was noted that the application serves more so as an expedited application rather than creating exceptions for military spouses. Mr. Webber reiterated that all requirements must be met as if applying under regular circumstances. Ms. Carrillo also pointed to the hand out in which Ms. Milks states that 08.01.64 allows the board to adopt regulations that gives service members some leniency for licensure, such as accepting outside training so long as the requirements are similar.

The Board discussed whether this change would be incorporated into the regulation pertaining to associate licensure, or into the regulation pertaining to supervisors. Linda King stated that portability would fit under supervised practice. The Board continued to discuss portability, and recognized that this is a nation-wide challenge.

Agenda Item 9 Lunch Break

Time: 12:08 p.m.

Chair, Leon Webber called for lunch at 12:08 p.m.

Off Record at 12:08 p.m.

On Record at 1:02 p.m.

Agenda Item 10 New Business

Time: 1:02 p.m.

Update on AAMFT– Linda King informed the Board that the business meeting received more attendees than ever before with 300 people. She also stated that this was the first time in history that the AAMFT was unable to pass their bylaws and that their membership was down by 101. The AAMFT noted a 50% increase in student retention, or an increase in students moving onto the level of fellow Ms. King also noted that there's a new bill for Medicare inclusion, HR 2959, 1630, and that the organization is developing an advocacy Family Team concept for a more intensive hill visit in September. Other updates provided

by Ms. King included that the VA will maintain its requirement that MFT's must have graduated from a COAMFT school to qualify for employment; AAMFT is launching a handbook with an emphasis on professionalism and brand recognition that is projected to be complete by 2019; there is development of a Marital and Family Therapy Glossary; there will Leadership Symposium in Sante Fe during March 3-5th, 2016; 11% increase in COAMFT programs, average age of person attending conference went from 43 to 40 within the last year, and that there's a book on the history of AAMFT 75th anniversary.

Working Committee Update: Teletherapy/Telesupervision – Mr. Webber addressed the updates from the AMFTRB trip to Boston. Mr. Webber stated that the Marital and Family Therapy profession is an “aging” profession, meaning the majority of professionals are older. Mr. Webber briefly discussed some of the challenges of older generations in regards to new technology.

Mr. Webber then discussed teletherapy and telesupervision. He noted to the Board that the teletherapy model draft was utilized at the meeting and also reiterated the challenges addressed earlier under agendas #7. Mr. Webber commented that he is one of the members for the national telehealth committee and that rural services is an issue not only in Alaska, but in other states as well.

Review applications – Ms. Carrillo commented that a verification of approved clinical contact hours form was posted on the Board's website.

Update on AKAMFT – Mr. McCarty stated that the AKAMFT had a Board meeting on October 16th, in which two members of the public were present. Mr. McCarty then addressed continuing education opportunities and formats, stating that the AKAMFT purchased new camera equipment so that instructors can go to rural areas and record a “live” session; individuals who wish to participate in this live session would have the ability to interact and receive live continuing education credit. Mr. McCarty also stated that the sessions could be recorded, such that participants could receive non-live continuing education credit.

Mr. McCarty also addressed a hand-out that is distributed to several agencies, such as court houses, domestic violence agencies, offices, etc., which promotes AKAMFT services without promoting individual LMFT's. Mr. McCarty also stated that the AKAMFT now has a website that shows a LMFT location map so that the public can view who is available to provide services throughout Alaska. Inclusion into this resource is voluntary. Mr. McCarty also addressed the ability for behavioral health professions being able to diagnose, as the Texas Psychology Board believes that MFT's should not be diagnosing. Speaking as the president of the AKAMFT, Mr. McCarty encouraged the Board to look at making this clear

within their statutes/regulations. Mr. Webber stated that Alaska MFT's are able to diagnose, and that it is clearly written in the statutes.

Mr. Webber prompted the Board to make a motion to appoint a Board member to work with Sara Chambers for getting statutory changes through to legislators. Mr. Webber stated that he would only be discussion teletherapy. Mr. McCarty expressed concern that legislators like to see clumping of statutory projects, and that introducing a change to one specific regulation may not be favorable. As such, Mr. McCarty suggested adding Title 47 to discussion with Ms. Chambers. While Mr. Webber agreed that this is important for the profession, the sunset audit specifically notes that the Board must incorporate telehealth/teletherapy. Mr. Webber stated he will ask Ms. Chambers for her advice as to whether introducing multiple statutory changes to the attention of the legislators would be feasible.

On a motion duly made by Linda King, seconded by JoAnn Young, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve Mr. Webber as the representative to meet with Sara Chambers for the purpose of discussing telehealth, and to facilitate legislative involvement.

Mr. McCarty believes that it is the favor of the Board to advance the profession, and it is the responsibility of the Board to introduce bills to legislation. Mr. McCarty's understanding is that Ms. Chamber's role is as an advisor. The Board continued to discuss whether other topics, aside from telehealth, could be presented to Sara Chambers and subsequently presented to legislators.

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

RESOLVED to approve all discussion items previously agreed upon by the Board as statute changes be brought forward to legislators.

On a motion duly made by JoAnn Young, seconded by Linda King, and approved unanimously, it was:

RESOLVED to approve Ken McCarty as the second Board representative to meet with Leon Webber and Sara Chambers to discuss the statutory changes approved to be brought through legislation.

TASK:

Leon Webber and Ken McCarty will meet with Sara Chambers to discuss statutory changes and legislative contact.

TASK:

Ken McCarty and Laura Carrillo will locate previously written demonstrating the Board's intent to go through with a specific statutory change.

TASK:

Laura Carrillo will forward the letters to Leon Webber.

TASK:

Leon Webber will revise the letters pertaining to statutory changes.

Agenda Item 11 Public Comment

Time: 2:09 p.m.

No one was present for public comment.

Agenda Item 12 Correspondence

Time: 2:09 p.m.

Ms. Carrillo informed the Board that an article regarding training in effective couple's therapy was received. The Board chose not to act upon this piece of correspondence.

Agenda Item 13 Administrative Business

Time: 2:10 p.m.

Review Annual Report – The Board acknowledged the recent annual report but did not discuss it.

Board Task List – The Board reviewed tasks from the previous meeting. Mr. McCarty inquired about a template for documenting supervision hours, and stated that he had sent the document multiple times to the Division. Mr. McCarty was unsure of whom he sent the document to, so Mr. Webber suggested sending it to Ms. Carrillo.

Mr. McCarty asked Ms. Carrillo to send a brief response indicating receipt of correspondence, to which Ms. Carrillo stated that the Board had discussed and approved a mail protocol back in January. Ms. Carrillo commented she would adhere to this protocol.

TASK:

Ken McCarty will send the template for supervision hours to Ms. Carrillo.

TA's/Receipts – The Board commented they would be sending Ms. Carrillo their receipts.

Board Evaluations –The Board completed their evaluations.

Meeting Dates – Ms. Carrillo asked the Board if they wanted to set subsequent meeting dates after their January 28th, 2016 meeting.

On a motion duly made by Leon Webber, seconded by Ken McCarty and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to set a meeting date for April 22nd, 2016 in Anchorage

Ms. Carrillo informed the Board that they have the option to set teleconference meetings as opposed to in-person meetings, which could help save on costs. Mr. McCarty referred to the teleconference call-in number, which he understood to be a secure line assigned to the State of Alaska. Mr. McCarty inquired to Ms. Carrillo how Board members would be able to participate in the teleconference meeting if, for example, they were out of state. Ms. Carrillo clarified that the Board member would call the same teleconference phone number.

Agenda Item 14 Adjourn

Time: 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Carrillo, Examiner Date

Leon Webber, Chair Date