

THE VIRGINIA BOARD OF COUNSELING
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

Friday, June 4, 2010

The Virginia Board of Counseling ("Board") convened at 9:45 a.m. on Friday, June 4, 2010 at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia. Donnie Conner called the meeting to order.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Mary Lou Argow, LPC
Zena Bowen, LPC
Johnston Brendel, EdD
Donnie Conner, PhD
Sandra Malawer, LPC
Charles R. McAdams, EdD
Patricia Mullen, LPC
Vivian Sanchez-Jones, Citizen Member
William Scott, PhD
Linda Seeman, PhD
John Penn Turner, LPC
Natale Ward, LPC

STAFF PRESENT:

Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director
Patricia Larimer, Deputy Executive Director
Catherine Chappell, Operations Manager
Howard Casway, Senior Attorney General
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst
Dianne Reynolds-Cane, DHP Director (present for part of the meeting)
Arne Owens, DHP Chief Deputy Director (present for part of the meeting)

ORDERING OF AGENDA:

Dr. Conner welcomed the Board members and asked if there were any changes to the Agenda. The Agenda was accepted as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Dr. Seeman moved to approved the minutes from the February 19, 2010 Board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Evelyn Brown introduced Dr. Reynolds-Cane, Director, Department of Health Professions and Mr. Owens, Chief Deputy Director, and provided a brief summary of Dr. Reynolds-Cane's work as Medical Director of the Daily Planet, a federally qualified health center serving the homeless in Richmond. Ms. Brown noted that among other appointments, Dr. Reynolds-Cane had been a member of the Board of Medicine and had served as President of the Board. Mr. Owens served as Deputy Commissioner, Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services under Governor Gilmore and most recently served in the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services as Deputy Administrator.

Dr. Reynolds-Cane commented that she was pleased to be appointed to the Department of Health Professions and appreciated the hard work of the Board.

Ms. Brown noted that appointments and reappointments were expected to be made in July or August, but that board members would continue to serve until the Governor made his board appointments.

Ms. Brown followed up on an email, which she had sent to board members, reporting that Diana Pollick had resigned. She introduced Catherine Chappell, Operations Manager for the Behavioral Sciences boards who would be providing support to the board and supervising licensure staff to insure that the work of the board was continued in an efficient manner.

Ms. Brown reported that an additional credentials reviewer was needed for applications review due to the increase in, and complexities of, applications and registrations of supervision. She asked the board for suggestions for possible new reviewers.

EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORT:

Dr. McAdams referred the board to the minutes from the April 9, 2010 Educational Summit meeting, which included representatives of the Virginia graduate counseling education programs. Discussion focused on degree requirements necessary to prepare individuals to practice counseling and counseling treatment intervention. He noted that the Ad Hoc Committee discussed the need to have clearly stated criteria for the counseling graduate programs and endorsed the Degree Program Requirements contained in the Regulations Governing the Practice of Counseling and further delineated the board's Guidance Document 115-1.3: Meeting Degree Program Requirements for Professional Counseling Licensure.

Dr. McAdams summarized discussion held about the internship requirements and that the board has received an increase in applications from graduate students with internships which do not meet the minimum 600 hour requirement as set forth in Regulation 18VAC115-20-51. He explained that, historically, applicants with less than the 600 required internship hours were allowed to acquire additional residency hours to make up

their internship hour shortages. He referenced the board's guidance document which allows applicants for licensure to register additional post degree supervised experience to satisfy a shortage of the required 600 internship hours. The permission for current applicants will expire December 31, 2010, and then all applicants will be required to have a minimum of 600 internship hours, with no exceptions.

Board representatives to the Ad Hoc Committee, Drs. Conner, Seeman, and Scott, agreed that the meeting was very informative and provided an opportunity for educators and board members to discuss important issues that affected both and suggested that another Ad Hoc Educational Summit be scheduled in the Fall of 2010.

BOARD OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS REPORT:

Ms. Argow announced that the board of Health Professions (BHP) met on May 4, 2010, and considered the creation of a new "Allied Health Professions Board" in a move to certify and/or license emerging allied health professions, including surgical assistants and medication aides.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Ms. Argow advised that the Credentials Committee met on June 3, 2010, to consider 17 application files. One application was approved, while additional information was requested on ten files with respect to coursework, internship hours, and further supervision hours. Six applications were denied.

Additionally, Ms. Argow stated that the Committee discussed a "Skype" supervision request.

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Dr. Seeman announced that four Informal Conferences (IFC's) had been held since the last board meeting. She noted that 12 complaints were at the investigation stage, with two cases at the board level for probable cause review. Two cases were ready to be scheduled for informal conferences and one case was to be scheduled for a formal hearing at the next board meeting.

PRESENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CREDENTIALS IFC COMMITTEE – CLOSED MEETING

Dr. Seeman moved that the Board of Counseling convene in closed meeting pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia in order to consult with legal counsel on the recommendations from the Credentials IFC Committee. She further moved that Howard Casway, Evelyn Brown, Patricia Larimer and Catherine Chappell attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and they would aid the board in its consideration of the matter. The motion was seconded and carried.

RECONVENE:

Dr. Seeman moved that pursuant to §2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, that the board heard, discussed, or considered only those public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as identified in the original motion. The Committee agreed unanimously.

Sarah Montgomery: The IFC Credentials Committee concluded that Sarah Montgomery, LPC applicant, failed to satisfy the requirements of 18VAC 115-20-49(B) and recommended that her application to register her supervision as a preliminary requirement in the process of obtaining licensure by examination be denied. Mr. Turner made a motion to accept the recommendation as presented. Ms. Argow seconded the motion. Dr. Scott abstained from the voting. The motion passed unanimously.

Kristin Stidham: The IFC Credentials Committee concluded that Kristin Stidham, LPC applicant, failed to satisfy the requirements of 18VAC 115-50-40(B) and recommended that her application to register her supervision as a preliminary requirement in the process of obtaining licensure by examination be denied. Ms. Argow made a motion to accept the recommendation as presented. Mr. Turner seconded the motion. Dr. Scott abstained from the voting. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Conner invited board members wanting to participate in the next Educational Summit Ad Hoc Committee meeting to consider possible dates for the Summit. The board requested that the Summit meeting be held on September 24, 2010 or October 1, 2010, depending upon room availability. Possible agenda items included technology assisted counseling/supervision, licensure portability, and continued discussion of coursework and internship.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Counseling, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Donnie Conner, Chair

Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director