

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2020

ALASKA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS



**Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development**

**Division of Corporations, Business
and Professional Licensing**

This annual performance report is presented in accordance with
Alaska statute AS 08.01.070(10).

Its purpose is to report the accomplishments, activities, and the
past and present needs of the licensing program.

**ALASKA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
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**ALASKA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
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Identification of the Board

Board Member	Duty Station	Date Appointed	Term Expires
Debra Hamilton Board Chair	Soldotna	Mar 01, 2013	Mar 01, 2021
Kyle Cardwell Vice Chair	Anchorage	Dec 1, 2017	Mar 01, 2021 <i>(resigned Sept. 2019)</i>
Janece Richard Professional Counselor	Anchorage	Mar 01, 2018	Mar 01, 2022
Alice Baum Professional Counselor	Anchorage	Mar 01, 2018	Mar 01, 2022
Laura Patin Professional Counselor	Eagle River	Mar 01, 2020	Mar 01, 2024
Eleanor Vinson Public Member	Juneau	Mar 01, 2018	Mar 01, 2020

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Identification of Staff

Andy Khmelev – Licensing Examiner & Acting Records and Licensing Supervisor

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Post Office Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
(907) 465-2550

Renee Hoffard – Records and Licensing Supervisor

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Erika Prieksat – Investigator

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Billy Homestead – Investigator

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ALASKA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

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Narrative Statement

The Fiscal Year 2020 (FY 20) Report of Activities is based on activity of the Board of Professional Counselors (PCO) between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. During this period, the board held two traditional one in September 2019, and one video conference (Zoom) in March 2020. A third meeting was scheduled in December 2019 via video conference as well, but had to be cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Due to the Covid 19 virus, the board also met an additional four times via video conference to discuss and develop emergency regulations to assist in responding to the increased mental health needs related to the Covid 19 virus. Meetings were held on the following days: September 19-20, 2019 (Anchorage); March 19-20, 2020 (Zoom); April 10, 2020 (Zoom); April 23, 2020 (Zoom); May 8, 2020 (Zoom); and May 18, 2020 (Zoom). The board intentionally scheduled meetings during non-peak travel periods to try to minimize travel costs. The board highly values the in-person meetings as they have experienced the in-person meetings to be most productive, efficient and effective in accomplishing the work of the board due to the greater collaboration that can be accomplished during an in-person meeting. In addition to the board meetings, the board reviewed between 20-25 various applications per months.

*The express purpose of the board is to protect the public by regulating the profession of Professional Counseling. The Board accomplishes this by: **reviewing applications for licensure** to ensure minimal professional competence and fitness for licensure; **investigating allegations of misconduct** on the part of licensees; and **upholding the rules of code pertaining to licensure**, of which those rules and code are meant to ensure the protection of the public.” (AASCB Annual Conference 2018).*

Reviewing applications for licensure:

During this past fiscal year, the board has diligently and timely reviewed all applications received, including applications for Professional Counselor licensure, Approved Supervisor Certification, continuing education units (CEU's), seminar and class approvals, license reinstatements, requests for alternate supervision, and extensions of examination time. The board utilizes the online platform of OnBoard, which allows the board to review the above mentioned on a monthly basis. This platform enables applicants' applications to be processed in a timely manner and facilitates a quicker pathway toward licensure. Reviewing the applications outside of the board meetings has also allowed the board to focus its board meeting time on additional matters pertaining to the board such as Investigation review training, and regulation review and revisions.

Investigating allegations of misconduct:

Individual board members have worked collaboratively with the board investigators to review cases involving jurisdictional questions, and to give guidance on need for further review and/or disciplinary sanctions. The investigations department has provided very helpful training through a flowchart visual aide to assist board members in their role in the investigative process. Our board has been provided with comprehensive and timely updates regarding investigative matters. The Investigations Unit has done an outstanding job working collaboratively with our board to ensure public safety. According to the investigations department, twenty-four cases were opened and thirteen cases have been closed. Of the thirteen closed cases, five were reviewed by board members.

FY 2020 Narrative Statement (continued)

Regulation Management:

The board continues to evaluate the necessity, clarity and effectiveness of the PCO regulations. The board recommended five regulation revisions to enhance professionalism and further protect the public in FY19 and met with the regulation specialists to facilitate the progress of these revisions. The board also developed task forces to review additional regulation revisions. This is an on-going priority as the profession progresses.

Conference Travel:

In August 2019, the board was able to send licensing examiner, Andy Khmelev, and board chair, Debbie Hamilton to a combined conference for the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB) and the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC). This conference was held in Washington DC and offered an invaluable experience that fostered board professional development and enabled the board member and licensing examiner to, not only represent our state, but to network with other state boards to glean valuable wisdom in discerning best practices for our state board. We are very grateful for the authorization to attend this conference.

As we reflect back on FY 20, we celebrate the following highlights: All seats of the board were filled and the board was able to work collaboratively and efficiently to review all varying applications in a timely manner. The board was also able to oversee regulation projects and work collaboratively with the investigations unit in order to provide greater safety and professionalism to the industry of professional counseling. The board continued to operate with great fiscal health and was able to recommend a substantial fee reduction for the licensure renewals in Oct 2019. We were grateful for the service that Kyle Cardwell provided to the board from Dec. 2017 – September 2019, and were pleased to welcome Laura Patin in Mach 2020. We are also grateful to the staff of the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing for assisting us with budget reports, and administrative services to be able to accomplish the aforementioned. We are especially grateful for the licensing examiners and supervisors, and investigators that worked directly with our board.

As we look forward to FY21, we are hopeful that there will be a return to all meetings being held in person. As I have shared in prior reports, as a member who has served on the board for seven years, I have experienced the collaborative benefit of being able to work in person with each board member as we collectively deliberate over matters that affect this profession. While the video-conferencing format provides an immensely improved forum over tele-conferences, it does not provide the same level of collaborative engagement as meeting face to face in the same room.

In addition, we are hopeful that all conference travel requests will be approved so that our state will be represented at each prioritized conference and that each board member will have the opportunity to grow professionally as a board member, and to network with other state boards to glean valuable wisdom in discerning best practices for our state board. While we understand that our state has suffered incredible financial loss, the professional counseling board is not funded by state revenue, but rather is funded by the professionals for whom we oversee. The revenue to cover board expenses, including travel, is generated by the fees that we collect from license and supervisor applications. As our financial reports indicate, the board of professional counselors not only diligently climbed out of a deficit, but has developed a solvent reserve in order to sustain its operations at a professional level. Since the funding does not come from the state budget, we are hopeful that the travel requests for conferences and in person face to face board meetings in FY 21 will be prioritized and approved.

FY 2020 Narrative Statement (continued)

The board continues work on the following:

1) Supervisor competency:

The board has drafted a regulation revision regarding increasing training requirements for becoming an Approved Counselor Supervisor.

2) Code of Ethics:

The board has proposed to stay with the AMHCA code of ethics and has proposed revising the code of ethics to the current 2015 version.

3) Board Travel:

The board will continue to prioritize board member travel to conferences and training in order to affect the most efficient use of budgetary funds without compromising the purpose and mission of the board.

Future board meetings: Considering the budget, the board intends to continue to hold the majority of meetings in Anchorage, but may plan to hold a meeting in Juneau during legislative session if regulations require legislative involvement.

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Budget Recommendations for FY 2021

The Budget Recommendations section anticipates the board’s fiscal priorities for the upcoming year. Please complete all parts of this section with details about anticipated meetings, conferences, memberships, supplies, equipment, to other board requests. Meeting expenses that are being funded through third-party reimbursement or direct booking must be identified separately from expenses paid through license fees (receipt-supported services or RSS). Be sure to explain any items listed as “other” so they may be tracked appropriately.

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
September 24-25, 2020	Anchorage	5	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,200.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$900.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$250.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$650.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$3,000.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
Jan. 2021	Juneau	5	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$250.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$650.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$3,500.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
April 2021	Anchorage	5	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,200.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$900.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$250.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$650.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$3,000.00

Budget Recommendations for FY 2021 (continued)

Travel Required to Perform Examinations

Not applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$0.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):			
Total Estimated Cost:			\$0.00

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel - AASCB

#1 Rank in Importance or Not Applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
Projected January 2021	TBA	3	1	
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:				
<p>AASCB is an alliance of governmental agencies responsible for the licensure and certification of counselors throughout the United States. Attendance at this meeting allows us to keep current with issues on the national level; work collaboratively toward license portability; network with other state board members to glean helpful ideas to enhance our board service; and give Alaska voice in national decisions affecting Alaska LPCs.</p> <p>Due to the Covid 19 virus, a regulatory summit including AASCB, the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) and the Center for Continuing Education (CCE) was canceled. AASCB plans to reschedule an independent conference in January 2021; the other organizations, however do not plan to reschedule their conferences in FY 2021. Due to AASCB being the only organization of these three to reschedule, we are budgeting and requesting approval for three board members and one staff member to attend this conference.</p>				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$3,400.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$3,400.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$1,400.00	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$1,400.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$1,000.00	\$700.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
Net Total:	\$4315	0	0	\$4,315

Budget Recommendations for FY 2021 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel – *Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB)*

#2 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
Jan 2021	TBD	2		
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:				
Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards: The FARB Forum is educationally driven and includes sessions related to administering professional licensing boards. It provides a critical forum for information exchange between regulatory boards to help solve the mutual problems of participating associations as well as engage in activities to improve the standards of professions, the delivery of services, and the services of regulatory boards themselves.				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$900.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
Net Total:	\$4,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,100.00

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel - *American Mental Health Counseling Association (AMHCA) Annual Conference*

#3 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
June 2021	TBA	1	1	
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:				
The board has adopted the AMHCA's code of ethics as its code of ethics that govern ethical decision making for AK licensed professional counselors. Attendance at this conference enables board representatives to network with representatives of AMHCA, as well as, other licensed professional counselors, in order to stay abreast of best practices and ensure quality professional counseling in the state of AK.				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
Net Total:	\$4,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,100.00

Budget Recommendations for FY 2021 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel - American Counseling Association Conference 2021: Break Through for Yourself; Your Profession; Your Clients

#4 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
March 18-21, 2021	Orlando, FL	1	1	
Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:				
The American Counseling Association (ACA) – ACA is a non-for-profit, professional and educational organization that is dedicated to the growth and enhancement of the counseling profession. Attendance at this conference would help board members glean valuable information in how to continue to grow in fostering qualified professional counselors.				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
Net Total:	\$4,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,100.00

Non-Travel Budget Requests

- Not Applicable Resources Examinations
 Membership Training Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Membership Dues	AASCB	\$900.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

This membership type is appropriate for counseling licensure boards and their appointed board members. The membership fee of \$900 includes membership for the Board Administrator and two appointed board members, a subscription to the organization's newsletter, The Liaison, invitations to AASCB programs and meetings, 2 delegate votes (one can be by the Board Administrator) at the Annual Business Meeting, and discounted annual conference fees.

Budget Recommendations for FY 2021 (continued)

Other Items with a Fiscal Impact		Cost Per Event:	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable		Number of Events:	0
Product or Service	Provider	Total Cost	
		\$0.00	
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:			

Summary of FY 2021 Fiscal Requests	
Board Meetings and Teleconferences:	\$9,500.00
Travel for Exams:	\$0.00
Out-of-State and Additional In-State Travel:	\$12,515.00
Dues, Memberships, Resources, Training:	\$900.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offsets:	-\$5,250.00
Other:	\$0.00
Total Requested:	\$17,665.00

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Legislation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2021

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed legislation at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed legislation:

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Regulation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2021

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed regulations at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed regulations:

- 1) Update the Code of Ethics to reflect the latest edition - 2010–2015.

- 2) Modify regulation related to the Approved Supervisor qualifications - increase required training to become an approved supervisor from 6 hours to 45 hours of CEU's.

- 3) Modify regulation to accept hours of supervised experience by a non-certified approved supervisor once the supervisor becomes approved as an approved supervisor.

- 4) Modify required supervision to have a minimum of 1 hour/month of approved supervision.

- 5) Modify regulation regarding supervision to be synchronous.

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Goals and Objectives

Part I

FY 2020's goals and objectives, and how they were met:

1) The board will continue to review the statutes and regulations and work on any changes.

The board continued its due diligence of reviewing applicable statutes and regulations, as well as working toward achieving changes deemed necessary in order to improve professionalism and provide greater protection for the public. The board worked with the regulation specialist to facilitate the approval of the proposed regulations of FY19. In addition, the board met for emergency meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic virus and evaluated regulations that may pose a hindrance to services, and proposed emergency regulations to increase accessibility and provision of services during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

2) The board will continue to review applications for licensing Professional Counselors by credentials and examination, for Approved Counselor Supervisors, as well as audit for continuing education.

The board continued to review applications for licensed Professional Counselors, for approved Counselor Supervisors, and CEU audits in-between meetings by secure-portal ballots uploaded onto On-Board's secure site. This fostered public safety as well as licensure timeliness. The board has continued to review all applications, utilizing the statutes and regulations as the basis for its decisions. Each application has been reviewed individually and thoroughly to ensure public safety.

3) The board will continue to send delegates to national conferences and/or trainings in FY 20. The board has listed the beneficial conferences in order of priority:

- a)** The American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB) and The National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) – Counseling Regulatory Boards Summit (Joint Conference) (#1)
- b)** The American Mental Health Counseling Association (AMHCA) (#2)
- c)** Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) Annual Forum (#3)
- d)** The Council on Licensure, Enforcement & Regulation (CLEAR) Annual Educational Conference (#4)

The board was approved for travel for the first conference mentioned above. Licensing Examiner, Andy Khmelev and Board Chair, Debbie Hamilton were able to attend the summit sponsored by NBCC and AASCB in Washington DC. Both found this conference highly valuable to enhancing the quality of the board. The AMHCA conference was canceled for in-person attendance due to the Covid-19 virus, but re-scheduled as a webinar. The conference is scheduled for 6/20 and a request for attendance for the webinars is being sought. Notification of approval will be received following the submission of this report. No other conferences were approved or attended.

4) The board will continue to monitor disciplinary actions.

Individual board members have worked collaboratively with the board investigator(s) to review cases involving jurisdictional questions, and to give guidance on need for further review and/or disciplinary sanctions. According to the investigations department, twenty-four cases were opened and thirteen cases have been closed; five out of the thirteen cases closed were reviewed by board members.

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Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part I (continued)

FY 2020's goals and objectives, and how they were met:

- 5) The board will continue to monitor its proposed regulation changes regarding approved counselor supervisors.**

In an effort to increase professionalism and protection for the public, the board has proposed a regulation change that will increase the required CEU training in order to become an AK approved supervisor. The progress of this regulation was reviewed at the March 2020 board meeting and is expected to be finalized at the September 2020 board meeting

- 6) The board will continue to work for consistency in licensing by credential under 08.29.120.**

The board proposed a regulation revision that would bring consistency between CEU's required for licensing renewal for AK licensees and applicants for Licensing by Credential.

- 7) The board will monitor the activity of the Alaska Counseling Association (AKCA) should one be restarted by professional counselors, and will consider support of any legislation put forward by a new state counseling association.**

Our board liaison continued to reach out to the Alaska Counseling Association (AKCA), however, the association continues to be inactive.

- 8) The board will monitor licensing fees for LPC applications and renewals.**

The board is pleased to report that they have been operating with financial solvency over the past few fiscal years and were able to recommend substantial renewal fee reduction to the division which was approved and implemented for the most recent renewal cycle ending 10/31/19.

- 9) The board will monitor issues of portability.**

The board believes that AK has a and timely pathway toward licensure for licensees holding equivalent licenses out of state. The board was able to send two delegates to the American Association for State Counseling Regulatory Boards (AASCB) annual meeting where issues of portability were further discussed among varying state attendees. It is incredibly valuable to have voices and ears at these round table discussions.

- 10) The board will continue to meet quarterly.**

The board was approved for two face to face meetings and one teleconference meeting. The board met in person at the September 2019 meeting, but had to cancel the December meeting due to a lack of quorum and while they were initially approved for an in-person meeting in March 2019, due to the Covid-19 virus emergency and travel restrictions, the meeting was held by teleconference. As mentioned previously, the board feels that it can conduct its most effective work during in person meetings.

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Goals and Objectives

Part II

FY 2021's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

- 1) The board will continue to review the statutes and regulations and work on revisions that would provide both protection to the public, as well as streamlined and efficient pathways to licensure. The board will monitor the potential impact that the statutes and regulations may have on military families and will work to foster non-impeded pathways to licensure.**

The board plans to continue reviewing relevant statutes and regulations and to discuss and work on changes as deemed necessary.

- 2) The board will continue to review applications for licensing Professional Counselors by credential and examination, for Approved Counselor Supervisors, as well as, audit for continuing education.**

For the protection of the public, it is imperative that the board closely review applications for licensing Professional Counselors and for approving Counselor Supervisors. It is our duty to make certain we evaluate each application file thoroughly to ensure the applicant is qualified as per the statutes and regulations of our State and per the high standard of excellence we expect from the clinicians of our State. It is also imperative that licensed professional counselors continue to develop and refine their skills by completing continuing education.

- 3) The board will continue to send delegates to national conferences and/or trainings in FY 21. The board has listed the beneficial conferences in order of priority.:**

- a) The American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB)**
- b) Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) Annual Forum (#2)**
- c) The American Mental Health Counseling Association (AMHCA) (#3)**
- d) The America Counseling Association (ACA) Conference (#4)**

The Board will continue to work on prioritizing board travel to conferences and training, reviewing the prioritized list and determining what training is needed and required to enable us to best serve the public as informed members.

- 4) The board will continue to monitor disciplinary actions.**

The board monitors disciplinary actions, ensuring that all terms of the action are completed. These activities are done by utilizing the resources provided by the division, such as the board investigator and reports.

- 5) The board will continue to monitor its proposed regulation changes regarding approved counselor supervisors.**

The board will continue to monitor the proposed regulation changes necessary to ensure competency and professionalism in AK approved counselor supervisors.

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Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part II (continued)

FY 2021's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

6) The board will continue to work for consistency in licensing by credential under 08.29.120.

The board will continue to review all applications, utilizing the statutes and regulations as the basis for its decisions. Each application will continue to be reviewed individually and thoroughly to ensure public safety.

7) The board will monitor the activity of the Alaska Counseling Association (AKCA) should one be restarted by professional counselors.

The board is hopeful professional counselors in Alaska will unite to form a new counseling association. In the event that happens, we will readily assign a liaison to attend any meetings, will encourage the association's members to attend board meetings, and will work to foster a mutual and cooperative exchange of information regarding issues affecting counselors in Alaska.

8) The board will monitor licensing fees for LPC applications and renewals.

The board will continue to monitor biannual licensing fees – whether they are reasonable and affordable for Alaska counselors – as well as continuing to monitor fiscal efficiency to ensure the solvency of our board. The board's review(s) of dues will be shared with the division.

9) The board will monitor issues of portability.

The board will send members to national conferences in order to stay abreast of the latest discussions and legislation related to licensure portability.

10) The board will continue to meet quarterly.

The board will continue to meet quarterly in order to progress efficiently with processing all forms of applications, address issues pertaining to regulations, monitor the budget, address issues related to investigations, and to address issues that may arise regarding the counseling profession to ensure the highest level of practice in the profession of counseling and ensure public safety.

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Sunset Audit Recommendations

Date of Last Legislative Audit: 2018

Board Sunset Date: 2026

Audit Recommendation: The Board received no new recommendations.

Action Taken: n/a

Next Steps: n/a

Date Completed: n/a