

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, June 10th, 2016

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, June 10th, 2016 beginning at 9:09 a.m. The meeting was held at the State Office Building, 333 Willoughby Ave, 9th Floor, Conference Room D in Juneau, Alaska.

Agenda Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Leon Webber at 9:09 a.m.

Board Members Present, constituting a quorum:

Leon Webber, Chairman, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
Linda King, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
JoAnn Young, Public Member
Dorothea Aguero, Public Member

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

Laura Carrillo, Licensing Examiner

Present from the Public:

No one from the public was present.

Agenda Item 2 Review Agenda

Time: 9:10 a.m.

The Board reviewed the agenda, which included one main item: discussing implementation of AMFTRB teletherapy guidelines.

On a motion duly made by Linda King, seconded by Dorothea Agüero, and approved unanimously, it was

RESOLVED to accept the agenda as written.

Agenda Item 3 Ethics Report

Time: 9:10 a.m.

There were no ethics disclosures to report.

Agenda Item 4 Implementation of Teletherapy Guideline

Time: 9:11 a.m.

Linda King left the room at 9:28 a.m., however, a quorum was still present for the purpose of voting.

Hearing nothing further on ethics, Chair, Mr. Webber moved to discussion on the implementation of the AMFTRB teletherapy guidelines. At its last meeting on April 22nd, 2016, the Board resolved to approve the guidelines following the passing of SB74, however, the way in which they were to be implemented was not straight forward. The purpose of this teleconference was to clarify for the record how said guidelines would be implemented.

The Board was presented with several options, including to write new or amend existing regulations for the adopted teletherapy guidelines, or to incorporate them by reference following the model of the Alaska Pharmacy Board. The Board reviewed the Pharmacy statutes and regulations provided in the Board packet, as this method of incorporation appeared to be the most efficient option; the Board had previously tasked Ms. Carrillo to look into the most efficient route of implementation. Ms. Carrillo directed the Board to a Pharmacy-specific example, commenting that they (the Pharmacy Board) had incorporated several rules by creating succinct, supportive regulations while citing its statutory authority. Ms. Carrillo commented that the Board would similarly need to provide a regulation that would confer enforceability to a licensee's requirement to adhere to the teletherapy guidelines. Ms. Carrillo also reiterated hers and Division Operations Manager, Sara Chambers' advisement that the guidelines would need to be specific to Alaska, to which Mr. Webber stated that the guidelines were designed to be adopted by other jurisdictions. Following some deliberation, Mr. Webber proposed tabling the discussion for another teleconference, as it was suggested to do more research. Ms. Agüero expressed receptivity in resolving the issue at this current teleconference opportunity and reiterated the suggestion that the Board set out language similar to the Board of Pharmacy, which would involve establishing a regulation supporting the guidelines, with the guidelines including verbiage

referencing back to the authorizing regulation. The Board then continued to discuss the Pharmacy example and established MFT-specific wording as it pertained to teletherapy.

Mr. Webber commented that the adopted teletherapy guidelines would take effect following approval of this current regulation project, with the exception of the continuing education provisions, which is intended to be enforced for the subsequent renewal period, 2019-2020.

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On a motion duly made by Dorothea Aguero, seconded by JoAnn Young and approved by Mr. Webber to establish a quorum, it was

RESOLVED to add a new section to 12 AAC 19 for General Guidelines for Teletherapy to say, "A person that is required to be licensed by AS 08.63 and who has a license under AS 08.63 and this chapter shall adhere to the guidelines on teletherapy established by the Board in the section titled, "Teletherapy Guidelines for Marital and Family Therapists," dated April 22nd, 2008, and incorporated by reference in this section."

Ms. Carrillo reiterated again to the Board that the effective date of April 22nd, 2016 would need to be the date the Board adopted the guidelines as specific to Alaska. The Board expressed that using the April 22nd, 2016 date would suffice.

TASK:

Ms. Carrillo will send the draft minutes with the motion on teletherapy guidelines to the regulations specialist following the meeting.

Agenda Item 14 Adjourn

Time: 9:36 a.m.

The Board had no further business to discuss. The meeting adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Carrillo 08.16.16
Laura Carrillo, Examiner

Leon Webber 08.01.16
Leon Webber, Chair Date