

1 STATE OF ALASKA  
2 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
3 DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING  
4 BOARD OF MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPY

5  
6 MINUTES OF VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING  
7 September 20, 2021  
8

9 By the authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provision of AS 44.62, Article 6, a  
10 scheduled meeting of the Board of Marital and Family Therapy was held September 20, 2021 at State  
11 Office Bldg., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room C, Juneau, AK.  
12

13  
14 **Item 1. Call to Order/Roll Call**  
15

16 The meeting of the Board of Marital and Family Therapy was called to order by Noah Shields, Chair at  
17 9:04 a.m. Members present were:  
18

19 **Board Members Present, constituting a Quorum:**  
20

21 Noah Shields, Marital and Family Therapist, Professional Counselor, Chair  
22 Richard Clampitt, Marital and Family Therapist, Professional Counselor  
23 Joy Collins, Marital and Family Therapist  
24 Kayla Green, Public Member  
25

26 **Excused from the meeting**  
27

28 Tristian Monterastelli, Public Member  
29

30 **Division Staff present were:**  
31

32 Lacey Derr, Records & Licensing Supervisor  
33 Sara Chambers, Director  
34 Josh Hardy, Investigator  
35

36 **Members of the Public Present:**  
37

38 Greta Gard, Marital and Family Therapist applicant  
39

40 **Item 2. Review/Amend Agenda**  
41

42 The board reviewed the agenda.  
43

44 **On motion duly made by Kayla Green, seconded by Joy Collins, and approved by**  
45 **majority consent, it was Resolved to approve the agenda as presented.**  
46

47 **Item 3. Ethics Report**  
48

49 No ethics disclosures.  
50

51 **Item 4. Applications/Tabled Applications**  
52

53 Supervisor Lacey Derr informed the board there was one tabled 2021- 2022 renewal application for  
54 consideration and the applicant was online. Supervisor Derr stated the board was ready to move into  
executive session to discuss the application; applicant Greta Gard had the option to request the board

55 discuss on the application on the record with her present or the board could continue into executive  
56 session to discuss, then come back on the record with their decision.

57

58 Greta Gard stated she would like the board to discuss the renewal application on the record. Supervisor  
59 Derr thanked Ms. Gard.

60

61 Supervisor Derr informed the board they would be reviewing the Continuing Education (CE) component  
62 of the 2021 – 2022 renewal which had been tabled through the OnBoard review process. Supervisor  
63 Derr stated the renewal application had been received May 25, 2021 and was short of the 45 required  
64 CE hours which were to be completed during the concluding licensing period.

65

66 Ms. Gard asked if she could address the board. Supervisor Derr stated Ms. Gard would need to hold  
67 questions and comments until the board asked her a direct question.

68

69 Chair Noah Shields stated during the previous review of the CE he noted hours were missing, however  
70 the board needed to decide what would be appropriate for Ms. Gard to make up missing CE hours.

71

72 The board briefly discussed regulation 12 AAC 19.343, specifically 19.343(c) and if this met the  
73 requirements for reasonable cause. Chair Shields stated a request for exemption must be submitted in  
74 writing and provide an explanation of the reasonable cause or excusable neglect that resulted in late  
75 renewal and not completing required CE's. Chair Shields continued to state that the board needed to  
76 determine if the submitted reasonable cause statement would be accepted and then the board must  
77 prescribe an alternative method of complying with CE requirements.

78

79 The board reviewed CE documentation submitted with the renewal application, supplemental CE  
80 documentation received August 5, 2021, and the hardship letter. Supervisor Derr stated the board  
81 should start with CEs completed during the concluding licensing period then move onto CEs completed  
82 outside that licensing period.

83

84 The board was concerned with the lack of training beginning 2018 to the present. The board agreed  
85 that 43 hours of CE would be required to meet the reinstatement requirements of regulation 12 AAC  
86 19.310 based on the license lapse date of December 31, 2018.

87

88 Supervisor Derr informed the board they now had the option to keep the application tabled until CE  
89 requirements were fulfilled for the date January 1, 2019 – the current date. Supervisor Derr stated she  
90 would re-review the submitted CEs and based on this discussion create a matrix which would detail  
91 what CE requirements had been met and which requirements still had to be completed for  
92 reinstatement. Supervisor Derr went on to state that the matrix would include CE requirements for the  
93 2022 renewal cycle; once completed the documentation would be loaded to OnBoard for consideration.

94

95 The board briefly discussed in-person CE requirements. Supervisor Derr informed the board that their  
96 current statutes/regulations did not address in-person CE requirements so online CE had to be accepted  
97 per emergency order Senate Bill 241 which addressed programs renewing December 2020 with CE  
98 requirements. The board agreed to discuss in-person CE requirements and the impacts of COVID-19 in-  
99 person restrictions at a later date.

100 The board asked Supervisor Derr if another motion was needed to keep this application tabled.  
101 Supervisor Derr sated no additional motion was needed

102  
103 The board noted they were ahead of schedule and decided to move onto Item 6 while waiting on  
104 Director Sara Chambers to join the meeting.

105  
106 **Item 6. Emergency Courtesy License**

- 107  
108 • Discussion & Updates

109  
110 Supervisor Derr provided an update and background of current emergency courtesy licenses the board  
111 has been issuing. Supervisor Derr informed the board updated information from the Alaska State  
112 Hospital and Nursing Home Association (ASHNA) had been received; this information was created in  
113 conjunction with the National Hospital Association (AHA) and provides a comprehensive list of  
114 outstanding professions that have employment vacancies; the list reflects the largest need is for social  
115 workers. Supervisor Derr informed the board that ASHNA and AHA had coordinated with the Federal  
116 Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and are working with social workers outside of Alaska to allow  
117 telemedicine services for Alaskans.

118  
119 Supervisor Derr reviewed the emergency courtesy license process that The Board of Social Work  
120 Examiners had done and cautioned the board against not including fees for this license type. Supervisor  
121 Derr informed the board that the emergency courtesy license application process is not as thorough as  
122 the full licensure process but does provide a basic snapshot of the applicants working and license  
123 history. Supervisor Derr stated that the Board of Social Work Examiners are seeing many courtesy  
124 license holders moving forward with full licensure. Supervisor Derr also informed the board, there are  
125 tiered licenses for licensed professional counselors in other jurisdictions which Alaska does not  
126 recognize as they are not full licenses as supervision by a fully licensed individual is required.

127  
128 Supervisor Derr stated she did believe the creation of an emergency courtesy license wouldn't increase  
129 fees but may assist the board in generating revenue; however due to the current deficit, the board was  
130 not looking at lowering license fees anytime soon.

131  
132 Supervisor Derr asked the board to discuss what they thought about emergency courtesy licenses,  
133 taking into consideration patient needs, available licensees, and if any board members work in an  
134 institutionalized setting, how, is that institution doing. Supervisor Derr continued, are you or institutions  
135 struggling, are there co-workers available to provide services, and/or are you/they in need of help with  
136 client caseloads.

137  
138 Supervisor Derr stated the social work examiners emergency courtesy license goes into effect today and  
139 will run for 90-days; Supervisor Derr informed the board that the division anticipates additional  
140 correspondence for this program regarding the availability of an emergency courtesy license; this  
141 discussion will assist in responding to those inquiries.

142  
143 The board briefly discussed emergency courtesy licenses and agreed that this profession doesn't have  
144 the vacancies that other health and mental health programs are currently having. The board briefly  
145 discussed their individual offices and agreed their current and incoming clients were receiving timely  
146 services and if necessary, clients that needed a referral were also receiving timely services.

147  
148 The board agreed there was no need to enact an emergency courtesy license, however, they would keep  
149 this on their radar, if this situation needed to be readdressed, the board would re-consider at that time.

150 Supervisor Derr thanked the board and stated she would also keep this on her radar, however if the  
151 Governor's office reached out requesting the board consider an emergency license, she would contact  
152 the board.

153

154

#### **Item 5. Military Licensing**

155

156 Supervisor Derr stated before Director Sara Chambers joined them for this discussion, she would  
157 provide some background. Supervisor Derr informed the board Senate Bill (SB) 21, Military Licensing,  
158 had been passed and would go into effect January 1, 2022 and there would be no fiscal note attached to  
159 any regulation changes so there would be no additional costs for licensees; the division is requesting  
160 boards review the provided documentation and begin discussions. Supervisor Derr stated that starting  
161 the drafting process would allow the division and other programs the opportunity to share what may or  
162 may not be working for other programs so by the time verbiage is ready for public noticing, most issues  
163 would have already been dealt with and there would have been time for any scheduled or special  
164 meeting to have occurred giving the board opportunity for discussion and editing.

165

166 The board briefly discussed their January 31, 2022 meeting and agreed they would prefer an in-person  
167 meeting in Juneau which would give board members the opportunity to meet with legislators, etc., for  
168 statutory changes/bill submissions. Supervisor Derr stated that was great, however if the division  
169 requested any additional meetings to discuss military licensing, they could occur prior to the January 31,  
170 2022 meeting.

171

172 Supervisor Derr stated that this military licensing will allow spouses to obtain licensure quicker and  
173 would offer a temporary licensure option while waiting to complete full licensure application processes.  
174 Supervisor Derr informed the board as they have already worked on temporary licensure issues, they  
175 could base a temporary military license on those previous processes and suggested they review other  
176 state's requirements as starting point or to see what other state programs are requiring; for example,  
177 some states are requiring a full license application be submitted with the temporary license/permit  
178 request.

179

180 The board decided to take a quick break as they were still ahead of schedule.

181

182 *Recess The Board recessed at 9:47 a.m. for a short break; reconvened at 9:57 a.m.*

183

184 Director Sara Chambers greeted the board, introduced herself, and thanked them for their time.

185

186 Director Chambers provided a brief overview and summary of the divisions military licensing process as  
187 required by Senate Bill 21; Director Chambers encouraged the board to begin discussions and drafting  
188 verbiage for regulatory changes as the effective date of the new requirements will be January 1, 2022.

189

190 Chair Shields asked how much substantial equivalency language the board would need to set as in many  
191 cases this information is not known until an application is received.

192

193 Director Chambers stated this would need to be discussed as part of the regulation drafting process and  
194 may need additional discussion which the board may want to create a subcommittee for; the  
195 subcommittee could draft up verbiage and present to the board for further discussion and fine tuning.  
196 Director Chambers stated one of the new Military Licensing requirements was once a complete  
197 application is received, the license must be issued or denied within 30-days.

198

199 Director Chambers suggested the board consider a temporary license for these applicants which would  
200 allow them to work while waiting to complete their application packet and for the board to consider the  
201 application.

202 Joy Collins stated she felt this would be more of a case by case basis when processing an application as  
203 there are many differences between states licensing requirements.

204  
205 Director Chambers urged the board to consider substantially equivalent options for applicants as if an  
206 applicant did meet or exceed substantial equivalents for an Alaska license, a temporary or full license  
207 must be issued. Director Chambers continued the new Military Licensing statutes require a temporary  
208 license option.

209  
210 The board and Director Chambers continued to review the provided overview and military licensing  
211 statute information. Director Chambers suggested the board review regulation 12 AAC 02.957 and  
212 other boarded programs temporary license regulations to use as a starting place for creating their own  
213 temporary license requirements.

214  
215 Richard Clampitt asked if the board could offer a temporary license and a time frame of six months to  
216 meet any Alaska requirements that had not been met.

217  
218 Director Chambers stated that the new statute 08.01.063 states a temporary license must be issued  
219 within 30-days if an applicant meets substantially equivalent requirements and the temporary license is  
220 valid for 180-days unless extended at the board's discretion, the license may be extended for an  
221 additional 180-days. Director Chambers cautioned the board as this current pandemic may cause  
222 additional closures; the board may want to take that into consideration if additional training/education  
223 is required to be completed by applicants.

224  
225 Director Chambers thanked the board for their volunteer service as board members, time, and  
226 commitment to their profession. Director Chambers recommended a point person be assigned for this  
227 project to liaise with division in the event there were any questions or clarification needed; this person  
228 could provide the board updates, summaries of conversations or meetings, and provide the board with  
229 those details during a scheduled meeting.

230  
231 Chair Shields asked if there were any restrictions in place for this type of applicant. Director Chambers  
232 stated the restrictions are the applicant had to be an active duty member of the armed forces of the  
233 United States or the spouse of an active duty member, living with and/or married to; which must be  
234 documented using the Request for Expedited Temporary Application documentation packet which  
235 would be submitted with an application for licensure.

236  
237 Mr. Clampitt stated he was concerned and agreed with Chair Shields; that there may be individuals who  
238 are deployed to Alaska; however, the spouse may not join them in Alaska or if the active duty individual  
239 is deployed out of Alaska, the spouse may return to their original home base outside of Alaska but may  
240 continue to provide services in Alaska which may cause problems.

241  
242 Director Chambers responded there may be applicants who are proactive and begin licensure process  
243 prior to arriving in Alaska and encouraged the board to consider this as well when drafting verbiage.  
244 Director Chambers assured the board she would be working with the division is offering support with  
245 additional staff members who will be dedicated to working on military licensing processes with boards.

246  
247 Director Chambers thanked the board for their time and participation.

248  
249 Chair Shields asked the board if they were interested in forming a subcommittee to begin this project.

250  
251 Supervisor Derr informed the board that their substantial equivalency may want to include supervised  
252 work. Supervisor Derr stated many jurisdictions require 2,000 hours of training whereas Alaska required  
253 3,000; would the board consider if an applicant has completed 2500 hours would the board accept that  
254 as it is middle ground or would they possibly consider 2500 hours. Supervisor Derr went on to state  
255 some programs do not allow foreign trained applicants, however with military families, foreign training

256 is more prevalent which the board may need to also consider. Supervisor stated if the board would like  
257 she could send them all the drafted psychology boards regulatory language that reflected military  
258 license verbiage; the board could use that as a starting point and fill in gaps and edit what wouldn't work  
259 for their program.

260  
261 Mr. Clampitt volunteered to begin this project and stated he would attempt to find middle ground and  
262 simplify as much as possible.

263  
264 The board briefly discussed scheduling a meeting to review drafted language prior to the January 1,  
265 2022 effective date.

266  
267 *Recess The Board recessed at 10:37 a.m. for a short break; reconvened at 10:45 a.m.*

268  
269 **Item 8. Investigations Report**

270  
271 Supervisor Derr thanked Investigator Josh Hardy for joining the meeting early. Investigator Josh Hardy  
272 greeted the board and introduced himself.

273  
274 Investigator Hardy reviewed the Investigative Report with the board and reported for the period of April  
275 20, 2021 – September 3, 2021 there were three open cases and one case had been closed.

276  
277 The board had no questions for Investigator Hardy so moved into executive session.

278  
279 **On a motion duly made by Richard Clampitt, seconded by Kayla Green, and approved**  
280 **unanimously by majority present, it was RESOLVED to enter Executive Session under the**  
281 **authority of AS 44.62.310(C)(3) and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for**  
282 **the purpose of discussing matters by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required**  
283 **to be confidential with staff to remain in session.**

284  
285 Board entered executive session at 10:47 a.m. and returned from executive session at 11:11 a.m.

286  
287 **On a motion duly made by Richard Clampitt, seconded by Kayla Green, and approved by**  
288 **roll call vote, it was resolved to adopt the consent agreement for case 2019-001272-,**  
289 **Laura E. Patin as written.**

290  
291 The board thanked Investigator Hardy for his time.

292  
293 The board noted public comment was due to begin in 15 minutes, as they were ahead of schedule, they  
294 moved onto Item 10.

295  
296 **Item 10. Correspondence**

297  
298 The board reviewed the correspondence item from Hazel Cherry, Research Assistant to Emily Robinson,  
299 LMFT and doctoral candidate at Ohio University.

300  
301 The board discussed the Listserv option and requested a preview of the survey for review.

302  
303 Supervisor Derr stated she would reach out to Hazel Cherry to request a copy of the survey; once  
304 received she would email the information to board members.

305  
306 Supervisor Derr informed the board they were ahead of schedule; at this time there was no one online  
307 for public comment. Supervisor Derr stated the board could move onto another item but would need to  
308 table any discussion if someone came online for public comment.

310 Joy Collins asked why their license fees were so high. Supervisor Derr informed the board that costs  
311 were based on the number of licensees and board/program costs; for example, if there were any large  
312 investigative unit costs, those costs if audit results reflected deficiencies, were put on the licensees in  
313 the form of increased license fees. Supervisor Derr informed the board that boards must be self-  
314 sufficient, and costs generated by the program came from license fees.

315  
316 Supervisor Derr and the board reviewed their most recent revenue/expenditure report.

317  
318 Ms. Collins stated she thought fines, etc., would be paid by the licensee's malpractice insurance. The  
319 board briefly discussed licensee costs. Supervisor Derr stated the board may want to consider adding  
320 this discussion to their next meeting.

321  
322 The board and Supervisor Derr briefly discussed a compact or super board which would consist of similar  
323 license types; combining several smaller related programs may alleviate licensee costs. Supervisor Derr  
324 stated if this was something this board wanted further discussion on, she would assist in facilitating  
325 discussions with Director Chambers. Supervisor Derr informed the board that if they were interested in  
326 combining with a similar program or had any other needs that needed to be addressed through the  
327 legislative process, they could create some talking points for the upcoming session.

328  
329 The board briefly discussed combing programs.

330  
331 The board briefly discussed creating a disciplinary matrix for investigative purposes.

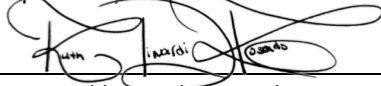
332  
333 **Item 9. Public Comment**

334  
335 No participants online.

336  
337 Chair Shields asked if there was any additional business the board would like to discuss. Hearing none,  
338 the meeting adjourned.

339  
340  
341 *The Board adjourned at 11:33 a.m.*

342  
343 Respectfully submitted:

344   
345 \_\_\_\_\_  
346 Reviewed by Ruth Dinardi  
347 Licensing Examiner

348  
349 Approved: DocuSigned by:  
350 **Noah Shields**  
351 \_\_\_\_\_  
352 Noah Shields, MFT, Chairperson  
353 Board of Marital and Family Therapy

354  
355 Date: 1/26/2023  
356