

**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 MEETING  
October 26, 2007**

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 October 26, 2007, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at 550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1860, Anchorage, Alaska

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by Patricia White, Chairperson, at 9:00 a.m.  
There were present, constituting a quorum:

Patricia White, Marriage and Family Therapist, Chairperson  
Kerry Rasmussen, Public Member  
Curtis Schlosser, Marriage and Family Therapist  
Larry Severson, Marriage and Family Therapist

Absent: Dorothy Stanton, Public Member

In attendance from the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing was:

Eleanor Vinson, Licensing Examiner  
Chris Wyatt, Administrative Manager  
Susan Winton, Investigator

**Agenda Item 1 – Review Agenda**

-- Disclosure statement added to New Business

**Agenda Item 2 – Review/Approve Minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes from the May 4, 2007, meeting.

**On a motion duly made by Curtis Schlosser, seconded by Kerry Rasmussen, and approved unanimously, it was  
RESOLVED to accept the May 2, 2007 minutes as  
presented**

**Agenda Item 3 – Continuing Education Audit**

The Board reviewed the Continuing Education Audits from the 12/31/2006 renewal.

**On a motion duly made by Larry Severson seconded by Curtis Schlosser, and approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to accept the approve the following continuing education audits:**

**Andrea Avari  
Bonnie Brody  
Jeanne Bussey  
Joy Collins  
Denise Eames  
Lynn Harrison  
Michael Weingarten**

**On a motion duly made by Larry Severson seconded by Kerry Rasmussen, and approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to accept the approve the following continuing education audit pending:**

**Nancy Simpson**

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **Agenda Item 5 – Correspondence**

##### **A. Education hours required for Approved MFT Supervisor**

In order to become an Approved Marital and Family Therapy Supervisor, part or the requirements are that an applicant must document having completed at least six contact hours of education related to the practice of supervising a marital and family therapist within the last two years.

Linda King asked if the Zur Institute class, “Foundations of Clinical Supervision”, would qualify as being “education related to the practice of supervising marital and family therapist”

There was discussion regarding the requirements and the contents of the Zur class and the Board determined that it was reasonable to accept the class as related to the practice of supervising a Marital and Family Therapist.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Investigator’s Report**

The Board was joined by Investigator Susan Winton. She reported there is currently one active complaint and no licensees on probation. Several inquiry calls were received, one person filed a complaint, and one inquiry is on-going.

## **Agenda Item 7 – Old Business**

### 7. A. LPC Joint Boards discussion update

Senator Dyson is interested in a joint Board. The Board noted that the MFT Board is interested in bureaucratic functions, not having other Boards assume their debts.

Our Chair will write a letter to the Chairs of the Board of Professional Counselors and the Board of Social Work Examiners.

### 7.B. Clarify difference between Marital & Family Studies and Marital & Family Therapy

The previous Board Chair had been asked by the Chair of the Human Services Department at UAA to help clarify our statutes and regulations regarding requirements for the degree for LMFT licensure. It was requested the Board define the difference between required "Marital and Family Studies" and "Marital and Family Therapy" in the following statute:

**Sec. 08.63.100. Qualifications for license to practice.** (a) The board shall issue a license to practice marital and family therapy to a person who.....

(B) holds a master's degree or doctorate in marital and family therapy or allied mental health field from a regionally accredited educational institution approved by the board for which the person completed a course of study that included instruction substantially equivalent to the following:

- (i) three courses or nine semester or 12 quarter hours of course work in marital and family therapy;
- (ii) three courses or nine semester or 12 quarter hours of course work in marital and family studies;

Curtis Schlosser had contacted the AAMFT to clarify it, as our laws are often based on the AAMFT information and requirements. AAMFT did not provide any clarification.

The Board held a discussion and determined that:

Family Therapy is any course that addresses the treatment of dysfunction.

Family Studies or Theory answer the question, "What constitutes a family?", rather than treatment of dysfunction.

Curtis Schlosser will write the letter.

## **Agenda Item 8 – Budget Report**

Christine Wyatt, Administrative Manager, joined the meeting by telephone. She reported that the budget for this Board is looking good. She explained how a fee analysis is done before renewals are sent out to find out if there are any pending regulations or cases being investigated. Ms. Wyatt reported that the fees could go down. It was pointed out that the

previous Board Chair had asked for a fee analysis on the last renewal, but the Department did not do them, due to staff shortages.

## **Agenda Item 9 – New Business**

### 9. A. Define supervision education (update)

Discussion centered on the concern as to who would supervise a clinician who is sanctioned? It differs, but is often part of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

### 9. B. Report on AAMFTRB

Patricia White reported on attending the AMFTRB annual meeting. The meeting included information on the following:

- Examination: The percentages of passing candidates are dropping.
- Portability: Now called endorsement. Ms. White presented a (clearinghouse) survey to the Board, which they completed
- Supervision: There is an ongoing debate about how to create and maintain adequate supervision.
- Diagnose and treat: Some states have put into the rules and regulations the language, “diagnose and treat”. This seems important because of the increasing specificity of license; scope of license. Patricia White will look into this.
- E-Therapy: We have a disclaimer on our website, but are in need of developing guidelines for this issue, both for consumers and therapists. The Board will think about new regulations for this and about related on-line CEUs.
- Continuing education vs. continuing competencies: There is increasing concern regarding on-line courses and the diluting of competencies for MFTs.

The next AAMFTB meeting will be held in Anchorage, September 24-25, 2008.

### 9. C. Disclosure Statement

The Board will review a copy of our disclosure statement at the spring meeting and determine if they want a copy sent out with the license renewal.

### 9. D. Clearing House Questionnaire & subcommittee formation

The AAMFT questionnaire was completed by the Board.

### 9. E. Thank you to Kerry Rasmussen

The Board extended a “Thank you” to Board Member Kerry Rasmussen. Ms. Rasmussen’s term ends March 1, 2008, and she reported that she was not going to seek a new term.

#### 9. F. Acting Director Strickler

Acting Division Director Jenny Strickler joined the meeting. There was discussion regarding combining Boards and standardizing central licensing. The discussion also included interest in a legal defense fund to fund litigation.

#### 9.G. License renewal

The board wished to change one word in the license renewal regulation. They wish change the word “or” to “and” on 12 AAC 19.300 (3) (C).

The regulation now reads:

**12 AAC 19.300. LICENSE RENEWAL. ....**

(b) A marital and family therapist applying for license renewal shall

(3) submit a statement of the continuing education contact hours completed during the concluding license period; the statement must include the following information, when applicable, for each course, seminar, or workshop:

(C) the title or a brief description of the course, seminar, or workshop;

The Board wishes it to read as follows:

**12 AAC 19.300. LICENSE RENEWAL. ....**

(b) A marital and family therapist applying for license renewal shall

(3) submit a statement of the continuing education contact hours completed during the concluding license period; the statement must include the following information, when applicable, for each course, seminar, or workshop:

(C) the title and a brief description of the course, seminar, or workshop;

The words are made bold and underlined to make the change easier to understand. The Board would like more information submitted to determine if the continuing education the licensee submits is in compliance with the MFT statutes and regulations.

**On a motion duly made by Kerry Rasmussen, seconded by Larry Severson, and approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to change “or” to “and” in 12 AAC 19.300(b)(3)(C) so it will now read, “(C) the title and a brief description of the course, seminar, or workshop;**

#### 9.H. Past Disciplinary Action

The Board determined it would be valuable to have information on past infractions and what discipline was taken. They will ask to Investigator to make up a list with the information.

#### 9.I. Changing supervision

The Board discussed changing the statute 08.63.100(3)(C)(ii). It now reads:

**Sec. 08.63.100. Qualifications for license to practice.** (a) The board shall issue a license to practice marital and family therapy to a person who .....

(3) furnishes evidence satisfactory to the board that the person

(C) after receiving a degree described in (B) of this paragraph, has.....

(ii) been supervised in the clinical contact for at least 200 hours, including 100 hours of individual supervision and 100 hours of group supervision approved by the board;

They would like to change it to the following (changed words underlined):

**Sec. 08.63.100. Qualifications for license to practice.** (a) The board shall issue a license to practice marital and family therapy to a person who .....

(3) furnishes evidence satisfactory to the board that the person

(C) after receiving a degree described in (B) of this paragraph, has.....

(ii) been supervised in the clinical contact for at least 200 individual or group hours, including at least 100 hours of individual supervision;

Because it is a statute, the Board will pursue getting it changed through AKMFT.

### **Agenda Item 10 – Application Review**

The Board reviewed completed pending applications.

The Board discussed the continuing education application for approval for The People's Institute, "Undoing Racism". The Board determined that the training was outside the scope of Marital and Family Therapy. The Board cited:

**12 AAC 19.320. APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION ACTIVITIES.** (a) To be accepted by the board, continuing education must contribute directly to the professional competency of a marital and family therapist and must be directly related to the skills and knowledge required to implement marital and family therapy principles and methods.

**On a motion duly made by Curtis Schlosser, seconded by Kerry Rasmussen, and approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to deny the following application for CEU approval:**

The People's Institute for Survival & Beyond  
Undoing Racism

12 CEUs

The Board discussed the application for continuing education approval for the Alaska Psychological Association's "Experimental Focusing". There was a request for additional CEUs to be given for people who assisted with the class. The class itself had previously been approved for 4 CEUs. The Board determined that there was no provision in the continuing education statutes and regulations for helping in a class. The Board had written a letter requesting more information, but that enquiry was never answered.

**On a motion duly made by Curtis Schlosser, seconded by Kerry Rasmussen, and approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to not approve the following training:**

Alaska Psychological Association  
Experimental Focusing

Extra 4 CEU for assisting in  
class

The Board discussed Samaritan Counseling Center's "Should two Become One" It was determined that a more detailed course description was needed, along with the experience of the presenter. It was also noted that the letter from NBCC was not on letterhead.

**On a motion duly made by Larry Severson, seconded by Curtis Schlosser, and approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to table the following request for approval:**

Samaritan Counseling Center	6.5 CEU
Should Two Become One?	
Attachment & Differentiation in Marriage	

**On a motion duly made by Larry Severson, seconded by Kerry Rasmussen, and approved unanimously, it was RESOLVED to approve the following training:**

Alaska Attachment & Bonding Associates Attachment Disorders RAD I, II, III, IV (Code 313.68)	15 CEUs
MEDS-PDN Pornography: Strategies for Helping Clients Manage & Overcome the Addiction	6.25 CEUs
Providence Valdez Behavioral Health ASIST: Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training	16 CEUs
UAF Alaska Rural Behavioral Health Training Academy: Best Practices in Telebehavioral Health in Alaska	19 CEUs
Alaska Department of Public Safety-CDVSA Tribal-State Forum on Safety & Justice for Victims of Violence	15 CEUs
MEDS-PDN Over The Counter Drug Abuse & Dependence	6.5 CEUs
MEDS-PDN Anxiety Disorders: Recognizing & Treating Emerging Epidemic	6.0 CEUs

**Agenda Item 11 – Board Business**

**A. Ethics Reports**

There were no ethical conflicts to report.

**B. Task List**

Pat White:

-- Write a letter to the Chairs of the Board of Professional Counselors and the Board of Social Work Examiners regarding joint boards.

-- Contact Rep. Kevin Mayer's Office-determine the history behind his support of joint boards

-- Look into putting language into rules and regulations regarding the words diagnose and treat.

Curtis Schlosser

-- Write letter to the Chair of the Human Services Department at UAA to help clarify our statutes and regulations regarding requirements for the degree for LMFT licensure. It was requested the Board define the difference between required "Marital and Family Studies" and "Marital and Family Therapy".

All Members

-- Review goals and objectives and have any additions ready for next meeting.

C. Schedule next meeting

- May 2, 2008

The next meeting will be held May 2, 2008 in Anchorage, Alaska.  
The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m.

- September 26, 2008

The Board would like the September, 2008, meeting in Anchorage in conjunction with the AMFTRB national meeting that will be held in Anchorage on September 24-25. The MFT meeting will be held Friday, September 26, 2008. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m.

D. Sign meeting minutes

E. Sign wall certificates

F. TAs & receipts

The Board signed previous meeting minutes, wall certificates, and turned in their travel authorizations and receipts.

**On a motion duly made by Kerry Rasmussen, seconded by Curtis Schlosser and approved unanimously it was**

**RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m.**



Respectfully Submitted by:

---

Eleanor Vinson, Licensing Examiner

Approved by:

---

Patricia White, Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_