

State Of Alaska

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

BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATE EXAMINERS

December 5-6, 2019

These are DRAFT minutes prepared by the staff of the
Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing.

These minutes have not yet been reviewed or approved by the Board.

By the authority of AS. 08.01.070(2), and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.64, Article 6, a scheduled board meeting was held at 333 Willoughby Ave. Juneau Alaska.

Thursday, December 5, 2019

Agenda Item – Call to order and Roll call

Board Chair Al Levy called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

Those present constituting a quorum of the Board:

Al Levy, Psychological Associate

Joel Wieman, Psychologist

Erin Johnson, Psychologist

In attendance from the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing were:

Lacey Derr, Licensing Examiner

Sharon Walsh, Deputy Director

Billy Homestead, Investigator

Agenda Item – Review & Approve Agenda

The board reviewed the drafted agenda of the meeting.

In a motion duly made by Erin Johnson and seconded by Joel Wieman, with unanimous consent, it was resolved to approve the agenda as written.

Chair Al Levy stated he would be directing this meeting and subsequent meetings in a training manner so Dr. Erin Johnson may develop more understanding of the role of Board Chair. Not hearing any ethics violations to report, the Board moved on to the meeting minutes.

44 **Agenda Item – Review/Approve Previous Meeting Minutes**

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46 **In a motion duly made by Joel Wieman and seconded by Erin Johnson, with unanimous**
47 **consent, it was resolved to approve the previous meeting minutes as discussed.**

48 **Agenda Item – Board Business**

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50 Board members discussed upcoming professional schedules and setting the next meeting date. It was
51 agreed to set the next date and allow incoming board members on March 1, 2020 to provide input for
52 subsequent meetings. It was also stated current board members will be traveling a large portion of
53 February which would affect quorum availability for OnBoard votes.

54

55 Chair Levy requested the next meeting be in person in Juneau, citing the opportunity to meeting with
56 Legislators during the Legislative Session. After a brief discussion, it was agreed to set the next meeting
57 as in-person, in Juneau, on March 5-6, 2020. The SLEE Exam testing date was directed to be scheduled
58 by OLE Derr approximately 2 weeks prior to the March board meeting date.

59

60 Off Record: 11:25am
61 On Record: 11:32am

62

63 **Agenda Item – Public Comment**

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65 There were no members of the public that wished to provide public comments to the board. The Board
66 requested to add a note onto the Agenda or the meeting notice for those wishing to provide public
67 comment, be present by the stated opening time to be signed up. This would allow the Board to make
68 best use of their time.

69

70 **In a motion duly made by Erin Johnson and seconded by Joel Wieman, with unanimous consent, it**
71 **was resolved to close public comment & recess for lunch at 11:45am.**

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73 **Public Comment Closed: 11:45am**

74

75 **Recess for Lunch: 11:45am – 1:12pm**

76

77 *Investigators Billy Homestead & Amber Whaley*

78

79 **Agenda Item – Investigative Report**

80

81 Investigator Billy Homestead addressed the board with current investigation status. There were 6
82 opened matters from August 6, 2019 – November 26, 2019, zero closed matters. Investigator
83 Homestead requested of the Board, if there are any members with open cases, that they please touch
84 base. Chair Levy updated the Investigations team where the Board stood regarding board member
85 turnover as some members face terms ending and newly appointed members joining March 1, 2020.
86 With the newly appointed board, it was requested to set up an Investigative training in the near future.
87 Hearing no further questions and being ahead of schedule, OLE Derr suggested the Courtesy Report
88 Update to make best use of time while waiting for the Division Update.

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90

91 **Agenda Item – Courtesy Report**

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93 OLE Derr updated the Board on the Courtesy License Report. There was only 1 active courtesy license, 2
94 had expired, and 2 had become fully licensed. The active was out standing as the final report was still
95 needed. OLE Derr stated the licensee had been sent a status letter and would continue to follow up. Dr.
96 Wieman inquired as to what the consequences of non-compliance and it was explained the licensee
97 would be referred up the investigative chain if they did not respond after so many attempts at contact.

98
99 **Agenda Item – Division Update**

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101 Deputy Director Sharon Walsh joined to provide the Division Update. After discussing the Annual
102 Financial Report and the First Quarter Report with the Board, it was agreed the Board is financially in a
103 very good position. Chair Levy inquired as to if there was still legislation in the works to combine all
104 investigative costs into one state pot, but Deputy Director Walsh stated that she had not heard anything
105 about it at the time of this meeting.

106
107 The Board took the opportunity to speak with Deputy Director Walsh about the introduced idea of
108 “Super Boards”. Chair Levy stated in his research and communications with outside support entities of
109 the psychology profession, that it is not a preferred or supported idea. It was suggested a “Super Board”
110 doesn’t create efficiencies, can lead to great conflicts, and in turn create breakdowns in public safety.
111 Dr. Wieman reiterated what Chair Levy had said and that it would be harmful to the Board of
112 Psychologist & Psy. Associates that operate in a financially prudent manner. Dr. Johnson added during
113 the ASPPB conference she had recently attended, the “Super Board” concept was not a well-supported
114 concept. The Board acknowledged and respected the States position on working to improve their
115 financial standpoint but opposed combining the mental health board to one omnibus board. It was
116 greatly felt the cons would outweigh the pros. Chair Levy also stated he highly anticipated pushed back
117 from the Alaska Psychological Association, as well as other supporting guilds to the Board.

118
119 Chair Levy segued into the issues the Board faced with only having 3 Board Members. The Board was
120 operating at a minimum to conduct business and faced with 2 of those 3 current members terming out
121 on March 1, 2020. In communication with Director Ritacco, it was discussed the importance of having a
122 senior board member carry over to conduct board training and leadership training with new members.
123 Chair Levy expressed the importance of having board members and OLE Derr attend the ASPPB Midyear
124 & Annual meetings to gain the most up to date knowledge on national issues which directly affect the
125 Board. Given the travel restrictions imposed across the state, it was requested of Deputy Director Walsh
126 for support in attending the upcoming meetings. Especially being as the upcoming meeting would be in
127 Montreal, Canada – International Travel. Deputy Director Walsh directed the Board to submit a detailed
128 letter of interest to the division citing their position and needs for attending the meetings. It would be
129 reviewed and supported as appropriate.

130
131 **In a motion duly made by Joel Wieman and seconded by Erin Johnson, with unanimous
132 consent, it was resolved to amend the agenda to begin exam scoring.**

133
134 **Agenda Item – Exam Scoring**

135 **Upon a motion made by Erin Johnson, seconded by Joel Wieman, and approved unanimously, it was
136 resolved to enter into Executive Session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska constitutional**

137 **right to privacy provisions for the purpose of discussing matters which by law, municipal charter, or**
138 **ordinance are required to be confidential. Board staff Lacey Derr to remain in the room.**

139

140 **Off Record: 2:09pm**

141 **On Record: 3:04pm**

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143 After scoring exams, the board recessed.

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146 **Recess at 3:05 pm until 9:00 am on Friday, March 6, 2020.**

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Friday, December 6, 2019

Agenda Item – Call to order and Roll call

Board Chair Al Levy called the meeting to order at 9:12 am.

Those present constituting a quorum of the Board:

Al Levy, Psychological Associate

Joel Wieman, Psychologist

Erin Johnson, Psychologist

In attendance from the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing were:

Lacey Derr, Licensing Examiner

Public Present, Michael Reed, AKPA

Chair Levy wanted to state for the record the late start time was due to conference room scheduling errors and having to relocate to available space.

Agenda Item – Old Business

Dr. Erin Johnson presented what was discussed at the Annual ASPPB Conference she attended October 16 – October 20, 2019. Dr. Johnson explained she had spoken with Dr. Alex Siegel with ASPPB and he advised he would be available to come and provide training to new board members and present on items such as PSYPACT. It was suggested to reach out to ASPPB and inquire about having him travel to Alaska and present to the board in person (June/July 2020?). Upcoming changes on Commission Accreditation Regulations will have an impact on the Board and would need to be monitored for potential Statute/Regulations changes as required. It was explained there would be changes to courses required and potentially adjusting when those classes would need to be taken (Masters vs. Doctoral). The upcoming changes are believed to be imminent and the board had requested a note be made to further support attendance of as many members to upcoming ASPPB Conferences.

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222 The EPPP2 was still being considered and tested at the time of the conference. Some concerns brought
223 up at the conference regarding the EPPP2 were about its validity vs. EPPP, implementation, and
224 additional states adopting the test. After some discussion about the EPPP2 and its use in Alaska, it was
225 directed to add the EPPP2 as an agenda items to upcoming board meetings for discussion. Updated
226 avenues to acquire supervision would be coming later from ASPPB and needs to be watched for. It was
227 advised that the Board should have a Mission/Vision/Purpose statement, number of licensees approved
228 since last meeting, and number of licensee's total at time of meeting. It's believed to keep the public
229 more abreast of the Boards activities and efforts to public safety. There was also support stated to the
230 board to assist in combating consolidation of boards. No presentations had been made regarding
231 acquiring supervision via distance/telemedicine.

232

Agenda Item – Correspondence

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234 OLE Derr provided the board with correspondence received from ASPPB regarding an article to be
235 released in the American Psychologist Journal. The article, about the EPPP2, was felt to be projected in
236 a negative light and ASPPB was attempting to advise boards there could be negative reactions to the
237 article. The Board requested OLE Derr contact ASPPB and inquire if an applicant requests to take the
238 EPPP2, are they able to?

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Agenda Item – New Business

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242 It was decided to state on the record the importance of having as many board members and staff attend
243 the Annual ASPPB Meeting coming up in the Fall of 2020. Once new members have been seated, the
244 Board can request attendees. Chair Levy requested attendance to the Midyear ASPPB Meeting April 23-
245 26, 2020 for himself, Dr. Erin Johnson, and OLE Derr. It was tasked to work on the justification letter to
246 the Division for attendance.

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Agenda Item – Application Review

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**251 It was resolved to approve the following applications with the stipulation that the information in the
252 applicant files take precedence over the minutes of this meeting with a unanimous roll call vote.**

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George Cowan – Psychologist by Credentials

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Recess for Lunch: 10:06am – 1:03pm

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Agenda Item - AKPA

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Dr. Michael Reed from AKPA joined for the ongoing Model Licensure Act. AKPA was continuing its ongoing effort to support Psychologists and Psy. Associate license to become more in line with the APA model licensure act. There was a bill moving through the legislative legal team and was hoping to have some documentation to present to the board soon. Highlights included the resequencing of training hours (pre-doctoral & post-doctoral accumulation) and the potential ability for the Board to approve licensure directly outside of graduation. The Board and Dr. Reed discussed some of the nuances of language used in statutes/regulations and just advised AKPA to be mindful of locking themselves into certain terminology. The language previously presented to the board has not been changed and AKPA was currently seeking sponsors for the bill. It was asked of the Board to provide an official position on the efforts of AKPA. It was explained the Board is down to just 3 members and possible that new

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270 incoming members could have alternative views. But given the board is limited in members, the Board
271 would be more comfortable with officially NOT OPPOSING the efforts of AKPA. That was accepted and
272 the Board was thanked by Dr. Reed on behalf of AKPA.

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274 Agenda Item – Adjourn

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276 **Upon a motion made by Joel Wieman, seconded by Erin Johnson, and approved unanimously,**
277 **it was resolved to adjourn the meeting.**

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279 **Chair Levy Adjourned the meeting at 1:50pm.**

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285 Respectfully submitted,

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287

288

289 Lacey Derr

290 Occupational Licensing Examiner

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292

293

294 Allen Levy

295 Board Chair

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297

Date

Date